

# New cougar stamp designed by Rockwood artist

by Kerry Chalmers

Have you bought a 12c stamp lately? If not drop by the Rockwood Post Office and ask Postmaster Marg Cox to show you the first of a proposed series on the endangered species series. This stamp of the cougar has a special meaning for Rockwood residents. Local artist Robert Bateman was commissioned by the Postage

Design and Development Department of the Canadian Post Office to work on the endangered species series. Mr. Bateman has been interested in wildlife since boyhood and began sketching birds and other forms of wildlife that lived in the ravine behind his family home in Toronto. He and friends often biked to rural areas where he sketched and friends did photography.

A naturalist, conservationist, retired teacher and world traveller, he is better known abroad than at home. His work hangs in some of the best collections in the world.

Realism His interest in wildlife art evolved into what was currently happening in the art

world at that time. In the sixties he moved from abstractions back into realism of nature where he felt more comfortable.

In 1975 he claimed international recognition at the Tyron Gallery in London, England with his painting of African wildlife. Mr. Bateman taught in Nigeria on an external aid program and some of these African scenes were painted then.

Following this, showings in South Africa, the Royal Ontario Museum and Hamilton's Beckett Gallery followed. He is currently preparing for a one-man show in New York as well as working on several paintings for the Jubilee Celebration in London, England in June. Mr. Bateman recently began painting full time after a 20-year teaching career.

Search Preparing the painting of the cougar for the wildlife series resulted in rather an amusing episode. Mr. Bateman likes to work from his own material and he wanted to see and spend time with a cougar.

Because there have been only tracks, sounds and possible sightings of the eastern cougar over the past two hundred years it was impossible for him to see an eastern cougar.

He discovered from early records that the cougar of this region was smaller, redder and had a strong dorsal stripe down the back. There are cougars on Vancouver Island in remote areas and the odd one in the Rockies, where they are still shot at by hunters.

The Batemans set about to find a cougar in a zoo but this proved to be more difficult than one would think.

No luck No luck at Metro zoo and Buffalo zoo reported that unfortunately their one and only cougar had died six months earlier and believe it or not arriving at Regent's Park zoo in England where there is one of the best collection of animals in the world, Mr. Bateman was refused entry because they were renovating their cat section! The zoo would make no exceptions. The Batemans were in England so Mr. Bateman could sign some limited edition prints of African Wildlife subjects. Luck, however, was with them.

When they were visiting a small zoo in Wiltshire the keeper there suggested they contact a friend who was a keeper for a private zoo. The private zoo happened to belong to the manager of Tom Jones and Englebert Hundjerdink.

Success They contacted the keeper who did have a cougar and Mr. Bateman, his wife Brigit and their infant son Christopher spent a magnificent day at an Elizabethan mansion where he studied his cougar!

Mr. Bateman notices characteristics and details an average observer would miss because he does study these wild creatures. He pays strict attention to proportion and scale and uses preliminary sketches, clay models and photographs when beginning a canvas. The cougar is a beautiful example of how his background as a naturalist and his interest in ecology enhance his work. He likes to paint his subjects in their natural environment.

He put the cougar in a white pine tree because the white pine is typical of eastern Canada and not the west which is one of the only ways to identify it as an eastern cougar. Mr. Bateman used a white pine tree, part of the conservation area pine on the Fourth Line for authenticity in his background.

The stamp was issued on March 30 and 22 million were issued at that time. Postmaster Marg Cox commented on the number of requests for



ARTIST BOB Bateman works on painting of lion for the Queen's Jubilee Celebration in London, England this June. He often works outdoors at this time of year enjoying the wildlife that make their home along the Eramosa River in the seclusion of the Batemans' peaceful nook.

sheets of stamps and said she found it necessary to order additional sheets from the London Stamp Depot.

The supervisor there not only remarked on the quality of the issue but said she felt a sense of pride knowing the artist was in the mailing area.



New stamp



Bob Bateman's original design

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 Wednesday, April 20 7:30 p.m.  
 \* Students \$1.00 \* Adults \$2.00 \*  
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## Free Press

## Rockwood and District

### Rockwood roundup

by Kerry Chalmers  
 Rockwood Horticulture Club will have a discussion on beautifying Rockwood, led by the Planning Committee on Wednesday, April 20 at the Town Hall at 8 p.m.

The Rockwood Nursery School will be holding a tea and bazaar on May 7 from 2-4 p.m. at Rockwood Centennial Public School. There will be several tables, including one for the children and prizes and a draw will add to this special day. More details next week.

### Eden Mills

## Breakfast is huge success

by Georgina Wright  
 The Friendly Seniors of Eden Mills met in their club room Wednesday afternoon with five guests from the Sunshine club in Rockwood who helped to entertain during the program. After a short business meeting everyone adjourned to the card tables for an afternoon of euchre.



