

Free Press

rockwood and district

Rockwood Digest



George Day, retiring Wellington County School Board Trustee.

After 23 years with local and county school boards, George Day has retired with this past municipal election.

Taking his place as Trustee for Eramosa and Rockwood schools is Betty Jones.

George, the former Rockwood Postmaster, started on the school board in April, 1956 as secretary-treasurer for Eramosa Township School Board and the last ten years as Wellington County School Board Trustee.

During those ten years George's areas of responsibility have varied from Guelph-Puslinch-Eramosa to Erin-Eria Village-Eramosa-Guelph to Guelph-Eramosa.

George followed in his father's footsteps. His father Frank was secretary-treasurer of the local board.

When George took over his school board position, Eramosa had 11 country schools, all one-room except two which had two classrooms and two teachers each.

George would visit the schools at least monthly to take around the teachers paychecks. Usually he found himself visiting every two weeks and always at the beginning of school to shift about extra desks. The late Orzle Meadows, rural postman, would deliver the desks in his trusty truck.

In the '60s, George had the job of organizing the school system centrally and closing the rural schools.

It took three public votes before Eramosa Township residents were ready for centralization but in 1962 school number 1 and 5 closed their doors. By early 1965, schools 3 to 10 (including 4 1/2) were closed and Eramosa Public School opened its doors February 1. Southern Eramosa students were bussed to Rockwood Public School.

It was still two years before the building of the new efficient Rockwood Centennial Public School.

Prior to centralization no busses were utilized, so a completely different system had to be broken in to the concern of parents with young children.

"We have a good bus system and an excellent alignment of routes," George comments.

Even though rural schools lasted a long time in Eramosa, George is proud that the township inaugurated the first rural remedial teaching in Ontario in 1953. A remedial tutor travelled from school to school assisting any students in need of extra help.

By 1965 all Eramosa children had the advantages of libraries and gymnasiums in their central schools. Kindergarten was introduced to Rockwood in 1967 with the new school.

George is also very proud of the community library, an outgrowth of the Rockwood Centennial School library after the addition was built in the mid 1970's.

As trustee, George felt his responsibility was to the whole county not just his own areas and through his encompassing concern feels he got the best for Eramosa.

"The county system has given equal opportunity to all the students in the county" he states, "some townships are more far sighted than others but the county equalizes the opportunities."

George sees quite a difference in today's students from those he dealt with a generation ago. He feels present day youngsters are less secure and are suffering from a permissive social system that encourages broken homes.

Why has George decided to retire? He says every organization needs new blood and he feels it's time he stepped down. Besides he and his wife Grace wish to travel and the job that has taken 20 hours a week for 23 years has tied George down.

Take note, two years from now, George will be reorganizing the school system of Zambia.

Restoration stops on kilns

The prohibitive cost of restoring the historic lime kilns and powder house at the Limehouse Conservation Area has persuaded the Credit Valley Conservation Authority executive committee to recommend they abandon the project.

However, the parks and recreation committee of the Authority will be requested to investigate the feasibility of providing some protection for existing structures in the conservation area so they do not further deteriorate.

The Historical Records Advisory Board, meeting in November, 1979, passed a resolution requesting the Ontario Heritage Foundation be requested to provide funds for a feasibility study to determine the costs involved in restoring the draw kiln, set kiln and powder house at the Limehouse conservation area.

The Foundation discussed the possible restoration and preservation of the lime kilns at a meeting October 22 of this year and concluded the project would be very expensive. They're in bad shape, veteran executive member Henry Wheeler said.

As a result the executive committee of the CVCA passed a resolution at their meeting Friday to abandon the restoration of the kilns and powder house and advised the Ontario Heritage Foundation it was withdrawing its application for funding assistance.

Halton Hills member Gail Maltby reminded members the parks and recreation committee had issued a lengthy report a year ago where it was indicated it would be a costly project. She said the committee had advised the Esqueving Historical Society of vandalism at the site and asked for their input on a solution.

Mrs. Maltby urged the executive committee should make residents of Limehouse and area aware of the decision and give them a chance for input. Acting chairman R. K. Harrison asked if the derelict kilns were going to be allowed to deteriorate and no measures taken to preserve them from further vandalism.

It was noted there is a high fence around the one vertical kiln but no protection for either the powder house or the set kiln, both artifacts of some historical significance.

Maltby said that perhaps the CVCA should investigate how the Halton Region Conservation Authority raised funds to restore the Kelso kilns.



Cubs Invested in the First Rockwood Cub Pack recently were, front row, left to right: Patrick Haworth, Dennis Hosdl, Stephen Robsob, Kevin Fuller, Dave Foster. Back row: Gregg English, Jason Bard, Kevin Harris, Scott Love, Chris Vickery.

Principal Brown ends 31 year career

More than 300 friends, relative and well wishers were on hand at Ospringle School Saturday night to help Principal Lorne Brown into retirement.

He will, however, have to wait another month to enjoy the time to himself. Brown retires December 18 after 31



Lorne Brown

Everton CWA meets

by June Jansen

The Everton Christian Women's Association held the monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. Sylvia Watson last Tuesday, Nov. 11. Fourteen ladies attended. Mrs. Dianne Berry, of Guelph, was the guest speaker for the evening. She spoke on the meaning of "Forgiveness". Lunch and coffee were served.

The Women's Association from the Community Church meet the first Tuesday of the month. If you are interested in attending, they would be happy to welcome you.

