



**TOYS, TOYS AND MORE TOYS!** Cathy Moffit was hired by the East Wellington Advisory Group in June to open a toy lending library in Rockwood. Located in the basement of Rockmosa, the drop-in centre opened on Tuesday with the toy lending library expected soon. (Doug Harrison photo)

## Drop-in centre for kids opens

BY DOUG HARRISON  
The Rockwood Miller

Cathy Moffit couldn't wait for yesterday (Tuesday) to come. It was time to see something come from her four months of work.

Moffit, 39, was hired in June by the East Wellington Advisory Group to start a toy lending library in Rockwood. A toy lending library – much like your local library – allows parents who can't afford a bevy of toys, to sign them out for two or three weeks.

The toy lending library – which is located in the basement of the Rockmosa Community Centre – has joined the Tot Time program to also include a drop-in centre.

Deb Quaille, one of the founders of Tot Time, says there wasn't the storage space at their former Eramosa Community Library residence nor was it conducive for crafts since it was carpeted.

"It's for the community," she says of the combined toy lending library-drop in centre.

"It's also a place parents and kids can call home. It's not a babysitting service, but a place you can visit and play with your kids and interact with them."

While the toy lending library is still under construction, Moffit says there is plenty of fun to be had at the drop-in centre for kids, from infants to 4- or 5-year-olds.

Toys fill the room, as does a reading corner, working station, dress-up corner and craft room (four at one time and supervised). A puzzle table should arrive soon.

A lot of the small toys have been donated, while Moffit purchased others from toy sales.

"When we partition off the hallway, the centre will be self contained," said an excited Moffit.

Moffit began her study for a toy

lending library by visiting some in Guelph, Fergus and Orangeville.

What she found, particularly in Guelph, was a yearly fee of \$20 to \$30 to join. She said Rockwood's would likely cost under \$20. She also discovered that Little Tikes, Fisher Price and ride-on toys were preferred choices of toys and has equipped the centre accordingly.

"I just hope everyone works together and has a good time. It's a value to the community."

In the opening weeks, Moffit – who's been an executive member of Child Find and a parent aid for social services – is opening the drop-in centre on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 to 11:30 am.

"All the kids that come here will go to school together in later years. This is a way they get to know each other at a younger age."

## Support group for weight losers begins

BY KAREN WETMORE  
The Rockwood Miller

The Lucky Losers are starting a new support session for people who want to shed unwanted pounds before and during the Christmas holiday season.

An orientation meeting takes place tomorrow (Thursday) at 5:30 pm in the Eramosa Library for anyone who wants to learn more about the group.

The eight-week support session begins the following Thursday.

Group member Dot Polo says the Lucky Losers' goal is focused more on educating people on nutrition than on losing a lot of weight in a short period of time.

"We do not count calories here," she said. "Instead, we try to get people to regulate their own food intake."

Lucky Losers members will bring in some of their favourite dishes to share at the orientation meeting. All of them will be "le-

gal," Polo said, meaning they will be healthier foods without a lot of excess fat.

The group now has 18 members who hear lectures and learn about the four food groups during their weekly meetings. Members also learn how to change their eating habits for the better.

The eight-week session is geared to help people get through Christmas and New Year's Eve celebrations without going overboard. It's also a way to start learning and following healthy eating habits in time to get ready for spring.

"You can't go through life without eating," Polo said. "But instead of running to the corner store to get a bag of chips, you can stay home and make a salad."

For more information on the Lucky Losers' new support session, call Polo at 856-9441, Jan Osborne at 856-4605 or Lois Walker at 853-4532.



Ray and Betty Death of Rockwood are proud to announce the recent graduation of their daughter Carol. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Guelph and is continuing her studies with the Addiction Research Foundation.

### Considering a Christmas Present?

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PART A: Relating to Yourself (nine weeks)

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Part A of this program begins Jan. 13, 1996 and will have limited enrolment.

Enquiries about these new programs and the school would be welcome by contacting the Director at 856-2633 or by visiting our "OPEN HOUSE" on Sunday, Dec. 3 from 1 to 3 pm.

