

# The ROCKWOOD Miller



**ANIMAL CRACKERS?** Volunteers Bekii Black (left), Becca McGugan of Erin, and Rachel Poulin of Hillsburgh manned the bake table during the Animals Homeward Bound book and bake sale on Saturday at St. John's Anglican Church in Rockwood. — Ted Tyler photo

## New truck/plough

Instead of putting another \$38,000 into repairs, Guelph/Eramosa Township Council authorized staff to buy a new tandem dump

truck and plough now, a year ahead of schedule. Council heard the existing 1999 Volvo truck is sitting in the yard — “non-operational.” While noting

the \$200,651 price tag, to be paid from equipment reserves, is expensive, Mayor Chris White said road clearing is a “core service.”

## Council to debate Eden Mills Community Hall energy retrofit plan

**Many village residents support solar power, but don't like the look**

Controversial plans to install two huge solar panels on Main Street beside the Eden Mills Community Hall will be debated by Guelph/Eramosa Township Council on Monday. The Township co-owns the Hall with the Eden Mills Community Club, which handles maintenance, renovations and fundraising, and Mayor Chris White said Council must decide if the majority of the community wants to proceed.

“Obviously, some people may have a little concern about how it looks, but the vast majority of those folks don't live near it,” White said on Monday, adding the heritage issues puts them between a rock and a hard place. “These decisions are never easy. I've got more e-mails saying they love the concept than not...the majority of folks support it,” White said, adding everybody supports green energy, so the debate

is down to “subjective aesthetics”.

### Trillium Grant

At Council's request, proponents explained the energy retrofit plan at a public meeting last Tuesday, and the Community Club, the village's Going Carbon Neutral project and Millpond Association opened the meeting with the announcement of a \$120,000 Ontario Trillium Foundation grant, and a \$50,000 incentive loan from the Wellington-Waterloo Community Futures Development Corporation, to help pay for the energy retrofit at the Hall, which includes the ground mounted solar panels.

With a crowd of approximately 100 people, it was standing room only in the Community Hall for the meeting, and emotions ran high at times as proud village residents, including members of one of the Club's youth groups, defended their positions.

Village resident, architect Charles Simon explained the project would cut energy costs

and make the Hall more attractive to renters with a patio area along side the building, a bridge to the mill pond, outdoor seating and landscaping, upgraded parking and the solar panels, which will generate revenue in 10 years.

After numerous residents questioned why the solar panels could not be moved or hidden, Simon said the proposed side-by-side location of the two tilting solar panels, approximately 10-by-20-feet, installed at least nine feet off the ground, is the most efficient.

While supporting the green energy plans, resident Al McBride wants the solar panels integrated with the historical image of the village. “I'm not against carbon neutral. I'm not against alternate energy. I think they should be made to fit in with the historical impression that the village has,” McBride said.

### 'Charming, magical' village

Village resident and gallery owner, Michael Coull, said it would be more efficient, but possibly more expensive, to incorporate the solar panels into the architecture of the building with a new porch across the front of the Hall. “This is a charming, magical village — that's why I came, and I was made to feel very welcome, but I tell you, I'm not feeling quite so welcome now that these panels may end up out my front door.”

George Kennedy, one of a half-dozen Hall youth group members in the audience, said the plans preserve the beauty of the village and plan for the future. “We're the ones that this village is being left to, as well, and I would say we all approve of this plan,” Kennedy said.

Guelph/Eramosa Township Councillor Doug Breen said he has confidence in the community, which is at a crossroads, based purely on aesthetics. “You're all in the same boat — you're pulling in basically the same direction. You just have to decide what colour to paint the boat,” Breen said.



## East Wellington Family Health Team

### FREE Workshops!!

**Erin Clinic location:** Erin Wellness Centre - 6 Thompson Crescent

**Rockwood Clinic location:** 175 Alma Street

**Script for Physical Activity** — Tuesday December 6th, 6:30-8:00pm, Rockwood Clinic

#### Learn:

To consider a less sedentary lifestyle — why more movement means better health • How much activity is enough • To practice making a plan for a step wise approach to becoming more active and prevent relapse • Factors to review before getting started

**Heart Healthy Eating** — Thursday, December 1st, 9:00 — 11:00am, Erin Clinic

#### Learn how to:

Control your risk of heart attack and stroke • Select foods with healthy fats and fibre • Read the food labels for good food choices • Mix and match foods from the 4 food groups • Plan your first step to healthier meals, and snacks.

#### Let's Talk About Immunizing Your Child

**Rockwood:** Monday, December 5th, 9:30-11:00am  
**Erin:** Friday, December 9th, 9:30-11:00am

This session will inform parents about the new free Ontario immunization program. It will allow you to voice your own concerns, if any, and will provide honest, simple, expert answers to your questions. We urge you to come and talk to us — vaccines are good, not bad, and we want your children to have the benefits that they offer. Dr. Alex Kanarek, an expert on vaccine development and immunization in the developing world, is coming to talk about some of his experiences in places where childhood vaccination is less well-practiced than in Canada.

You must pre-register. To do so, go on-line to [www.ewfht.ca](http://www.ewfht.ca) and click on “Workshops” or call 519-833-7576 ext. 341

## Travel Insurance

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## CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE

St. John's Anglican Church  
Rockwood (Parish Hall)

**ANNUAL BAZAAR**

**Sat. Dec. 3, 2011 9 - 2pm**



Tea room, Crafts, Cookie Tins, Penny Table, Raffle, Silent Auction, Jewellery, Door Prizes, Huge bake Table and more!