

Group sponsors creative drama classes in Rockwood, Eden Mills

Creative drama instruction in the villages of Eden Mills and Rockwood is back for a second round this summer. Children's classes will begin at the St. John's parish hall in Rockwood on Monday, July 2, with hours set at 9 to 12 noon.

Sponsored by the Opportunities for Youth grants, the group of students heading up the project are composed of one local student, Jim Gordon of R.R. 5 Rockwood, and then other Guelph young people who became interested in teaching dramatic arts through their own high school theatrical endeavours at Guelph Centennial.

Began in '72

Last summer was the beginning of the exciting project when

a similar program was put into operation and conducted at the Eden Mills community centre in which some of this year's group of teachers participated. The success of the effort was so

amazing that the students reapplied again this year for the OFY grant and, with a 10 week time span, plan on sharing their program, dividing their time between the two villages, with a possible four weeks in Rockwood and six in Eden Mills, providing Project Overhaul in that village has been completed and the community centre is available.

If the centre can not be used, the complete course will then be conducted out of Rockwood.

Miming, co-ordinative exercises, improvisation, voice and sound, music, history of theatre, acting, and learning how to create sets, will all be incorporated into the eight week teaching stint with Friday afternoon plays to be shown to the public and, as a final, a final play which will include the workmanship and dramatics of the younger children who have taken part in the program for the weeks of instruction.

The plans caper

During the past week Rockwood villagers have been intrigued by the antics of the energetic young teachers as they caper about on the grounds of St. John's rehearsing for the parts they will play on their Friday productions.

Look in the mirror

This week's play, "Through the Looking Glass", a Lewis Carroll sequel to Alice in Wonderland, promises to be spectacular to which all village children and adults are invited. It will be held at the St. John's parish hall at 7:30 p.m. with admission free.

The productions shown in Eden Mills last summer drew rounds of delighted audiences and the young actors hope to see the same enthusiasm for their premier performance in Rockwood.

As the group works in the hall for the next two weeks they are available for registration. The classes will be open for all children from eight years on to teenagers with special emphasis on the need for older students to apply.

Registration costs for the session are free and parents who are interested in enrolling their children should drop in to the hall and get all information from the teachers there.



THE ANIMAL MUSICIANS look through the window at the robber as portrayed by Lynn Hopper, Diane Clark, Gail Clark, Paul Flemming, and robber Joe Hohenadel as they improvise on the St. John's Church grounds. This Friday evening at 8 p.m. the clever group will perform indoors at the parish hall in the Lewis Carroll production "Through the Looking Glass". Everyone is invited to the free performance.

—Photo by Lorraine



LIFEGUARD instruction at Rockwood Conservation area was supervised last Friday by Heather Haworth. (Photo by D. Gibbons)

Lifeguards of three areas take course in Rockwood

Rockwood's Conservation Park has been a haven of activity during the recent hot weather spell but last Friday's session of vigorous racing from beach to pavilion and energetic plunges into the water across to the cliff was one of special interest for curious beach visitors.

The group completing the exercise had one thing in common. They were lifeguards undertaking a training program in preparation for their summer waterfront patrols on the beach areas of Kelso, Valens, and Rockwood. Friday's lessons were of murgue rescues, scuba diving, paddle boat, canoe and sailboat rescues and techniques as well as 100 yard sprints.

The course is unique as, for the first time, three waterfronts, all sharing the philosophy of making swimming both safe and fun, ran the course as a combined effort. Even more unusual was the fact that the course was held at each of the three waterfronts during the five day sessions from June 20

to 26 consecutively with various areas of lifesaving methods and situations practically learned and several hours of lecture time devoted to explanation and rules of the waterfront lifeguard.

Fun, too

Dog paddle races, row boat races, and throwing instructors into the water added fun and extra enlightenment on the course and, during the next few days each lifeguard will be tested on his individual merit. The purpose of the new program is to incorporate the various lifeguard qualifications into one general standard and certification including the Canadian Red Cross, National Council YMCA, the Water Safety Service and the Royal Life Saving Society of Canada.

As proclaimed in the Canadian Lifeguard Manual "Because of the rapid growth of private and commercial swimming pools and waterfronts, and the intense new interest in more varied forms of water sport, such as water skiing,

skin and scuba diving and boating, the need for a more advanced and nationally recognized training for those engaged in supervision has become urgent. It is our hope that Lifeguard Certification will be promptly recognized by municipal and provincial authorities as the minimum requirement for professional lifeguards and that those responsible for our swimming areas will move toward qualifying their staffs as quickly as possible."

