

Flash flood damages Rockwood homes

'TSUANAMI' IN ROCKWOOD: A wall of water and mud – two-feet deep and 30-feet wide according to emergency responders – swept onto Harris Street early Sunday morning after the recent rain and thaw caused a water storage pond to overflow into a second holding pond, owned by developer Charleston Homes, which then overflowed, blocking the street and filling some basements with mud and debris. – Submitted photo



The **ROCKWOOD** Miller

Some angry and frustrated Rockwood homeowners continue to clean up mud and debris left behind on Harris Street early Sunday morning when a storm water management pond spilled its contents into a second pond, releasing what one resident called a “tsunami” of water that emergency officials described as three-feet deep and 30-feet wide.

“This should not have happened,” said Guelph/Eramosa Township Mayor Chris White on Tuesday, adding the Township owes it to the residents to determine what happened, and to

prevent it from happening again, even though the pond in question belongs to Charleston Homes, which is building homes in the Noble Ridge subdivision in the neighbourhood.

White said the recent rain and thaw caused the side of a storm water management pond, built approximately six years ago for the Seaton development, to fail, allowing water into a second pond – built by the current Noble Ridge developer, Charleston Homes – and that released a “torrent” of water that raced down a hill and onto the street

just after 9 a.m. “Clearly, we have a big problem and there is a full investigation underway to find out what happened and prevent it from happening again,” White said, adding various experts and officials are going over the engineering designs for the pond, and monitoring the area around the clock.

White said there was flooding in the area five or six years ago with the Seaton development and the Township is “extremely frustrated” that the fix – a large drainage pipe – is not yet in place to handle the water runoff.

TOWNSHIP DIGEST

ASSET MANAGEMENT

Prior to approving the 2013 budget, Guelph/Eramosa Township Council okayed spending \$55,900 to help prepare a long-range municipal asset management plan. The Township will receive \$25,821 in Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative (MIII) funding, and will transfer the balance required – \$30,169 – from a working fund reserve. The money will be used to buy software upgrades and professional services to help complete the long-term Asset Management Plan.

Guelph/Eramosa Council will apply for MIII capital program funding to reconstruct Guelph Road One – a \$1.9-million project for which the Township is requesting \$1.7-million in provincial funding.

Ontario is providing to \$90-million in grants to municipalities to rehabilitate critical bridges, roads, water and wastewater projects. The money – up to 90 per cent of the total project costs with a \$2-million limit – is for projects of a high priority in the municipal asset management plans that would not be done without the provincial money.

While both Township Road Three and Guelph Road One met the funding requirements, staff recommended that 2.9-kilometres of Guelph Road One, between County Road 124 and Paisley Road, be the project submitted because it is a rural road with a low pavement condition ranking with significant traffic.

It has extensive centreline and edge cracking and is identified as a “now” project in the Township’s road management improvement timeline.

ROCK-VEGAS

Over \$3,000 in cash and prizes will be won on Saturday as the Rockwood Sacred Heart Parish stages Rock-Vegas at Rockmosa. Prizes include turkeys, grocery hampers, gift certificates and cash. For details call 519-856-4711.

LIONESSE FEAST

The menu will feature ham and scalloped potatoes as the Rockwood and District Lionesses stage a dinner on January 30 at 6 p.m. at Rockmosa. For details call Jean at 519-856-1402.



East Wellington Family Health Team

Check out our **FREE** workshops this fall to help improve the health and quality of life of those living in East Wellington

HEALTHY YOU - 6WK SERIES

A group weight management approach that focuses on lifestyle changes

Rockwood: Starts Tuesday February 5th ~ 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Erin: Starts Thursday February 7th ~ 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

LIVING WELL WITH DIABETES

Session 3 of 3

Advanced Self-management skills

Erin: Tuesday February 5th ~ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Session 1: Understanding Pre-Diabetes

Rockwood: Thursday Jan. 24th ~ 10:00 am - 12:00 Noon

LIVING WELL WITH DIABETES

Session 2 of 3

Meal Planning for Diabetes and Heart Health

Rockwood: Thursday February 14th ~ 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

PRE-DIABETES: YOUR CHANCE TO CHANGE THE FUTURE

Session 1 of 2

Erin: Tuesday, February 12th, 3:30-5:30pm

HEART HEALTH NUTRITION

Rockwood: Friday, February 8th 9:30-11:30am

Erin Location: ERIN WELLNESS CENTRE - 6 THOMPSON CRESCENT

Rockwood Location: ROCKWOOD CLINIC - 175 ALMA

You **MUST** be registered to attend these events to avoid disappointment
To register or for more information on other events call 519-833-7575 ext 341
or go to www.ewfht.ca under “workshops”