

Rockwood

Improved phone service by end of next year — Bell

by Barb Wynneck
 Eramosa township rural residents can expect improved telephone service from Bell Canada by the close of 1979. Bill Salmon, local Bell manager, announced at a Rockwood town hall public meeting, attended by approximately 50 residents.

Buried wire services will replace every telephone line outside the village of Rockwood. Work has already begun

on the half million dollar project, in the north end of the township.

Presently there are up to ten parties using one rural line. When the new system is operating, a maximum of four families will share a line. Individual homes will hear only their own, and one other ring.

Basic rural service rates will increase from \$4. to \$4.40 per month. The quarter mile line rates for private and individual services will increase, but the distance of line required to install the service will decrease.

The maximum distance which individual or two-party lines now extend is 37 quarters or 9 1/4 miles. The distance is measured from the Rockwood exchange building or from the "locality rate area" in Eden Mills, to the subscriber's home. The distance will decrease because Bell will designate Everton as a

"locality rate area".

"Locality rate area" is an area designated by Bell for which distances to services are measured. The new maximum distance which rates for individual or two-party service will be based on, will be 26 quarters or 6 1/2 miles.

The basic rate for individual lines remains at \$6.65 per month. The quarter mile rate will rise from 70 cents to \$1.05. The two-party line basic rate remains at \$4.80 per month. The quarter mile rates jump from 45 cents to 70 cents.

Rates will increase when the job is completed. Eden Mills and Rockwood village rates will not change.

Mr. Salmon explained that there will be some interruptions in telephone service during the new lines installations. He urged subscribers to be patient.

Some Bell Canada customers voiced concerns about the local service. It was noted that from the Rockwood exchange, one can dial only Acton or Guelph toll free. Customers questioned if the toll free area would be enlarged.

Mr. Salmon explained that over a 50 per cent volume demand for that kind of service is required before Bell would consider investing capital dollars expanding the toll free area. This expense would be reflected in increased customer rates.

In monitoring the system, Bell has not seen a need to increase the Rockwood toll free area, Mr. Salmon said. At present the highest rate of outside calls is from Rockwood to Kitchener. He didn't see a change in this situation for sometime, he added.

Residents in the area of Mimosa United Church have Fergus, Rockwood and Hillsburgh telephone exchanges, one subscriber noted. This necessitates long



THE FIRST ROCKWOOD Brownie Pack recently enrolled their new members. Back row left to right, Lynn Noble, Shawna Lush, Heather Reid, Christine Dempsey, Leanne Brace. Front row, Kim Drexler, Michelle Rockola, Pam Osborne, Kim Hollyman, Tammy Townshend and Colleen Hammond.

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Free Press **Rockwood and District**

Sunshiners meet despite weather

Despite the awful day last Thursday, Mrs. Black was in the chair to welcome 36 members and friends to a most enjoyable afternoon.

After a lively singsong, the secretary was asked to read the report of the last meeting and Mrs. Isabelle Nellis gave the treasurer's report and then Mrs. Peacock read a poem by Vic Smith entitled "The Sunshine Dance" which was very humorous.

Henry Leachman then came forward to let everyone

know that the officers for the next executive committee would be installed by Bert Davidson at the Christmas dinner. He then asked Mrs. Nellis to give a reading and she had a very funny piece "Home Remedies" and then a very thoughtful one called "A New Day," Miss Gladys Hanna, accompanied by Mrs. Black at the piano sang "Aton Waters" and "Just A Wearying For You". Everyone enjoyed listening to these beautiful songs. Mrs. Elsie Leitch read about "The Good

Old Days" which took a few people back to their childhood and then Mrs. Vera Black played some musical selections and sang "O Solo Mio" in her beautiful soprano voice.

Mr. Leachman asked eight members to read out jokes which had been handed out to them and after some laughs everyone was ready to turn to the games tables. Euchre high scores went to Max Milne and Mrs. Irene Davidson. Mr. Hayden and Mr. Trousdale took the high score in crokinole.

A variety of sandwiches with tea and coffee were served by Mrs. Ethel Adsett and Mrs. Isabelle Nellis and so another afternoon came to an end. December 14, 6 p.m. at the town hall is the Christmas dinner.

Rockwood Roundup

by Barb Wynneck
 Don't forget the Rockwood-Eramosa Home and School meeting tonight, 8 p.m., at Rockwood Centennial. A panel discussing, "What is high school all about in 1978-79?" will be featured. Parents and senior students are urged to bring their concerns to the meeting.

joy the skating program sponsored by the Rockwood and District Lions and Lionettes, Dec. 9, Jan. 6 and 20, Feb. 3 and 17. Skaters are bused from various community points to Centennial Arena and back again. Cost is 70 cents per Saturday.

The local Christmas shopping bonanza happens this Sat., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Rockwood Community Centre, when the Lionettes hold their annual giant Christmas Bazaar. See you there!

R&D
 Rockwood & District
 Coming Events

A correction — Cubs in last week's investment photo should have been identified left to right as Dwayne Death, Glen Hopkins, Ian Robson, Nevin Madzarac, Scott Verhagen and Erol Hosdil. Cub Master Vic Johnson and assistant Chris Johnson.

ROCKWOOD-Eramosa Home and School meeting, November 29 at 8:00 p.m. Rockwood Centennial School. 10135

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