

The ROCKWOOD Miller

41st Pioneer Days at Lloyd Dyer

By: Vivien Fleisher

Rockwood's indefatigable Marla Brace Reid—despite a slightly later start this year—did it again and pulled off yet another successful Pioneer Days in Rockwood; the town's 41st. She said she had not organized all 41—though, she's been involved with most. However, it's her baby as she was the one who got the event started back in 1977, when Rockwood was celebrating 125 years. In what was supposed to be a one-off in honour of that occasion, Pioneer Days went on to the following year, because—whoops!—1977 was actually the 124th birthday. This little fact

was pointed out to her by the Lloyd Dyer for whom the event is held was named. And from there, Pioneer Days just kept going.

Though it's been scaled back for various reasons—changes by the MTO meant the parade cannot proceed along Highway 7, so they cancelled it—Reid said the event is self-supporting through things like the penny table and other games, and her rock-solid team of supporters which pretty much guarantees success.

Some surprising facts: Vendors are not charged to sell their wares. The event is free to the public. Only Santa Claus and Remembrance Day parades are permitted by the MTO

along provincial highways. And, the event falls on or very near to Reid's birthday every year. This year, she turned 71 right on the day, and though she is missing some of the support she had from those close to her—because that's what happens as time marches on—she cannot thank those who lend their support every year enough.

That list includes son Ian Reid and friends who gave the concert at Waterside Park; Clare Maine and Rockwood Vet Clinic; Lisa and Carl Logan Damon; Jan Osborne; Carol Death; Joanne Blomberg and family; Jacob McDougall; and committee members Clare, Dianne, Pam,



DRILL RAISES CONCERNS: Saying it was just “fire practice” last Friday, Milton firefighter Walt Rice explained the smoke seen coming out of the house at 5291 25 Side Road was machine generated. However, an extended arson spree over both 2016 and 2017 still has many residents spooked even with the alleged perpetrator caught. A spate of grass fires in the early spring similarly gave rise to an impression of a pattern, making residents watchful and anxious. - Vivien Fleisher photo



Rockwood Karate Club demonstration



A regular at Pioneer Days, Marco the Blind Clown—with GET Mayor Chris White—creates balloon animals for the kids. - Vivien Fleisher photos

Are you satisfied with Trudeau's response to the U.S.'s tariffs on Canadian imports?



WORD IN THE VILLAGE

with Vivien Fleisher



Graham Smith: “At this time, yes. It's not a simple yes/no answer, but at this point in time I fully support what he's said. It reinforced the feeling of disdain I have for Trump.”



Pete Kilgannon: “Oh, very much. He's good. It's an intelligent government.”



Nicole Gowing: “Yeah, I mean what else—I don't want us to just go along with it. I follow more the state side, but I think it was right. Trump is just doing the childhood bullying thing, and the way he said after that interview ‘oh, now we'll retaliate’—it was a threat, and if I said that to you, I'd be in trouble.”



Tim Morse: “Yes, I believe he's doing the right thing. I think Trump's going a little bit over the top, so I believe Trudeau and the rest of the government are doing the right thing.”