



TALKING SHOP!

Well-known playwright Dan Needles, left, chats with Eramosa Writers Group's Katherine Gordon and rural author Alex Sim recently at a workshop at the Eramosa Library. (Eve Martin photo)

Eramosa reps reach a truce

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Rockwood Miller

Eramosa Township's reeve and deputy reeve have buried the hatchet - but not in each others' backs, as might have been expected following several weeks of public bickering.

Reeve Rick Hughes and Deputy Reeve Dave Adsett made up, or at least agreed to disagree, during a private chat at last week's Council meeting.

During that talk Adsett backed off on his public demand that Hughes apologize, or step aside, for making "inaccurate statements" about Adsett and his attempt to involve the Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MMA) in the Township's business.

Adsett insisted he contacted the MMA to find out about seminars and courses that might help the new Council operate more efficiently but the Reeve caught wind of a letter to Adsett from the MMA and accused Adsett of asking the provincial government department

for an investigation into Council's actions.

During the meeting Adsett read a statement outlining his version of what had transpired and attacked Hughes for his "lack of leadership" and personal attacks. He demanded that Hughes apologize, or leave the chair so Council could discuss his departure until an apology was made.

Reeve Hughes refused both requests and said his previous statement about being personally disappointed with Adsett's approach to problem-solving still stood.

The reconciliation occurred outside Council chambers, after Hughes told Adsett that if the controversy was going to continue, it would be at Adsett's instigation, not his.

In an interview on Friday, Hughes said that because of what had happened and what had been said, there would have to be a "period of healing."

"My sense of it is that both us will be putting our best foot for-

ward in order to advance the interest of the community at large," Hughes explained.

Deputy Reeve Adsett said he was pleased that Council voted to have each member bring forward a list of seminars or courses they would like to have. And, in an interview on Friday, he said he was willing to back off his demands for an apology because "I don't think it is in the best interest to keep squabbling and we've got to get on with business."

Council also passed a motion from Adsett that no private mail, addressed to Councillors or staff, be opened by Township staff.

Inkerman St. man thwarts burglar

A Rockwood man had a very rude awakening last Tuesday morning.

The man awoke at 5:15 am to find someone standing beside his bed in his Inkerman Street residence.

The resident yelled at the suspect, who then fled the home. Apparently the suspect intended to rob the house, as the stereo and several CDs were stacked by the door.

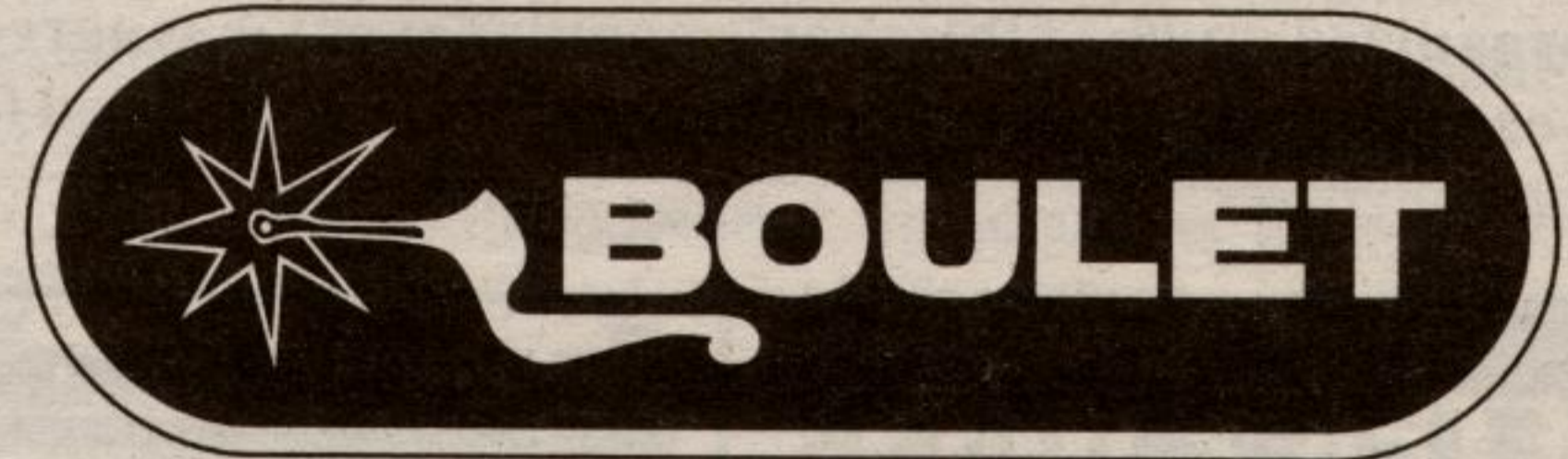
The suspect, who appeared to be impaired, did make off

with three videos and a small amount of cash.

Constable Mike Gordon of the Guelph OPP advises if you ever find yourself in a situation like this, "make a verbal command for the thief to leave. Get as much of a description as you can, and call the police as soon as you're able."

But, Const. Gordon cautions, "you should never confront the perpetrator. And keep yourself out of harm's way as much as possible."

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