

Authority objections to private park don't impress Eramosa councillors

The Grand River Conservation Authority has made a three-point objection to establishment of a private recreation and camping park, adjacent to the Rockwood Conservation Area, but Eramosa township council is not impressed by the argument.

In a letter to the township council objecting to the by-law which would require a change in zoning from the present agricultural, the authority said some of the land proposed development by Bob and Keith Hamilton is physically unsuited to the purpose, especially

swampy areas marked on yellow in a map submitted to the Authority. They feel more information should also be known about the outlet for Rockwood-proposed sewage plant before a decision was made.

The Authority based their objections on a site inspection made in March and examination of aerial photos.

Compound problems Second objection was that the new area would compound management problems at the Rockwood Conservation Park and the simultaneous use of the

lake by patrons of both parks would encourage the private camp people to trespass on Authority property for swimming and boating.

Part of the reason for building the new diversion road around the conservation area was to encourage people to use the controlled main entrance gates, the Authority said, in the letter of objection. They felt also that water quality at the private beach would adversely affect swimmers in the conservation park since the water at that point could not be "flushed".

Final point was that there was no assurance the park was feasible since no prior permit had been issued or requested and could not be approved until it was reviewed in detail with the Authority. Plans for the area also could result in overdestruction of forest on the Hamilton property, the Authority alleged.

The Authority expressed an interest in reviewing plans with Eramosa council and developers Bob and Keith Hamilton.

The letter followed another written in support of the change from nearby residents Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Ford and William Bruce. They supported the zoning change so a private recreational area could be established and deemed it "favorable and acceptable and a benefit to the township."

"It sounds like the wrong people own the property," said developer Bob Hamilton in reply to Reeve Warren Parkinson's question regarding how he felt about the Authority letter.

Big stick? "They talk like they had a big stick, too," noted Councillor Ken Fair.

"What steps do you intend to take, then?" the reeve asked Mr. Hamilton, in view of the Authority objection.

"Sell it to the Conservation Authority, I guess," replied Hamilton, noting his family had paid taxes on the property for 125 years and never been able to use the land. Now the opportunity arose, it looked like all the efforts he and his fellow developer had put into plans were going to naught. As far as he was concerned the Authority's objections were not legitimate complaints especially since they had never been asked to flush the river for their development and it was no concern of the Hamiltons where the Rockwood sewage outlet is to go.

Councillor Dick Strong, who opposed the development at first, agreed. He noted council and planning board had spent a great deal of time considering the proposal by the Hamiltons and as far as he was concerned the Authority's objections were Mickey Mouse complaints.

Deputy Reeve Dunc McPhedran said it was significant that the Authority said anything about where the sewage is to go into the river. "It's the first time I've seen it in print from them," he said.

Strong noted that the Authority had jurisdiction up to the Hurricane Hazel flood line but felt it was foolish for them to forbid building change houses below the line when they had a couple of their own privies under water at one time.

Mr. Hamilton said although he had prior knowledge of the letter he felt it conflicted with the attitude when their solicitor received when he first approached the Authority regarding establishment of the area. Then it had been a "more power to you" attitude, he said.

After further discussion council, passed a resolution noting the Authority letter had been considered but instructing the clerk to send a copy of it to the township solicitor for his advice and then submit an application to the Ontario Municipal Board to approve the by-law change.

The feeling was that the Authority letter could mean an OMB hearing but council intended to pass the by-law if there were no legal loopholes.

"It has been thoroughly considered both by council and planning board," maintained the deputy reeve.

The Hamilton proposal was for approximately 200 campsites spread over the 100-125 acres of land they own adjacent to the conservation park.



ROCKWOOD AND DISTRICT'S newly formed Lions Club held the first dinner meeting Wednesday night at the Rockwood Centennial public school. Head tablers at the historic event are right to left: Ernie Crossland, extension chairman of Lions International, Joe Peter, president of sponsoring Guelph Lions', local club president Harry Donner, and members of executive, Jim Milne, Darryl Nichol, Grant McRae and John Wilson, president of North Peel Lions. —(Photo by Don Hills).



