

Bottom falls out of Opportunities for Youth

By Lorraine Root

Something that began as an industrious endeavour by three young men with initiative has turned out to be a fiasco in human relationships.

Whether we consider these students hapless victims of circumstance or negligent for basing their industry on faith remains to be seen. The question here is, what can be salvaged and where can they go from here?

Larry Davidson is an Honors B.A. graduate in Sociology at the University of Guelph. He spent the greater part of last year in community service work in Guelph and because of his affiliations in such endeavours, decided to correlate his findings and his University training by putting them to work under the Opportunity for Youth programs promoted by the federal government.

After spending weeks on discussing the possibilities with those apparently "in the know", Larry approached the chief librarian at the Guelph Library. He had been, he understood, given the go ahead by Mr. Snell to conduct a survey of the area to

find out the needs of the district and whether it could feasibly work into a county library scheme.

Need verification He also understood from Mr. Snell that he would have free access to all types of reading literature for setting up a library facility in the village of Rockwood but Mr. Snell said he would require verification from the Guelph Library Board.

His information on the needs of a Rockwood library were, however, not correct. His informants apparently had misdirected him into an area of duplication. The Village citizens were already very satisfied and, in fact, quite proud of their two month summer library which had been established by the Eramosa Recreation Committee in conjunction with the Wellington County School Board, and was employing one of its own area young people to manage it with one local teacher handling the guidelines.

Besides Larry there were two other young men who, stirred by Larry's enthusiasm, became involved in what they understood was a strong community need.

Through the urgency of the grant setting dates, they failed to question the possible repercussions. Larry, his brother Terry, an O.V.C. student, both Guelph lads, and Sean Aherne of Acton, approached the township clerk for use of the old Rockwood fire hall, a building which, they understood, was unoccupied. The township clerk, considering the matter one for the village trustees, turned over the matter to them. The village clerk who, in turn, said that he felt that it might be allowed except that the building probably could not be used due to health department rulings on lack of washroom facilities.

He turned the matter over to the chairman of the trustees who reiterated what had already been said, only requesting a letter of verification from the head of the Department of Wellington-Dufferin Guelph Health Unit.

Not informed Not at any time were these lads informed that Rockwood already had an adequate summer library and, in each case, left with the impression that they would be contributing to the community if allowed to go ahead. Inspired by

what they were attempting, they applied for the grant with breakdowns in cost which would allow for driving expenses incurred in research work in the township, other sundry costs, and salaries which would not exceed \$90 per week, not as much as they could receive in unemployment insurance cheques if they should apply.

Now the citizens of Rockwood are irate over the duplication of services already provided in the community for a village and district library. Many residents have, over a period of years, attempted to start up a regular library but were thwarted by such information as Rockwood is too small for such an institution and yet too close to Guelph for mobile facilities.

They know the effort that has been put into the present library which would be difficult to duplicate from the standpoint of cost as well as efficiency. Those who utilize the function also know that requests for more advanced reading material would be acceptable and granted pleasantly.

It is a community book-acquiring establishment meant

to feed the literary needs of the district residents regardless of age. It was then, unfortunately, that those who gave Larry Davidson his information on Rockwood's requirements were not better informed.

Local project rejected

Also asked is the question why a local university student's project dealing with accumulating historical facts on Rockwood and processing them for future reference material to be housed in the library at the University of Waterloo on microfilm was turned down. This project would have meant summer employment for from 10 to 15 students, which would also have been a worthwhile community achievement, only with Rockwood students working in their own district.

All these are fair points of disturbing issue. Mrs. Reita McPhedran, the organizer of the local library, talking to Larry Davidson on how the project had materialized, graciously understood and conceded to let Rockwood's present library ride for this year. Realizing that the grant had already been sanctioned and that research had

already begun, she could see the feasibility of letting it go ahead.