With the Rockwood beach gradually gaining the reputation as one of Ontario's finest and most popular swimming meccas, experts report that, within approximately 10 years it could triple its visitor population. Updated swimming safety and rescue precautions plus resuscitation equipment are already on the calendar of provincial beaches and Friday's spectators were pleased to note the calibre of training their protectors were capable of competing in.

Erin teacher selected for science course

A. Harold Copeland, geography chairman at Erin district high school, has been selected to attend the first Shell Canada Earth Science Workshop at the University of Western Ontario in London this summer.

Mr. Copeland, 52, is a member of Wellington County School Board outdoor education committee and commanding officer of the school's cadet corps.

In 1969-70, the need for earth science courses at pre-university levels was stressed by the Canadian Geological Foundation. The first summer workshop at UWO was established in 1970. Objective of the workshops was to foster and improve the teaching of earth science in Canadian schools at pre-university levels in order to promote increased student interest and motivation to continue along the same line of study in universities.

The new Shell Canada three-year plan has the same basic aim, but will place increased emphasis on Canadian content and offer an expanded program of field trips with actual field geological work by the participants.

Rockwood graduates introduced to FISH by Guelph speaker

Standing straight and tall, one of Rockwood's most popular young ladies gave vocal laurels to the teaching staff of the school in which she had taken her elementary training last Friday night when Lyndsay Jones, at the Centennial Public School grade 8 graduation banquet said: "We have had a happy time, learning and growing together in preparation for the next step into high school in September. The fun we have had, knowledge gained and friendships made will always provide us with fond memories of Rockwood Centennial. We have been prepared well, both academically and socially for this big step."

In the hall beautifully decorated in predominating colours of white and blue, the graduating class of '73 were delighted at the time and effort which had been put into the planning of their great finale in public school years.

A hand decorated cake trimmed with yellow roses, individual favours hand crafted with parental hands, decorated side tables and bouquets of orange blossoms all reflected to those present, the care and pride of the committee responsible for the banquet under the organizational ability of Donna Clifford of Eden Mills.

Student artists

On the walls, cartoons and figures conveyed more warmth and showed the artistry of the students themselves. The graduating class, eight years ago kindergarten enrollees, were radiant as they sat down, 55 in number garbed in party fare, to a delicious dinner of hot turkey and all the trimmings.

Brent Storey was the master of ceremonies and Elizabeth Johnston said the Grace Toast to the Queen was made by Alan Swanson. Then it was dinner. After Mr. Grant McRae's welcome address to the parents, Susan McQuinn gave an introduction of the head table. Trudy Smith gave a student council president's report which was followed by Cindy Currie's

treasurer's report. And so it went, it was a round of student participation and success for all the graduates. Evelyn Druif introduced the guest speaker for the occasion, Mrs. Barbara Green of Guelph, who gave a rundown on what the program "Fish" was all about, representing it as a symbol of Christianity and identifying it with good neighbor attitudes and care of fellow human beings. She correlated her talk with the students' graduation by suggesting that, as they progress through life one of their greatest responsibilities will be that of understanding and, through such programs as Fish, sharing what knowledge they gain, to make the world a better place in which to live.

Philip Drijber thanked the speaker expressing the student's appreciation for attending the banquet after which several presentations were made to the students for their special merits during the past year.

For Academic Proficiency the Robert Leslie Award was presented by Bob Love to Ronnie McRae. Trudy Smith received the Osborne Family Award for Citizenship from Earl Osborne. The Home and School awards for The Greatest Academic Improvement were presented by Sandy Hudson to Cindy Levy and

Grant Gilbertson; Mrs. Mysson and Mr. Gellatly presented the Tony Proulx Humanity Award to Terry Engelage.

Following this Lyndsay Jones gave her Valedictorian Speech. And then it was humour time. Limericks concocted by the students themselves were read by the students, poking fun at each other and at the teaching staff they were leaving.

Everyone chuckled at the innocent wit and, at their completion, Shelley Ailsop gave

words of appreciation to the Home and School Association for preparing the wonderful banquet.

Conclusion, and Lyndsay Jones led in "O Canada" and, once again, another group of young people, some more academically, others more athletically, and yet others, more practically, inclined, went through the portals of elementary training to move into the future hopefully well prepared for what their graduation into a higher realm of learning will bring.

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