MEMBERS of Wellington County 4-H family pet, enjoys the fun of post-snowmobile Snowmobile Club enjoy hot chocolate and activities in the Thomson kitchen after donuts at the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. John Sunday's outdoor rally.—(Photo by Lorraine) Thomson, R. R. 1, Rockwood. Even Sandy the

Snowmobile club rally at Thomson farm Sunday

The John Thomson farm at Rockwood was a beehive last Sunday when snowmobiles driven by 35 young people, members of the Wellington County 4-H Snowmobile Club participated in their annual rally at the local site.

Bright and shiny, the machines zoomed into position to move off on the 1.30 starting time, where vehicle know-how and handling were only some of the requisites

for entry in the outdoor endeavor and "weirdly colorful face coverings, essential snow-blast protectors.

Searing winds screamed across the treeless pastures as operator after operator drove their machines into the wooded areas of the farm for more skillful driving feats with wind protection lending to easier coordination and agility. Sunday was cold and nippy but the

enthusiasm of the 4-H snowmobilers was high as they hunched through the bushland, happily competing against their fellow riders.

Eramosa hosts Organizers for the Rally were Carol Thomson and Earl Jackson together with other local young people. The club is composed of 4-H'ers from all regions of North and South Wellington and for Sunday's get together the Eramosa group played host to other districts in the County.

A drop in at the Thomson farm at 3.30 showed drivers and riders enjoying farm life hospitality with casual fun and hot chocolate part of the all-day refreshments. After the rally a trek down through the Indian Trail and vicinity culminated the afternoon of outdoor activity and then back to the farm house for hot dogs, donuts, hot chocolate, and then home again via snowmobile, truck or automobile. The weather had been cold but great and the 4-H'ers had enjoyed it all.

Eramosa Council briefs

Jim Milne and Bob Leslie of the newly formed Rockwood and District Lions club attended Monday's meeting of Eramosa township council to request approval to conduct a lottery for a 19" color TV set in the township, which was granted. Club spokesmen also requested the township council to arrange some sort of blanket approval for lotteries the club intends to run in the future. Council agreed to investigate the possibility.

Council accepted the Guelph and Suburban Planning Board budget for Eramosa which consisted of \$450 for administration and \$1,100 as the township's share of the official plan. Reeve Warren Parkinson was reappointed to the board for another year.

The latest correspondence from the Minister of Public Works and Department project Engineer Sid Samuels were discussed regarding the new Rockwood post office. The proposal from the township to brick the front of the building and install cedar siding on the remainder found acceptance with Public Works but council does not yet know what changes will take place. They are waiting sketch plans. In an around-the-table discussion, councillors criticized the "rough" work inside the building and Deputy Reeve Dunc McPhedran said what was proposed is about as good as could be expected without tearing the building down. "We don't know whether we are going to get windows yet or not," the reeve noted.

Council passed a motion supporting a program of historical research of Rockwood under the direction of Miss Greta McPhedran and sent a letter of support to enable students at the University of Waterloo to apply for a grant under the Opportunity for Youth program. Miss McPhedran will co-ordinate the program if it is approved and hire students to assist her.

After receiving several requests for grants from the Red Cross, agricultural societies and others it was decided to turn the requests over to the finance committee for consideration. They will recommend what grants should be paid.

Council passed the 1972 budget from Rockwood Village Trustees without comment, noting it was composed of an 11 mill general rate and five mills each for collecting garbage and street lighting.

Although Councillor Ken Fair felt Eramosa "was just a little far up the creek for that levy," the Grand River Conservation Authority levy will have to be paid. Down from last year it is still \$10,574.16, and amount over which councillors grimaced. It was \$11,056 in 1971. The deputy-reeve commented that perhaps the authority would not need so much money if they developed the Everton property first instead of the proposed Guelph dam. He advised councillors to see the Everton area by snowmobile and form their own opinions.

Council authorized purchase of a used typewriter with a new guarantee, for township offices at a cost of \$295.

The reeve presided for the Monday meeting with all councillors present until Councillor Fair was called away late in the evening to act as midwife for a ewe.

Another line for Eramosa

Reeve Warren Parkinson guardedly observed that Eramosa township would be the site of another proposed hydro transmission line, at the regular meeting of the township council Monday, but he noted the 44 kilowatt single 50 foot high wooden pole line would have only minor effects on the township.

