



TOWNSHIP DIGEST

THE RACE IS ON

Want-to-be Rockwood politicians – now is your chance. Veteran Ward Three Councillor Doug Breen wants to “move up a rung” and will run for the Ward Eight seat on Wellington County Council in October’s municipal election. He will not seek re-election to Guelph/Eramosa Township Council, a seat he’s held almost continuously since 1997.

Breen made the announcement at last Monday’s GET council meeting, saying he was giving plenty of time to people who were “waiting politely for me to get out of my road.” Breen said he’ll miss the local favour of Township council where the “rubber meets the road.”

Rockwood Foodland’s Steve Liebig, a part-time Guelph/Eramosa Township firefighter, is campaigning for the seat Breen will vacate in the October municipal election.

Incumbent Ward One Councillor David Wolk filed his nomination papers following last week’s meet, joining incumbent Mayor Chris White, and Ward Two Councillor Corey Woods in seeking re-election.

LATE START FOR NEW SCHOOL?

The Upper Grand District School Board (UGDSB) warns Rockwood’s new elementary school might not be ready for September due to severe weather and a late construction start.

Carrie Conrad, currently at Brisbane PS, will begin as Principal of the as-yet unnamed school in the south end of Rockwood. If necessary, students at the new school would be housed temporarily at Rockwood Centennial PS.

GARDEN SUITE MEETING

As required by the province, Guelph/Eramosa Township will hold a public meeting – a frustrating “total waste of time” according to one politician – into a requested extension of a garden/granny suite at a Side Road 14 agricultural property.

Township planner Bernie Hermsen said the initial 10-year approval was followed by a three-year extension, and now, another three year extension request. He said the Garden Suites were meant as a temporary retirement-type housing, which eventually would be removed.

Councillor Corey Woods questioned the need for a public meeting every three years, a process that costs the applicants, who he described a young retirees, thousands of dollars over three years. Hermsen said

their “hands are tied” by the Planning Act, but they will make the renewal process as straightforward as they can, with minimal costs to the applicant. The renewal application public meeting is February 18.

NEW VILLAGE LOTS

Owners of a 2.5-acre property on Cobblestone Place received a severance to create a new residential lot, splitting a half-acre parcel from their 2.5-acre, irregularly shaped lot.

Township planners supported the severance, subject to a number of conditions.

Guelph/Eramosa Township Council approved an additional residential lot on Station Street, allowing an existing vacant lot to be divided into two. Council approved a minor variance as both lots are slightly less wide than required by the Township bylaw.

COMMUNITY APPRECIATION

Some of the people who make Rockwood a nicer place to live will be honoured at the Rockwood and District Lions Club’s annual Community Appreciation Night on February 19 at Rockmosa.

The event includes dinners, an awards ceremony to businesses/groups/individuals that have helped the Lions help the community. Politician/author/local historian Dave Cook will be the guest speaker.

EWCS NEWS

ALZHEIMER AWARENESS MONTH

Up to 50 per cent of Canadians with dementia wait too long for diagnosis. Early diagnosis keeps lives from unravelling says Alzheimer Society during Alzheimer Awareness Month.

As many as 50 per cent of Canadians with dementia are not diagnosed early enough, losing precious time when care and support can make a tremendous difference in their quality of life and avert unnecessary crises for their families. That’s why during Alzheimer Awareness Month, the Alzheimer Society is launching a new campaign, early diagnosis keeps your life from unravelling, to promote the benefits of early diagnosis.

Locally, East Wellington Community Services offers the adult day program that helps those suffering with different dementia related diseases, including Alzheimer’s. “Our agency works closely with the Alzheimer Society of Guelph-Wellington to provide educational seminars and keep up to date with the latest news and information, so we can help those in our community, both individuals and families,” said Sherri Plourde, Manager, Senior Services with the agency. “The program provides social, cognitive and physical interaction and activity with caring staff. The pro-

gram is offered two days a week in Erin at Centre 2000 and once weekly at the Rockwood Rockmosa Community Centre.” For more information on the Adult Day Program, the 55 Plus Club or any other senior and active adult recreation programs, contact Sherri at 519-833-0087 or sherri.p@ew-cs.com

WARM UP TO WINTER

While many are adjusting to the cold winter temperatures outside, the New to You and Bookend Book Stores are inviting you to stop in and warm up to the season with their January sale events.

New to You Erin has all winter coats on sale now at 50 per cent off – be warm and stylish. There is a vast selection of winter coats available so now is your chance to get a new look for a great part.

New to You Rockwood is hosting a winter “grab-a-deal” event – spend \$10 or more and get a chance to save 10 per cent, 25 per cent or 50 per cent by “grabbing” a deal ticket. This is a great way to revamp your entire wardrobe for less with all the new fashion arrivals.

SENIOR BRAIN FITNESS

Getting older is a fact of life, and while staying physically active goes a long way into helping us to fight the aging process, our brains need to be exercised too.

East Wellington Com-

munity Services has different programs for those 55 and over, offered in locations at Erin and Rockwood, that hit both the physical and mental activity buttons to help everyone remain active and fit.

From zumba, line dancing, Scottish dancing, bridge, euchre, even knitting and others all take place throughout the week and provide not only the health benefits but also offer a way to meet new people and create new friendships through a common interest.

It has been found that the best card games for brain fitness include bridge and euchre, as they exercise the area of the brain for memory, concentration, reasoning, strategy and brain skills. What better way to keep mentally fit than to get together with friends to learn a new game or enjoy an old favourite?

Come out and join us for a game of cards or any of our other programs. If you are a card player, we’d love to see you out for either euchre or bridge.

Euchre – every Thursday at the Rockmosa Community Centre (85 Christie Street Rockwood) from 1 to 4 p.m.

For more information on the 55 Plus programs, visit www.eastwellingtoncommunityservices.com or call Sherri 519-833-0087 or Rick 519-856-2113.

OPP REPORT

OFFICER CRASHES CRUISER

A Wellington OPP officer was taken to hospital as a precaution after losing control of a marked cruiser and ending up in the ditch on County Road 40, just south of Highway 7 in Guelph/Eramosa Township on Sunday morning.

The officer, who was not injured, was not identified. The investigation into the

single-vehicle accident continues.

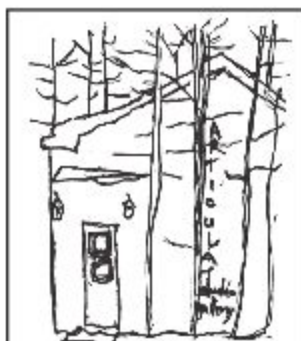
POT SEIZED

Two Cambridge men were each charged with possession of under-30 grams of marijuana following an OPP R.I.D.E. spot check last Thursday on Wellington Road 51 at County Road 39 in Guelph/Eramosa Township. The drugs were seized after police stopped a 2000 Chevrolet. Both men appear in a Guelph court on

March 4.

Find Me ID

The OPP has thrown its support behind the *Find Me ID* program, an App developed by the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, which allow parents to store current photographs and information about their child. That information can be transferred quickly through electronic means – cell phones of computers – to those who need it most when a child is missing or lost.



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