With headquarters still not established, leads were out to find a housing place and the three young men were preparing their program which would include not just a library, but a cultural

centre where reading books was only part of its function. They hoped to incorporate wild life and art films, along with outside speakers; discussion programs, and art instruction. They planned on catering to all age groups and keep up a continual round of skillful youth activities.

Bottom falls out

This was their endeavour, but now it is defunct. Everything was ready to go, but the bottom fell out of the scheme.

Mr. Snell contacted Larry last Friday to inform him that the Guelph Library Board had met the previous evening and would not lend books outside the city limits. Mr. Snell said he had not realized that so much was dependent on the library's co-operation nor had he heard of Rockwood's already established summer library. He said he felt that the survey project of the three lads was a necessary one which he would sanction but it would have nothing at all to do with the library board. He was concerned when he realized that so much had to do with his decision and wonders now what can be done.

Already the students are looking for other summer employment. The grant has been turned back despite the research which has already been conducted.

There are those who feel that such grants should not be allowed but the greatest issue is that of duplication of services. It has been a learning process for many people and particularly one of communications; some from the standpoint of citizen awareness of one's own community, and the students themselves know now the importance of stepping softly before moving into new areas and anticipating needs without authoritative research.

Young people can be commended for initiative and encouraged to reach into new fields, but although most things are there for the asking, it is wiser to respect what has been done before and, if not sure, make certain, ask, and then move.

The issue in this instance then has been lack of exchange of information, but when same was requested, the wrong answers were given.

Let's talk about horses

By Jennifer Barr

Question: Our newly purchased gelding seems to be bothered by flies, even this early in the season. They light on his face and cluster around his eyes. What do you suggest to protect him from this invasion? I am worried about him shaking his head too much when our children ride him.

Answer: Horses and flies seem to go together and horses have been living with the problem for eternity.

However there are several things you can do to make your horse more comfortable. Of the many equine fly repellents on the market, I have found Farnham Fly Wipe to be the most effective. It is available by the quart or gallon at most feed and tack dealers. Wipe the liquid on your horse's body, going as close as possible to the eyes without getting any into them. Place the used cloth inside a plastic bag and it will stay saturated for further use.

Don't use fly repellent any more than you have to because it is toxic. Use it only before riding or on humid thundery days.

If your horse is still bothered by face-flies in and around his eyes, a special face-fly stick repellent can be purchased at a large feed dealer.

Make sure your horse has plenty of cool shade. Keep him away from swampy bush, and put him in the stable during the very hot hours. This should keep him happier.

One more hint: don't be too quick to sweep cobwebs from the stable beams. Cobwebs mean spiders, and spiders eat flies!

Question: How can you tell if a saddle fits your horse?

Answer: A good question—and a timely one. So many people go out and buy a pretty saddle, or a cheap one, never thinking that it must fit both the horse and rider. An ill-fitting saddle is the cause of a lot of misbehaviour.

The fitting principle is the same for both western and English saddles—the saddle must never come down on the horse's spine. The shape of the tree, the inner rigid base of the saddle, should conform to the slope of your horse's withers, enabling the pommel to sit up off the withers. Too great a tree slope brings the top of the saddle close to the bone, too narrow a tree pinches the horse.

Park jammed for fireworks

It was as if the Village of Rockwood had played host to the City of Guelph last Monday night when, after the fireworks display at the village ball park, Highway 7 was dotted as far as one could see, with red car lights heading homeward, westbound.

Monday's display was the culmination of a marvellous weekend when mother nature cooperated providing great weather for a fantastic show sponsored by the Rockwood and district Lions Club.

District skies were resplendent as giant rockets zoomed into mushrooming floods of brilliant color and the park itself was filled to capacity as everyone crowded around the outfield fence three and five deep to watch the proceedings. Little kids chuckled, bigger ones "Oh'd" and adults grinned with delight as flares, rockets, and snowballs left from the ground to burst into blossoms of light, then splinter in loud booms which

echoed across the sky.

