



# Eramosa council raises all wages

A marathon two day inaugural session of Eramosa township council wound up Tuesday evening of last week. Council began the meeting Monday morning, continued through the day and resumed Tuesday morning, breaking only for lunch. Most of Tuesday's session was devoted to discussing details of the proposed road needs study with K. Willmott and B. Jackson and Dan Culp of the Department of Communications and Transportation. It was revealed the Government ministry will pay 75 per cent of the costs of the study which will likely involve traffic counts in May and September. Average cost of the study will be \$100 per mile on Eramosa's approximate 100 mile road system.

Councillors voted themselves a \$100 across-the-board increase, which was opposed by new councillor Betty Lou Clark. Remuneration for the reeve was raised to \$1,850 per year, the deputy-reeve will receive \$1,100 and councillors will receive \$850 each. It was settled council would have a minimum of 26 meetings per year and further meetings would mean \$30 for each member of council. Councillors will be docked \$30 for missing a meeting, unless on council business.

Hourly rated employees also were voted a raise with the grader operators to receive \$3.25 per hour and a graduating scale for winter employees ranged from a high of \$3 per hour to \$2.75 for casual labor. Employees covered by fringe benefits also gained, with the township agreeing to pay two-thirds of the premiums, up from 50-50. By-laws were also reviewed appointing poundkeepers, fence viewers and valuers. It was decided the Ontario Municipal Board would arbitrate a disagreement over the Fourth Line changes which originated from the new road circumventing the conservation park. All councillors attended the two days of sessions with the reeve, Warren Parkinson, presiding.

Take over road Council authorized the road superintendent to place a sign at the end of Jackson St. in Rockwood. The township is taking



NOON HOUR SKATING activity at the Rockwood outdoor rink shows centennial school students taking time at the goal posts to recuperate their energy. Holding tight are Jeff McNabb, Gregory Brain and Susan Bilton as friendly fellow students look on. (Photo by Lorraine)

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## News and views

By Lorraine

Mark that day! Wednesday, January 3 as the first time in '73 when all Ontario mothers synchronized their efforts, tuned in for one precise reason to one particular hour—that of trundling their offspring off to school to reach their 9 a.m. destination.

Did sadness reign in every household? Would't that we could turn back the clock and relive the intervening 10 days between December 22 and January 3 with all its excitement, all its noise and all its pandemonium? Not so, most mothers know and all the world does not wonder.

It's approximately ten days later now. Another Christmas with all its love mixed with moments of terrible nostalgia and poignancy has faded out. It's a wonderful time and a sad time because no matter how we live it or how it is in anyone's house Christmas is a wrap up time not just of exciting packages but of past encounters, past dreams, and past great intentions. Every carol and every strain of White Christmas is a recall to most everyone but the very young, of other Christmases around other firesides in other homes all filled with the same passion of Christmas spirit and the same flood of love for brotherhood, family, and fellow man.

And then comes New Years. Like a refreshing face wash to give us another year start with cleaned-up countenances and brand new attitudes for living. It's easy to make new resolutions for January 1 because old ones are so seedy and threadbare. It's a great time to decide to change our attitudes because our last year's efforts have given us something to compete with.

But again, it's approximately ten days later now. Strong decisions are not as important. Smokers who broke the habit are taking the odd cigarette again and dieters have already dipped into the ice cream and fried chicken treats. Gossipers also are back on the rounds and, once again, our beautiful white world is taking on the grayness of old wash.

Think new year Maybe what should happen here is a by-monthly proclamation of New Year day beginnings; a monthly celebration, would be too much for most of us. But if we could just think new year and fresh start every eight weeks maybe we really could break down our bad habit routines but, again, maybe that could also prove that we're too weak to change and the next attitude then would be "why try at all."

Well, okay. Let's forget about the by-monthly rejuvenation trip. As long as we're seeing ourselves

for what we are and at least attempting to accomplish something constructive even once a year that isn't too bad. At least it proves that we're alive and kicking and what's so grim about that anyway? Maybe we're not doing so well on our '73 resolutions but do you know what? We still have some 350 days left to shine them up just a little and think how much we can improve ourselves by 1974.

### Correction

Percy Woods has written to point out an error in the 75 Years Ago column on Jan. 3. The item, which refers to "St. John's church, Brookville," should have read "St. John's church, Brockville." Mr. Woods spotted the name of the minister of the church as wrong.

There is no worse robber than a bad book.

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