WELLINGTON HALL ACADEMY, Rockwood  
853-2238 • 856-2633



### Lioness Club bazaar

The Rockwood and District Lioness Club presents its 19th annual bazaar next Saturday (Nov. 25) from 9 am to 1 pm at the Rockmosa Community Centre. Admission is free.

A draw will be held for a quilt made by club members. More than 20 craft vendors will display and sell their works. A penny table and baked goods will also be at the event.

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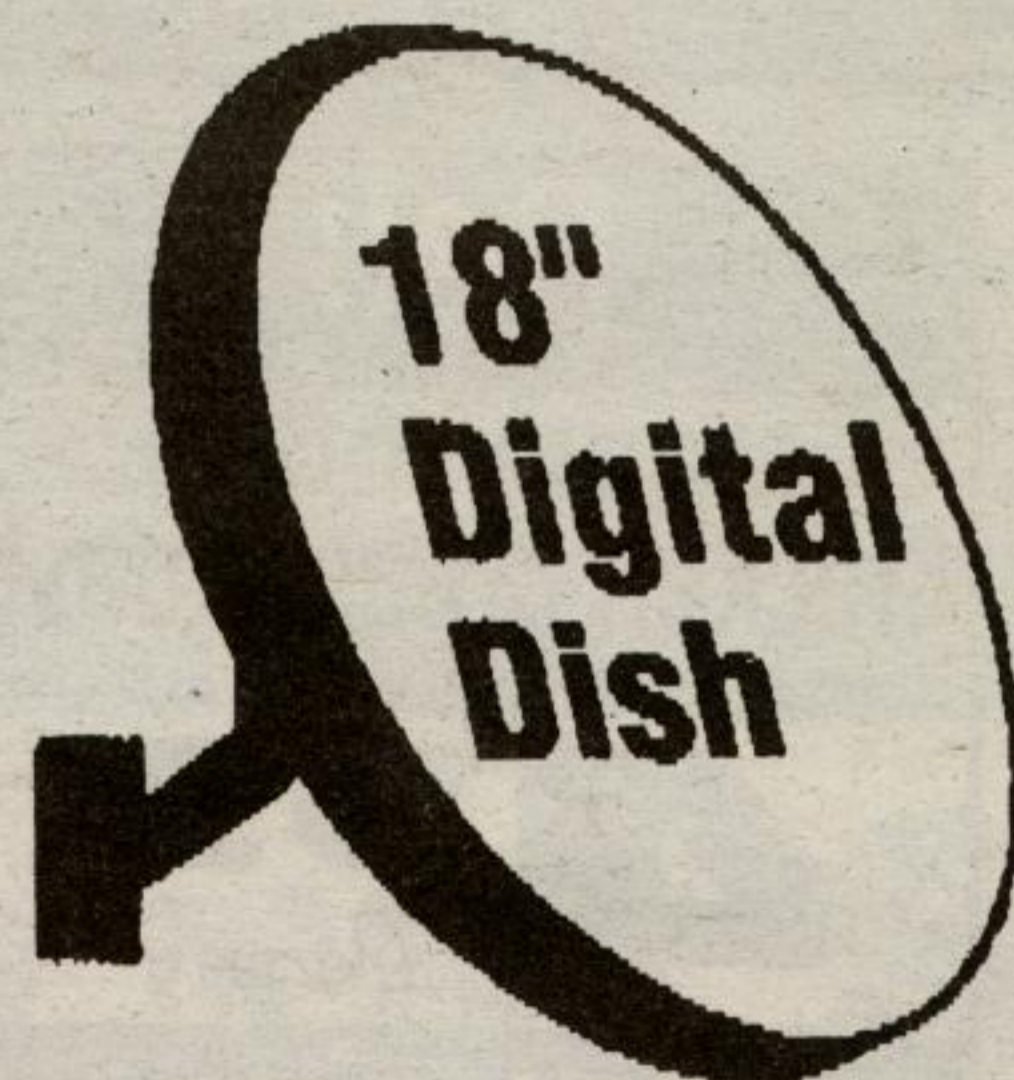
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