

The ROCKWOOD Miller

Trail link approved

An old farm lane will be the missing link in the trail system between Rockwood and Eden Mills. Guelph/Eramosa Township Council has reached a deal with property owners, Mrs. Frances Golightly-Burns and Alan Burns, who will allow construction of the trail on their land. The Township would be responsible for the care, maintenance and liability associated with the public use of the proposed trail, which, along with signage and gates, will cost \$14,000.

In a recent report to Council, Robin Milne, the Manager of Parks and Recreation, said the missing trail linkage between Rockwood and Eden Mills was identified several years

ago, leading to discussions with the Golightly-Burns about use of a farm lane on their property for the trail.

The trail will run from Indian Trail and Wellington Road 44 to the northeast for about 700m, where it heads northwest before meeting Parkinson Drive in Rockwood. Milne said the entire trail is 1,000-metres in length, and 700-metres is on a farm lane, which needs minimum maintenance to turn it into a useable trail. The remaining 300-metres follows along a stone piled fence and Milne said that area requires some minor grading, removal of dead trees and relocation of some field stones. He said the final 10-metres of the trail needs the most work to level it with the road.

Milne said Mrs. Golightly-Burns has had problems with horses using the lane in the past and she is also concerned about illegal dumping, so the trail will be gated to prevent horses, snowmobiles and ATVs from using it, while at the same time, allowing a farmer to get to the fields adjacent to the trail.

Questioned what would happen to the agreement if the owners sold the land, Milne said the Township would have to negotiate a new deal with the new owners. Mayor Chris White suggested if that happened, that the Township could buy it.

Milne said once the work is done, they would have an official trail opening, possibly in August.



HOMETOWN ROOTS: The new CD from Rockwood band Hometown Roots will be released before the end of the month, featuring an eclectic mix of rock and country music. – Submitted photo

Rockwood band's CD release

Rockwood's, Hometown Roots, has completed the initial phase of its first full-length recording. Using studio time awarded to the band for winning a rock and roll competition at the Georgetown Fall Fair in September of 2010, the four young members of the group recently wrapped up their session at Erin's Escarpment Sounds recording studio. With only final editing still to be completed, the band hopes to release their new CD, to

be simply called "Hometown Roots," in the next few weeks.

Classmates and friends since elementary school, the four members of Hometown Roots are all from the rural Rockwood area. Drummer Brandon Priebe, bassist Evan Ledwith, guitarist Matt Beach and lead singer Tyler Zuidema, each only 18 years old, have crafted 11 new original tunes for this recording. With musical stylings ranging from the infectious rock anthem,

"Rumble, Rumble" to the country-tinged "Better Man", the CD promises to add to the band's growing reputation as one of the most promising young rock acts in the area.

Watch the group's website (www.myspace.com/hometownrootsband) for more information on the public release of Hometown Roots' new recording. Their next performance in the area will be January 29, 2011 at Squirrel Tooth Alice's Bar & Grill in Guelph.

Township Digest

"Pretty average" permits

A "big rush" of 25 to 30 applications for septic system permits in Eden Mills at the end of the year – sparked by the ending of a grant – added to the 232 building permits, with a construction value of \$13.2-million, that were issued by Guelph/Eramosa Township officials last year.

Chief Building Official Michel Newark called the annual building permits issued "pretty average," adding there were five new house permits issued in December, and the total construction value for the month was \$1.5-million.

In 2009, 304 permits with a construction value of \$23.9-million were issued.

Mark your calendar

Township Council has given approval to three fundraising events in the coming months, including a marathon, a walk/run and a triathlon.

The inaugural Marden Marathon, a fundraiser for Groves Memorial Hospital in Fergus, is slated for April 9, and is organized by the Elora Road Christian School in conjunction with the Running Room, which have permission to use the park, surrounding roads and the centre for the event.

The second annual Avery's Bravery Race – named after Avery Bond, a three-year-old Rockwood girl who survived heart surgery as a newborn – takes place in the village on April 30, to raise money for the Hospital for Sick Children.

Township Council approved a two-kilometre route inside the Rockwood Conservation Area, and a five-kilometre route through the village that starts and finishes at the Conservation Area. Over 250 participants and 50 volunteers helped raise approximately \$6,000 at last year's event.

Council also approved World Endurance Canada's plans for a triathlon at Guelph Lake on June 18 and 19. As with the other events, organizers have the necessary insurance, have checked with police concerning road use, will erect signs and will let area residents and two churches on the route know in advance which roads will be affected by the events.

Snowmobile etiquette

Wellington OPP reminds snowmobile operators that safe operation includes knowledge of the machine and awareness of backcountry hazards. Always leave a trip itinerary with someone, report back upon your return and travel in pairs (use the buddy system) and never ride alone.

During night riding, reduce speed, drive within the limits of your headlight, and don't venture off familiar ground or known

trails. Read brochures on safe snowmobile driving such as those published by the Canada Safety Council and International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association.

Every effort should be made to minimize the impact of machines on the trail and surrounding environment. Using skill and common sense riders can negotiate obstacles and riding conditions that could cause damage.

The following sug-

gestions may protect the outdoors and outdoor recreation through responsible practices:

- Ride quietly when near houses, campgrounds or non-riders. Keep the RPM'S and speed low and steady.
- Lean into turns with your upper body to enhance manoeuvrability.
- Avoid riding on frozen lakes or other waterways.
- Cross roads at a 90-degree angle
- Report illegal Riding.

EWCS NEWS

News & Events

Tickets are now available for EWCS's Valentine's Day Dance taking place in Rockwood on Saturday, February 12. Tickets are \$75 and include dinner from David's Restaurant, as well as live music from the Itchy & Scratchy band. Tickets for entry after dinner to enjoy the dance are also available for just \$35. A silent auction and door prizes are also planned for this evening of Rock n' Roll Romance.

Seniors News

Please contact Sherri Plourde for more information on any of the following senior's programs or events 519-833-0087.

• Active Adults Recreation Schedule

All activities are \$1 per visit and take place in the EWCS Seniors Centre in Centre 2000, Erin

• InStitches – knitting and crocheting group. Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

• Yoga – Wednesdays, 8:30-9:30 a.m. (extra cost)

• Pilates – Tuesday, 3:30-4:30 p.m. (cost: under \$10)

• Line Dancing – Fridays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

• Bridge Card Group – Fridays, 1-4 p.m.

• Billiards & Darts Group – call if interested

• Book Club – call if interested

• Reflexology – Wednesdays at 10 by appointment (extra cost).

Rockwood Physiofitness

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Physiotherapy, Massage Therapy,
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