

The ROCKWOOD Miller

BREAKFAST BECKONS

Rockwood United Church hosts its regular Country Breakfast on Saturday (April 27) featuring an all-you-can-eat buffet from 8 to 11 a.m. Between 60 and 90 people are expected at the breakfast, staged eight times a year. Proceeds are earmarked for Church outreach programs, both local and international. For details call 519-856-4160.

EVERY BRAVERY RACE

In the name of Rockwood's Avery Bond, the fourth annual Avery's Bravery Race takes place in the village on Saturday, beginning at 10 a.m. with opening ceremonies at the Conservation Area.

Funds raised in the five-kilometre run/walk, and the two-k. walk, kid's 100-metre dash, and two-k. family walk will benefit Sick Kids Hospital Foundation. Avery survived heart surgery at birth four years ago and her family stage the event to say thanks and help others. The event has raised \$19,000 to date, including \$6,500 last year.

During the event, portions of Rockwood roads – Fall, Mary, Balaclava, Richardson and Guelph Streets – will be closed to vehicles. For details visit www.averysbraveryrace.com



LIGHTS, CAMERA...

The Rockwood Conservation Area continues to put its best face forward – standing in as locations for at least 14 movies, television commercials and Canadian Tire catalogue ads. The film shoot revenue helps the popular Park's bottom line, and while some areas are closed to the public during filming, scheduled is during the less busy spring and fall seasons, and on weekdays.

Belwood Lake has been featured in two movies and in a *Real Fishing Show* segment, while the Elora Gorge was used for a night-shot thriller. Rockwood was the location for the Tim Hortons commercial where a guy listened to his own echo, and American Express and Canada Savings Bonds commercials have been shot in Grand River Conservation Area parks.

TAX ADJUSTMENTS

Seven of the 12 Guelph/Eramosa Township properties that received tax adjustments from Township Council last week were approved because

the property had been razed by fire or demolished. Tax adjustments for the remaining five applications were granted because they "ceased to be liable for the rate it was taxed."

Council approved adjustments that removed \$92,401 from the tax rolls for general, County and education taxes – amounts ranging from \$69,153 down to \$199.

GREEN LEGACY PLANTINGS

Over 145,000 seedlings and approximately 40,000 Norway Spruce trees will be planted as the Wellington Green Legacy committee provides trees free of charge to residents and community groups.

Trees will be distributed from the Rockwood Fore Hall on May 4 beginning at 10 a.m. Donations to local food banks will be gratefully accepted. During the Rockwood event, the Fire Department will stage its Emergency Preparedness public awareness program.

ROCKWOOD SCHOOL UPDATE

The public can question and comment on an application by the Upper Grand District School Board to build a new public school in south-east Rockwood at a joint County/Township public meeting on May 13 at Rockmosa.

The applications require an Official Plan amendment, Zoning change, Township site approval and a County severance. The proposed timeline would see construction begin this summer/fall to open in the fall 2014. The school board approved a capital spending plan which includes \$6.2-million for a new school in Rockwood as part of its plan to implement Full Day Kindergarten (FDK).

Last fall, the Board voted to spend \$2.8-million to build an Early Learning Centre in Rockwood to house 150 Junior and Senior Kindergarten students, but that plan has been scrapped in favour of the new 13-room school which will house 308 students.

The Township planning report on the applications will be available to the public as of May 3 and the issue will be before Township Council on May 6, followed by the May 13 joint public meeting. The issue goes before the County planning committee on June 13, and County council on June 27.

EXPANDED USES?

The public can comment on and/or question an application to expand the allowed uses in a building on Harris Street adjacent to the CN railway on Rockwood's eastern edge at the Tuesday, May 21 council meeting.

The lease with the current tenant is expiring and the owner, former Purity Life owner David Chapman of Acton, wants to make the site more attractive with additional uses.

Currently operated as a health food and health products warehouse and bot-



SPARKS POWER: The Rockwood Sparks Group's Earth Day efforts included cleaning up two catchment ponds in the east end of Rockwood, as well as some forested areas along Ridge Road last Wednesday. Fourteen girls, seven adults and two siblings worked for an hour, collecting six bags of garbage and two wagon loads of recyclables. – Submitted photo

tlng centre, Chapman wants a rezoning to allow additional uses including agricultural products processing, storage and sales, research, breeding or grading operation, agricultural supply establishment, business or professional office, commercial greenhouse, contractor or tradesman establishment, produce outlet, veterinary clinic, service shop, woodworking shop or warehouse. Some of the uses would be restricted by well-head protection measures already in place to protect water sources.

An agent for the applicant said they would like to take another look at the ban on outdoor storage, and there is no potential tenant in sight.

REC AND PARK BLUEPRINT

A new dog park, a toboggan hill, skateboard/BMX park, trails, soccer fields and more playgrounds – those are some of the main items listed for development in the Guelph/Eramosa Township Recreation and Parks Master Plan. The plan and its 65 recommendations does not call for an arena or indoor pool.

Developed from a wish list of items identified by ratepayers through a random household telephone survey, the 10-year blueprint for recreation and parks offers recommendations under three categories – service delivery, indoor facilities and outdoor facilities.



LIONS' BREAKFAST WINNER: Tyler Dawe (left) accepted a cheque for \$486 – his share of a 50/50 draw – from Lions President Bob Jestin at the recent annual Lions Community Breakfast at Rockmosa. A crowd of over 500 people dined to help support numerous Lions' community projects. – Submitted photo