



CRC ready for the next step

By: Dawn Brown

The Concerned Residents Coalition (CRC) is determined to ensure that there are no unacceptable impacts as a result of the proposed Hidden Quarry at Highway 7 and 6th Line between Rockwood and Acton. While Doug Tripp, of the CRC, explains that the group is not necessarily out to put a stop to the quarry, the impacts to safety, the environment and the quality of life for residents are likely insurmountable.

“The CRC is a community organization that represents not just Guelph, Eramosa and Rockwood, but Acton, Halton Hills and Halton,” Tripp explained.

Formed in March of 2013 with approximately 20 members meeting around kitchen tables, membership has since grown to nearly 800 people drawing from all of the above mentioned communities. The CRC has incorporated as a not for profit organization, with a board made up of fourteen people.

The organization’s concerns are many. They range from issues of safety, to environmental concerns, to issues with the haul route.

“Some residents, especially those in Acton, see the 26 large gravel trucks per hour 10 hours per day rumbling along a busy Highway 7 and through the downtown as a major

problem. Some who live upstream or downstream of the site are concerned about the impact on water quality and quantity in their wells, wetlands and streams. Many have become aware of the risks related to blasting, both in terms of fly-rock ejection onto Highway 7 and those residences and out buildings that are within several hundred metres of the site,” Tripp explained when asked why the issue of the quarry was important to people. “Increasingly residents are recognizing that the end game is not one quarry, but rather that this quarry will be the thin edge of the wedge as other properties on the same rock formation become quarry candidates. And, I believe that the many residents who are following this case are not persuaded by the applicant’s “trust us, everything will be fine” assurances.”

The CRC has gone through great pains and expense to arrange for their own studies regarding these concerns, and don’t feel that the proponent of the Quarry, James Dick Construction Ltd., has provided a satisfying response to these issues.

Presently, James Dick Construction has an application before the township of Guelph/Eramosa to rezone the land from agricultural. If the township approves the application,

the CRC will appeal the decision to the Ontario Municipal Board. However if the township doesn’t approve the application, it is likely the proponent will appeal. Either way, taking the matter to the municipal board appears to be the inevitable next step.

With that next step, the CRC will be facing significant expenses and are currently involved in an intensive fundraising effort.

Should the worst happen and the quarry is ultimately approved, the CRC will monitor the impact of the quarry, but Tripp admits that they will have a tough time making an impact at that stage.

Conversely, should the CRC be successful in stopping quarry, Tripp says there hasn’t been time to consider what the CRC’s function would be. He personally hopes, however, that CRC will continue to be a voice for environmental protection in the region.

Tripp expressed gratitude to the Town of Halton Hills, stating that the CRC appreciates the support and efforts of Mayor Rick Bonnette and Halton Hills Council—who recently voted to maintain the town’s objection to the proposed quarry.

To learn more about the CRC or to become a member visit their webpage at crockwood.org

Piano recital at Eden House



DUET: Aidan Szekely Nokes and Myra Freeman - Dawn Brown photo

By: Dawn Brown

Residents at Eden House Care Facility were treated to an afternoon of music thanks to two students from The Bookbinder’s Keyboard Studio in Rockwood. Myra Freeman and Aidan Szekely Nokes, both sixteen years old, performed a piano recital to a full house at the facility on Saturday, March 28.

The recital opened with a duet, both Nokes and Freeman playing together at the piano, followed by the pair alternating turns at the piano, making for an impressive performance residents seemed to enjoy.

For Nokes, this was the second time he’d performed at Eden Care Facility.

“I wanted to play here for all the citizens who can’t get out too much,” Nokes explained.

As he isn’t entirely comfortable performing for an audience, Nokes appreciates the opportunity to challenge himself. Controlling his nerves and managing to remain single minded and focussed is most challenging for Nokes while playing before an audience.

Freeman had played at the facility twice before and believes doing so is a

good thing to do and can be beneficial to the residents. She also enjoys performing, but like Nokes finds getting past her nervousness most challenging.

“I find that the people here are very talkative and they like to tell me about their grandchildren who play piano,” Freeman said, when asked what she enjoyed most about performing at the facility. “It’s kind of nice, and they seem to really enjoy it.”

Both Nokes and Freeman look forward to performing at Eden House Care Facility again, and residents will be happy to have them back.

OPP REPORT

Ride program leads to charges

On March 21, at approximately 2:39 p.m., Wellington County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Traffic Management Unit (TMU) officers conducted a R.I.D.E. Program at Wellington Road 39 and Wellington Road 30, Guelph-Eramosa Township. Police spoke with a male driving a 2009 Chevrolet and a driver’s licence was not produced. He identified himself with a false name and was arrested. The investigation also revealed that a condition of his probation order

was not followed. He was released at the scene with documents to attend to court.

A 30 year old of Ferigus man is charged with Obstruct a Peace Officer, and Fail to Comply with a Probation Order contrary to the Criminal Code. He is scheduled to attend Guelph Criminal Court on April 27.

Drinking and Driving

On March 26, at approximately 2:30 a.m., Wellington County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) observed a vehicle being driven erratically on Wellington County Road

32, Guelph-Eramosa Twp.

While speaking with male driver of a 2009 Chrysler, police observed obvious signs that alcohol was consumed. A Roadside Screening Device test was performed which resulted in a fail. He was arrested and transported to a local OPP Operations Centre for further testing.

The driver’s licence was suspended for 90 days and vehicle impounded for seven days as per statute.

A 19 year old of Cambridge man, has been charged with Over 80 mgs contrary to the Criminal Code of Canada. He is scheduled to appear in Guelph Criminal Court on April 14 to answer to the charge.

SPRING SPECIAL

(519) 856-1531

Serving You for over 12 Years



Automotive

April 1 - April 30

SEASONAL TIRE CHANGE OVER and CAR WASH* \$29.95

..... Car wash provided by:

Fat Cat Dog & CARWASH

now under New Ownership

* On rims. With the mention of this Ad. Some exception may apply. See store for details.

~ TIRE STORAGE AVAILABLE ~

Ask about our **Spring Tire Rebate Specials**, most major brands.

All work provided by Licenced Technicians or apprentices within the OCTA

108 Station St. Rockwood

519-856-1531