Miss Jane Bexton moved recently to the former home of Mr. and Mrs. John McDougall. Dalvd Jansen, the Free Press carrier boy in Everton was a recent winner in the carrier boy

contest. He won a wrist-watch. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Johnston and family have moved from their home at the Everton Scout Camp to their new home with Robert's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Johnston, R.R. 4 Rockwood.

At the start of his teaching career, Brown was at New Scotland School with eight grades in York County. From 1949 until 1953, he was at Islington School where he became a vice-principal for two years. Since 1956 he has been with Wellington County.

"The task of teaching and being a principal is very trying at times but I can think of no work more rewarding when you reflect back upon the many years and countless boys and girls whose lives have been shared with you."

He is hoping to get on with some of his farm related tasks which he has had to set aside. He and wife Dorothy live on a 50-acre farm at R.R. 5 Belwood.

"I think our education system in Wellington is second to none. It pretty well leads, from what I'm told and what I observe."

Spreading about educators in general, Brown said: "They are expecting more (from children) in some respects and they're getting less. The kids are floundering to a degree."

Educators are trying to "put old heads on young shoulders."

Lorne Brown was born at Beeton, the only son of Allen Brown who resides in Elora. The younger Brown was educated in a country school and at Schomberg Continuation School.

At the start of his teaching career, Brown was at New Scotland School with eight grades in York County. From 1949 until 1953, he was at Islington School where he became a vice-principal for two years. Since 1956 he has been with Wellington County.

"The task of teaching and being a principal is very trying at times but I can think of no work more rewarding when you reflect back upon the many years and countless boys and girls whose lives have been shared with you."

He is hoping to get on with some of his farm related tasks which he has had to set aside. He and wife Dorothy live on a 50-acre farm at R.R. 5 Belwood.

Churchill

Thanks for paper

by J. Turner

The November meeting of Churchill CCW was held at the home of Mrs. Mary Walsma, on Wednesday evening Nov. 12. Vice-President Mrs. Lydia Kerr again chaired the meeting in the absence of Mrs. Storey.

Mrs. Olga Thompson led in devotions with readings and hymns having a Remembrance Day theme. Plans were

made to have a pot luck dinner at the church November 23, and to visit the Mapleview Lodge Nursing Home Dec. 1.

A Variety Concert was held at the church on Saturday evening, with a very interesting program. Charlie Perry played guitar and mouth organ, Victor Smith his accordion, Mrs. Ward Bruce recited several humorous pieces, and

Miss Bella Roszell sang two lovely soprano solos.

The Acton Sunshine Band performed lively old-time music, and the Churchill Choir sang two numbers.

The Rev. Emrys Jenkins was chairman for the evening. Mrs. William Thompson, planner and co-ordinator. After the concert all enjoyed a friendly visit and delicious lunch.

A congregational pot-luck dinner is to be held at Churchill next Sunday, November 23, following regular morning worship all welcome.

The Churchill Paper Drive is in full swing with the stacks of newspaper in our storage building mounting hourly.

The drive ends today (Wed.) but the truck won't be picking them up until the weekend, so there is still a little time to add your bundle to the pile.

Many thanks to those contributing to the collection.

We are pleased to hear that Mrs. Edith Storey is recovering well from a painful knee injury suffered October 11, while attending her grandson's wedding in Edmonton.

After spending several weeks at the home of son Eddie Storey, Orillia, with her knee in a cast, she is now back in her own home and managing (Continued on Page 9)

Eden Mills

Marks birthday

by Mrs. G. MacDougall

Elected to the Board of Trustees in the village at the November 10th election were Rod Blair, Mike Marshall and John Shaw. Rod topped the polls and Mike and John tied. John Turner remains as secretary.

At this time a sincere thank-you is extended to the outgoing trustees, Harold Tomlinson and Elwood Snow for the time and effort that they put into their years of service on the Board of Trustees.

Some members of the Presbyterian Church attended the special service and reception at Westminster - St. Pauls church in Guelph to honor Rev. Fred Williamson on the occasion of his 100th birthday on Sunday, November 16.

Rev. Williamson is a former minister of Eden Mills and Rockwood churches, and is now a resident of Hyde Park Nursing Home.

Staff and residents there held a reception for him on Monday.

Rev. Williamson served the ministry for over 67 years and hearty congratulations are extended on this memorable day.

Several of the 22 lots that are available have been sold in the new Eramosa Mills Development and earth movers are now busy in the construction of roads into the properties.

A reminder of the annual meeting of the Community Club this Saturday evening, November 22 with dessert party at 6:30 p.m., and business at 8 p.m.

My Sincere Thanks



TO YOU SEPARATE SCHOOL VOTERS OF HALTON HILLS FOR YOUR SUPPORT IRENE McCAULEY Halton Separate School Trustee

SOFT SEAT SALE on NOW!

Kroehler Sofa and Chair Sets * several selections available



\$599⁹⁵

NO 7% Sales Tax PLUS 1 YEAR NO INTEREST

Campbell's FURNITURE SHOWROOM

485 Main St., Milton 878-7256 Open Daily 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

To The Residents Of Erin Township



THANK YOU For re-electing me to Erin Township Council, I am here to serve you. If you have concerns please contact me.

RR 1 Orton Phone 855-4572

Sincerely GEORGE ROOT



The Future rests on your shoulders. Be a Big Brother.

For Further Information Contact Big Brothers of Halton Hills at the Acton Community Services Centre 853-3310