

Pioneer Day '95 was 'best ever'

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Rockwood Miller

Marla Reid has expressed an interest in getting the horseshoe pitch reinstated for next year's Rockwood Pioneer Day activities.

But some people probably suspect she had a few stashed in her purse during Saturday's seventh annual "rebirth" of the village's event at Lloyd Dyer Park.

For the second straight year, rain showers were expected to put a damper on the day's plethora of events, but it was gusts of wind — forcing the cancellation of the much-anticipated hot air balloon rides — that caused problems.

"I have a voice today. That's one up from last year," exclaimed Reid, Pioneer Day co-ordinator, on Monday. "I told everyone to listen to me. The forecast said rain, but I said it would be sunny. A lot of people think I have horseshoes with me or a guardian angel."

Whatever, the day was spent with youngsters at the penny table, fish pond, getting their face painted, soaking councillor Gord Tosh at the dunking machine, eating candy floss or participating in races.

Meanwhile the big kids, namely Township employees and Old-timers-Firemen, locked horns in a baseball game that was narrowly won by the Oldtimers, 11-10.

Reid did colour-commentary of the game, which included jokes with Reeve Rick Hughes, including the idea that taxes would rise if he didn't record a base hit.

The annual outdoor dance, highlighted by youngsters performing the Chicken Dance, drew over 400 people and raised \$1,300 that goes toward the restoration of the Town Hall, along with over \$150 from Gord and Michelle Dawe's dunk-

ing booth and \$250 from the successful fifth annual Rubber Ducky Race at Waterside Park.

"Every year there are a few more people, more things to do and it's a little more happening. This year was no exception," Reid commented.

"There are very few activities like the outdoor dance around any more, which is unfortunate. It pulls this community together with a kind of spirit that I would like to see all year long."

Other highlights included demonstrations from the Rockwood Cloggers and Mr. Poppe with his four, Royal Winter Fair-champion Persian horses doing figure-8s and other moves.

Reid was also impressed with the new-look and "very dapper" Acton Citizens' Band uniforms. They performed along with the Guelph Concert Band, Hubert Biemann and his Swiss Band from Toronto and Angel Ottema's Dance Spirit dancers.

She stressed more food booths will be needed next year and hinted a tug-of-war could be an added event.

PIONEER PIECES: Following is a list of winners for both the Rubber Ducky race and Rockwood Gardening Club draw: Rubber Ducky Race: **Peter Van Dam** — 1st (acrylic painting of the Eramosa River); **Brandon Stewart** — 2nd (bear basket); **Gord Tosh** — 3rd (afghan); and **Jannie Tomlinson** — 4th (chocolate duck).

Gardening prizes: **Donna Parker** — 1st (tool set); **Mary Logan and Jan Osborne** (tie) — 2nd (herb gardens); **Joyce Tilson** — 4th (hanging fuschia basket); and **Frances Jamieson** — 5th (used watering can).



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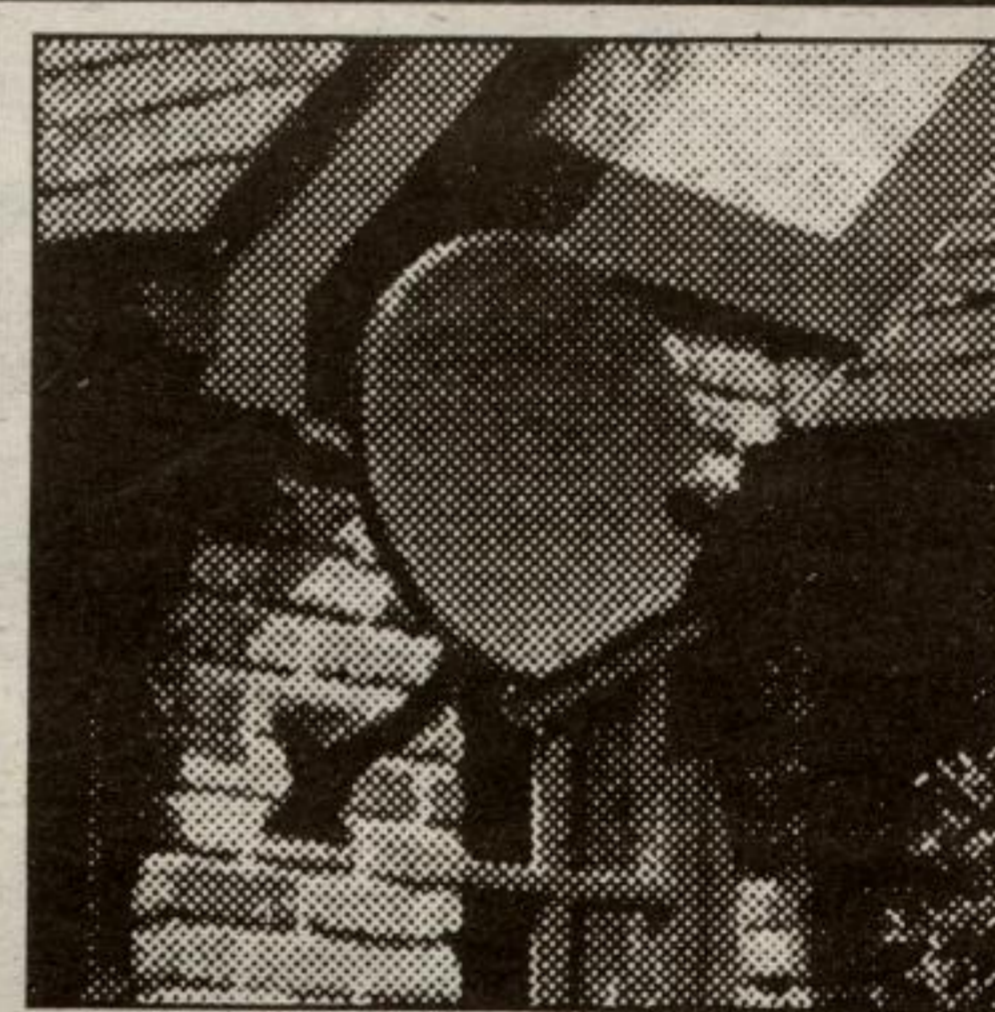
The Rockwood and District Lions Club presented a number of cheques to local groups and charities last Wednesday at Rockmosa. From left: Jim Weatherby, Trillium Cancer Camp (\$100); Sharon Leal, Partners in Independence (\$1,000); Linda Purton, Guiding (\$150); Darryl Nichol, Lions Club president; Donna Johnson, Scouting (\$150); Bonny Zukowski, Minor Soccer (\$500); Ed Renaud, Sunrise Equestrian (\$500); and Kurt Durski, Minor Baseball (\$500). (Eve Martin photo)

Long term care meeting is June 28

Rockwood's Sunshine Club and the Eramosa Seniors' Resource Centre are inviting local seniors to attend an upcoming meeting to discuss the new Long Term Care System (Bill 173).

The meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 28 at 2 pm in the Town Hall on Rockwood's Main Street.

According to a press release, "this issue is sure to be of interest to everyone in the community. Everyone's future will be affected by this new legislation."



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Losers start session

Rockwood's popular weight-loss group, the Lucky Losers, is starting a new session tomorrow (Thursday), and new members are welcome to attend.

Members who sign up for 10 weeks will receive two weeks free of charge.

Meetings are every Thursday night at the Eramosa Community

Library at 5:30 pm.

"We can help you lose those unwanted pounds," says organizer Dot Polo.

For details phone Polo (856-9441), Jan Osborne (856-4605) or Lois Walker (853-4523).



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