The line is proposed along the border of Nicol township and only dips into Eramosa along a road allowance in the northern corner. It will replace a smaller 8.3 kilowatt line.

After discussion, council decided to ask Ontario Hydro to ensure the line is installed on the side of the road where there are no maple trees. The reeve noted there were few trees in the area.

BEAUTIFUL weather for photographers over the weekend. The glittering ice was inviting for the shutterbugs.

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Obituary

Funeral Friday for Mrs. F. Day

Rockwood villagers were saddened last week when they learned of the death of one of their best known citizens, Mrs. Ella L. Day, the mother of a renowned Rockwood family, passed away at the Guelph General Hospital on March 1 after a four day hospitalization period.

Born on January 7, 1890, on San Juan Island in the State of Washington, Ella Leola was the daughter of Robert H. Wansborough and Emma A. Swackhamer who had moved from the Acton district to San Juan to return to the area after ten years.

Mrs. Day was organist at the Crewson's Corners' Methodist Church where she met her future husband and, on date of March 25, 1909, became the bride of Frank Day. In the same year Mr. and Mrs. Frank Day were the youngest couple assessed as owners of a farm in Eramosa Township on the 7th line of Eramosa presently occupied by Howard Donnell.

Moved to village They moved to Rockwood in 1928 when Frank Day was appointed postmaster. Mr. Day died in 1958.

Survivors are C.R.A. (Fred), Ancaster; George, Rockwood; Marion (Mrs. Milton Greer), Burlington and Roy, Toronto; sisters Mrs. Gordon (Annetta MackKay) Toronto and Mrs. Anna Smith, Acton.

Brothers Roy and Harold Wansborough predeceased her.

Mrs. Day was a member of the W.M.S. and the U.C.W. of Rockwood United church.

Funeral service was at the Humley-Shoemaker funeral home, Acton, Friday March 3, conducted by the Rev. Ralph Williams. Interment was in

Rockwood cemetery.

Pallbearers were sons Fred, George and Roy Day, son-in-law Milton Greer and grandsons Glenn Greer and Christopher Day.

Holstein production winner

By Henry J. Stanley
H. C. Reid, R.R. 6 Milton had the top producing junior four-year-old in the production honor list for 1971. Plumbroke Sueann Rockman sired by Seiling Rockman produced 23,369 pounds of milk, 946 lbs. of fat for BCA's of 207 and 239 in the 305-day division.

She went on to place second in the 365-day division with 24,383 lbs. of milk and 1050 lbs. of fat.

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Joy is theme Day of Prayer

As the theme "All Joy be Yours" rang solidly throughout the world last Friday, Rockwood's special World Day of Prayer service was conducted at the United Church on Harris Street with Mrs. Ralph Williams officiating, assisted by ladies from the other Christian assemblages in the community.

Expressions of great gladness were reflected to those in attendance when the Eramosa School choir started off the service with their rendition of "Joy is like the Rain". Happiness and joy again poured out as, under the direction of Mrs. Roberta Hoy and Mrs. Marion Tubman, the children also sang, during the service, "Put your Hand in the Hand of the Man That Stilled the Water."

Referring to the word of the day, Mrs. Williams said that "Joy" was used 58 times in the Bible and "to rejoice" 73. "Joy should be spontaneous and a natural part of our being" said the speaker and remarked that natural joyousness should prevail within us all as we look about and perceive the beauties of nature which surround us at this time of year.

Mrs. Lois Tosh of the United Church was organizer and leader of the Friday service; prayers were taken by Mrs. Joy Haliburton of Sacred Heart's Church, Mrs. Denham of the Presbyterian and Mrs. Audrey Hudson of St. John's Anglican church in the village. Afterwards hospitality was shared in the Sunday School room where delicious food and refreshments were served with Marilyn Brace and Evelyn Murray convening, ably assisted by Mrs. Florence Trousdale and other ladies of the United Church.

No clues

There are still no clues to the identity of the person who has poisoned several dogs in the Sixth Line Esquingue vicinity, report Milton OPP. Eight dogs have died in the area.

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