ENJOYING THEIR Easter Monday holiday are Kathy Short (on horse), Sue Wood and Jim Hall. Many village students took advantage of the sunny day and their freedom.

## Cancer drive canvassers out

by Kerry Chalmers  
 The April Cancer Campaign is here once again, and the volunteer canvassers are hard at work. The goal for the Wellington County Unit is \$7,800.

In 1976 a total of \$1,250 was collected in Eramosa Twp. alone, which was an increase

of \$250 over 1975. This year Eramosa Twp. is split into two halves with a team captain in charge of each half.

In Eramosa Twp. in the area between No. 24 and No. 7 Hwy., the team captain is Marjorie Saunders, and the

canvassers are: in Rockwood Village, Nancy Anderson, Marilyn Brace, Lillian Hill, Bernice Bacon, Johanna Gooyers, Gert Woellmer, Grace Day, Gail Ritchie, Millie Bolton, Winnie Hiltz, Ebba Allerellie, Erna Hospes, Helen Weirmer, and Barbara Wynneck.

On the First and Second Lines Barbara Osborne, Third and Fourth Lines Myra Benham, Fifth Line and Upper Sixth Lines Dorothy Harding, Seventh Line Ha Johnston, Lower Sixth and No. 5 Side Road Rita McPhedran, Eramosa side of town line Ellen Garner, No. 24 Hwy. Marie Ellen Tavares, "Eramosa" Anne Parkinson, Everton Village Kathy Jestin and Marg Hammond.

In the upper half of Eramosa Twp. the team captain is Gus Littlewood and the canvassers are: Second Line Nellie Stockman, Joy Halburton, Irene Thring, and Fran McKnight; Third Line Betty Quast, and Marie Smeltzer, Fourth Line Marg Duffield, Joanne Coppes and Wayne Swantek; Fifth Line Jean Wheeler, and Gen Littlewood; Sixth Line Josephine Waples, Judy McDougall and Theresa Beringnoll; Seventh Line Trudy Adsett and Rene McLean.

## Bimbo disappears

Bimbo the clown was packed away until the next Bible club meeting in October, when he can again have surprises for the members of the Good News Club.

"Oh, does this have to be the last club already?" coaxed the children, as they met in the Rockwood school for their weekly meeting. Soon they were involved in a busy game of Sword Drill as the club got underway.

Two newcomers were welcomed and soon joined in the program, adding their voices to the vigorous Extra

song. As this was also the Easter program, Mrs. Driber the leader reviewed the facts of the surprising events, through pictures by famous artists. Through an enthusiastic game of Tic Tac Toe, the whole Resurrection's facts were rediscovered. Both boys and girls ended in a tie game. Treats to everyone soon soothed the feelings.

After the Mission songs, the interesting story of Freddu was concluded. The children were shocked to hear of a witch-doctor's medicines, and encouraged to pray for other children who do not yet have the love of Christian missionaries to help them learn of Christ Jesus.

Soon club was over, and everyone was invited to the 5 Days club which will be held in July. "So watch for the sign and come over to my house in July!"

They will also be watching for the announcement of the TV showing of a Bible Club program similar to those already popular in the USA.

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**Rockwood bowling**

Rockwood bowling league Team standings

Carneys 123, Kay's Feeds 113, Guelphites 109, Optimists 108, Dynamites 106, Mustangs 104, The Happy Gang 99, Norions 95, Countrymen 94, Four Corners 91, Five Plus One 90, Popeye 89.

Men over 600, John Gordon (spare) 658, Dunc Kingsbury (spare) 656, Don McKersie 646, Sam Lawler 621, Danny Renaud 619, Glen Gray 613, Bob Lilley 610, Harve Reid 606.

Women over 500, Nellie Stokman 756, Sue Nightingale 620, Marion Allan 555, Violeta Lilley 552, Ruth Polo 536, Marg McKersie 532, Ivy Ritchie 514, Val Samuel 507, Nancy Gordon (spare) 501.

Results of games played Tues., April 5

Popeye 5 pts. John Murison 553, Gordon Ostrander 501; Carneys 2 pts. Danny Renaud 619, Bob Lilley 610.

Optimists 5 pts. Dunc Kingsbury (spare) 656, Ted Jestin 593, Five Plus One 2 pts. Val Samuel 507, Denise Bolton 489.

Dynamites 5 pts. Greg Dales 562, John Dales 523; Norions 2 pts. Sue Nightingale 620, Ivy Ritchie 514.

Guelphites 5 pts. Dunc McPhedran (spare) 655, Sam Lawler 621; Countrymen 2 pts. John Gordon (spare) 658, Jan Loof 512.

Kay's Feeds 5 pts. John Polo 594, Marion Allan 555; The Happy Gang 2 pts. Glen Gray 613, Joe Teres 512.

Four Corners 7 pts. Nellie Stokman 756, Don McKersie 646; Mustangs Opt. Harve Reid 606, Dave Cleland 499.