Saw need Victoria Day celebrations have become traditional in the village since the Rockwood Trail Riders first looked at the firework scene four years ago and saw it as one of personal danger for children playing individually with matches and dangerous explosives and also from a community effort point of view. Seeing the need they organized the premier district display on a big scale and watched the spectator crowds increase in numbers over the years.

This year however, the Trail

VISITORS, weekend trips and parties all make interesting reading in a weekly newspaper. With no disasters, strikes, murders, shootings, floods or air crashes, a weekly newspaper has space to devote to the happy news of the town. Please phone and let us know what's going on.

Riders decided to drop the effort. The challenge was quickly picked up by the Lions Club and, with the assistance of Gord Cox, the man

with the flare lighting know-how, saw it to its completion. It was one of the biggest displays in the vicinity drawing approximately

1500 people from Guelph, Acton, and Fergus districts and one taxi labelled Peel, came in carrying a passenger load from Brampton.



MRS. CUTTING stepped into Saunders Bakery Wednesday afternoon about 4 p.m. to buy some baking, parking her car alongside. When she emerged from the store her car was gone. A neighbor showed her where it rolled down the short street and over an embankment,

where a low truck was necessary to remove it. Another neighbor said she heard a dog bark and saw the car start to move down the dead-end street on its own. Mrs. Cutting had no idea how it happened.

Letter to editor

Express thanks to leaders, parents

Dear Mr. Editor:

The Scouting-Guiding year is drawing to a close, and along with school and the many activities which finish in June, the children and people concerned will be going their separate ways for vacations and other fun that summer brings.

As the most inexperienced Chairman any Committee must surely have ever known, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you for the tremendous support I have had from our leaders, committee members and parents, not forgetting the husbands and wives who stayed at home so that we could give of our time so freely.

I feel I can say on behalf of everyone involved that the past few months have been a lot of fun, albeit hard work, but worth every minute when we've seen the eagerness of the children and the

response from the parents, without whose help we would not have achieved half as much.

Personally, I am already looking forward to the start of the next year, and am eagerly anticipating meeting all the parents at the General Meeting of the Group Committee in September. Welcome also will be the parents of the children who will be joining Brownies, Cubs, Scouts and Guides for the first time.

Yours in Guiding and Scouting Lesley Ferguson

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Township of Nassagaweya
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Comin's and Goin's

Tuesday last saw four busloads of Centennial C.V.I. geography students expeditioning in the districts of Rockwood, Bel-fountain, and Guelph to examine glacial age formations. Great for the kids, a break for the teachers and a wonderful advertisement potential for clothes washing detergent soap companies. Oh, do they get dirty! The kids' clothing, that is.

She's just got to come back or several ladies in the village won't have a fourth regular village euche games. That's what local residents feel and everyone else hopes to see Miss Flo Till back in Rockwood soon. She will be leaving at the end of this month to take up residence in Guelph and "let's make it a temporary stay. Flo," cause you'll be missed in the village for sure!

Hey, it's heard that Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Price are back in town after their trip to Europe. Welcome home, folks, seems as if you've been away too long but we hear your trip's been a marvellous one.

Guess who's nipping off for jolly England? It's finish at the post office on Friday and take off on Monday for the George Days who will be stopping off to visit daughter Jean in London while on their three week travelling jaunt. Have a marvellous time, Grace and George. Give Rockwood's best to Jean and we'll look forward to your return.

A safety patrol Jamboree took two local children to Ottawa last weekend when Judy Smith, a bus patroller and Bobby Hudson, a foot patroller were feted to a trip to Ottawa along with 30,000 other children of Ontario. The local guards were chosen by the school children for the conscientious and courteous way they handled their positions and while in Ottawa had an opportunity to enjoy tours of the Parliament buildings, the Rideau Canal, other points of interest with, as a climax for the Thursday to Saturday trip, a special circus show. "Absolute bliss" said one mother who felt that it had been a marvellous opportunity for those chosen. Chaperones were Constable and Mrs. Reilly of the Guelph Police Detachment and an exciting event at the Jamboree had been when the children formed a

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