

WORD ON THE STREET

With
Alex Hilson

What do you think are the job duties of a Municipal Councillor?



Iana Iantcheva: "They talk on behalf of the people in their area."



Mark Romard: "I think the answer's fairly easy. They should be asking what constituents want."



Shawn Cross: "They don't broadcast what they do or how much they are helping out, and perhaps that's something that should change."



Ryan Katzman: "Make our schools cleaner. They should add a water slide to the pool."

The ROCKWOOD Miller

Guelph /
Eramosa

COUNCIL CHIPS

By: Vivien Fleisher

Delegation for Eden Mills Spirit Walk

Resident and historian Barb Marshall spoke about a "Spirit Walk" planned for May 5 in Eden Mills, a historical walking tour of the village that will bring old buildings and their inhabitants to life, starting on the banks of the Eramosa River and weaving in indigenous history along the way. Marshall requested stop signs for the part where the tour crosses the road. Two tours will take place, rain or shine.

Grand River Conservation 2018 Budget and Programs

In a presentation to council, Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) CAO Joe Farwell shared some facts about the watershed: it's 300 kilometers long, larger than P.E.I. in area, includes 39 municipalities and two First Nations, and is home to almost one million people—80 per cent of whom live in five cities. And, it's one of the richest and fastest-growing regions in Ontario. Because of this population growth, the most critical issues facing the GRCA are the need for water supplies, sewage

treatment and groundwater recharging. The extent of agriculture and the threat of climate change round out that list. To that end, the strategic plan prioritizes protecting life while minimizing property damage; improving watershed health; and, connecting people with the environment. Rockwood is the busiest park and is challenged with how to manage the crowds. While resulting revenues have funded capital projects, operational costs and management challenges have risen correspondingly. This year's expenditures across the entire board are up \$3.3 million, from \$31 million last year, with a per capita municipal levy of \$10.72—an increase of one per cent. The lion's share of that revenue was self-generated, with 75 per cent going into base programs, including watershed management—biggest cost—conservation areas and corporate services and communications. Guelph/Eramosa levies decreased \$17,000, which Farwell said should go into a reserve in the event things change as a result of an appeal by the City of Hamilton over the 2018 Levy

Apportionment.

Restricted Council during "Lame Duck" Period

With the upcoming municipal election, council must contend with an even longer 'lame duck period', where authority is temporarily transferred to CAO Ian Rogers. The 2018 period runs from nomination day on July 27, through to December 3, when the next term of council launches via an inaugural meeting. Rogers will take on a range of duties that include hiring and firing, and transactions exceeding \$50,000.

Fees Bylaw Review and Fence Bylaw Amendments

A range of fees in Guelph/Eramosa, ranging from permits to public works to plaques have been updated and implemented as allowed by the 2001 Municipal Act. Done in bits and pieces over the last few years, the last time a full review took place was 2014. Two bylaws were passed regarding fences: one to determine allowed variances on height, location, etc.; and the other to switch to the Property Standards Committee from the Committee of Adjustment for hearings.



WORD IN THE VILLAGE

with Vivien Fleisher

What do you feel is a must-have for Kate for Royal Baby number three?



Jennifer Carr: "Hmm, what's something that you don't ever need? She needs to own her own sports team. They don't need anything else."



Loretta Hunwicks: "Baby number three needs a star. You can buy them. You can buy stars and name them for the baby."



Kim McBride: "I don't know. Maybe she needs a vacation."



Lindsay Williams: "She has everything, so maybe patience. I have four kids, so I could take it in spades. She just needs patience."

2018 Community Recognition Award

By: Vivien Fleisher

Rockwood resident Doris Ens, a well-known volunteer in the community, was honoured Monday night in Guelph/Eramosa council chambers with the 2018 Community Recognition Award.

In his remarks before the presentation, Mayor Chris White praised her as "an active and dedicated member of the Rockwood Lioness Club who has tirelessly helped with community events", adding that she also, with her daughters, has organized the Good Brothers Fundraising Dinner and Dance at Rockmosa for over a decade. This event has raised thousands of dollars for cancer research over the years and is a "much-anticipated fun night out



for the community." However, he was particularly impressed with her personal touch, such as the follow-up to these events, wherein she handwrites and delivers thank-you letters to all who contributed.

Before presenting her

with the certificate, he finished by saying, "Doris is a warm caring individual, and her commitment to volunteerism is an inspiration to the community. We're very lucky to have you as a volunteer...and honoured to have you present with us today."