

# The ROCKWOOD Miller

## Township supports Parade of Lights

Guelph/Eramosa Township Council is glad to continue to provide the Rockwood Parade of Lights committee with in-kind assistance to help stage the annual event that features farm implements festooned with Christmas lights and decorations.

In past years, in-kind costs were not reported to Council, but the Township's new Manager of Public Works, Mark Robertson, said since the costs have a "very real potential impact" on the operating budget, he wanted Council to be aware of the numbers, which last year included \$4,664 for 141.5 Township employee hours, \$1,033 for 44 hours of equipment time, and \$14 for material for a

total of \$5,711.

On behalf of the Parade committee, the Township obtains approvals to close Highway 7 and County Road 27, add the County of Wellington and Ministry of Transportation to the Township's insurance coverage for the event, and chair a planning meeting to co-ordinate traffic control. Guelph/Eramosa Township will also notify emergency services of the pending road closure, arrange and install advance signage, provide two-way radios and safety vests, and during the parade, close Highway 7 at the Milton/Eramosa Town Line, Highway 7 at the intersection of Country Road 44 and Fourth Line Eramosa,

and Country Road 27 and Country Road 24.

Mayor Chris White said the Township's support for the event – sort of the community's Santa Claus parade – is historical, and is one of the biggest things they do across the Township that draws urban and rural residents.

Councillor Doug Breen recalled the early years when a small group of farmers, without any permits, started a tradition that the Township supports and picks up the tab. "It is money very, very well spent," Breen said, adding some estimates say the parade brings 20,000 to 30,000 people to the village. This year's Rockwood Parade of Lights is December 8.



**SHOW & SHINE:** Acton's Don McIssac posed with his pride and joy – a 1957 Ford Fairlane – at the final Blast from the Past cruise night of the summer in Rockwood on Saturday. – Frances Niblock photo

## Weekend events will 'share' Eden Mills

Hopscotchers and studio tourists will "share" Eden Mills this weekend in a compromise brokered by Guelph/Eramosa Township Council, which hopes each event will enhance the other. Mayor Chris White, who called the scheduling snafu an "unfortunate conflict," is confident both events will take place without interfering with each other.

Two studio owners complained they'd been "blindsided" by Council's intention last Monday to approve a bylaw to temporarily close Barden Street, York Street, Wilson Street and Memorial Street in the village for the Hopscotch 4 Hope, a fundraiser, and Guinness World Book of Records attempt for the longest hopscotch course – 5.5-kilometres.

Michael Coull, owner of In A Heartbeat Art

Gallery, said they think the Hopscotch event, organized by three young village girls to support Feed the Children, is marvellous, but "...Neither of us can change our dates, and closing the roads down is not acceptable to us, we need this traffic," Coull said, adding sharing the road is important, not just slowing traffic and having marshals.

Dan McDonald, speaking for his wife Colette MacDonald, who owns Mosaic Gallery in the village, echoed Coull's concerns about potential shoppers not being able to get to their studios if the roads are closed for the hopscotch event.

Mayor Chris White, noting that safety is paramount, said the Hopscotch group is willing to compromise, which will result in minimal or no inconvenience to studio tour visitors. Coull wanted assurances that

the Township bylaw did not include signs indicating that roads would be closed.

Councillor Doug Breen suggested both events should be good for each other. "This could lead to your advantage to have several thousand people hopping by your door... and for visitors to say 'what a great place this is,'" Breen said, adding they ought to be able to find a way to make it "symbiotic." He said the key is getting the wording on the road signs, and making sure that the traffic marshals welcome everyone to the village.

The bylaw approved by Council temporarily closes Barden Street, York Street, Wilson Street and Memorial Street from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, with the exception of local traffic, gallery tour patrons and Hopscotch organizers and participants.

Individuals and teams are invited to register for the Hopscotch 4 Hope, and enjoy an afternoon of live music, entertainment, great food and hopping. For details visit [www.stepup4change.com](http://www.stepup4change.com)

The self-guided tour of artisans' studios includes 48 artists in 30 locations, including Eden Mills, Nassagaweya, Rockwood and Limehouse. For information call 905-876-2837.



East Wellington  
Family Health Team

## FREE WORKSHOPS AT THE EAST WELLINGTON FAMILY HEALTH TEAM

### October Calendar

**October 3 Stop Worrying** 6:30-8:30pm Erin  
Learn proven approaches to decrease worry as well as techniques to curb bedtime worrying

**October 6 Heart Healthy Eating** 4:00-5:30pm Erin  
Control your risk of heart attack and stroke by selecting foods with healthy fats and fibre

**October 13 Meal Planning** 6:30-8:00pm Erin  
Plan for healthy choices and amounts and learn how to overcome barriers to planning ahead

**October 18 Shake the Salt Habit** 6:30-8:00pm Rockwood  
Easy steps to lower sodium in your diet: at home, eating out or when food shopping; learn to use the DASH diet to lower your blood pressure

**October 20 Living with Diabetes** 4:00-5:30pm Rockwood  
Learn about resources to help you stay on track with your food choices, about monitoring to reach your health targets; problem-solving your everyday situations; dining out; what to do when ill, when your diabetes changes

Erin sessions held at the East Wellington Health Team clinic, located in the Erin Wellness Centre, at 6 Thompson Crescent.

Rockwood sessions held at the East Wellington Family Team clinic, located at 175 Alma Street

All sessions are **free** to the community but you must pre-register by calling (519) 833-7576 ext. 341 or you can register online at [www.ewfht.ca](http://www.ewfht.ca) and go to "Workshops"

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