

Adult lifestyle community open house at Rockmosa

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Rockwood Miller

Imagine Rockwood as a haven for seniors – home to increasing numbers of empty-nester, aging baby-boomers with disposable incomes and minimal services demands.

That's the concept that will be presented to Eramosa residents, politicians and Township staff at an adult lifestyle community open house on Monday at 7:30 pm at

Rockmosa Community Centre.

With videos, slide shows and pitches by housing consultants, the open house will allow the community to take a close look at the type of housing and community Rockwood developers hope will be approved by Eramosa Council.

No specific plan will be on display at the meeting, although Council has seen proposals from the Rockwood Eramosa Develop-

ers Association to see Rockwood become an adult lifestyle community with 2,000 units designed for mature residents.

Housing consultant Christian Fisker, who will make a presentation at the open house, said an adult community in Rockwood would be the best of both worlds.

"There's a great rural atmosphere and the convenience of nearby shopping, medical and cul-

tural facilities and services," Fisker said in an interview on Monday.

With at least 42 adult lifestyle communities in Ontario, Fisker said it is a hot housing market.

"We are in the very early stages of the aging baby-boomers. People born at the end of the war are turning 50 and there is a large lump of people right behind them becoming interested in low maintenance adult communities."

When asked what the benefits of an adult lifestyle community would bring to Rockwood, Fisker pointed to Heritage Village in Vineland that has an on-site store, restaurant and bank.

"Those services not only handle the seniors living in the community but also draw people from the surrounding area as well and that could happen in Rockwood," Fisker said.

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COFFEE HOUSE MUSIC!

Isobel Moore, left, and Jan Aubut treated an Everton Community Church crowd to blues and gospel on Saturday. It was Everton's first coffee house "Saturday Night Alive" event. (Eve Martin photo)

Woodwind quintet performance

The Venturi Woodwind Quintet will perform at St. John Anglican Church Sunday (Nov. 26) at 2 pm. The concert is free, with donations going to purchase new books for the music section of the Eramosa Community Library, says Debbie Tilson, president of the Eramosa Music Association.

The quintet will play a variety of light classical and modern se-

lections, "from Bach to Mozart to Joplin," says Tilson.

Following the performance, members of the quintet will be talking about the music and their various instruments – Judith Douglas on the French horn; Mark Carbone, clarinet; Greg Stroh, flute; Lutzen Riedstra, bassoon and David Fale, oboe.

"It's educational as well as a

great listening experience," says Tilson, who added it should be an enjoyable concert for children as well as adults. Refreshments will also be served after the concert.

The library has already purchased \$700 worth of new books for its music section. The concert is a fitting way to raise funds to purchase more books, says Tilson.

Harris resignation in the past: Reeve

BY KAREN WETMORE
The Rockwood Miller

Eramosa Township Council is now coming together and working for the community, says Reeve Rick Hughes.

It's been a year-long learning experience for Hughes, who was originally elected as deputy reeve for the township last November. Hughes was appointed reeve after reeve-elect Leverage Harris resigned from the position during the swearing-in ceremony.

Harris' abrupt resignation was an unexpected turn of events for Council members including Hughes, who said he was, "very surprised" by Harris' decision.

Last November's election results showed Harris won over challenger Don Gordon by just 18 votes. Council had two choices: hold a by-election or appoint a Council member to the position.

The cost of holding a by-election would have been almost as much as holding a general election, said Hughes, who was appointed reeve in January.

Harris' resignation has had an impact on all Council members, said Hughes, who pointed out both he and deputy reeve Dave Adsett, who was first elected a councillor, took on additional responsibilities and a greater time commitment for their appointed positions.

"It took council two months to settle down, as our fifth member,

Mark Thomsen, wasn't elected until the end of January," he said.

But it takes some time for a new Council to adjust to their positions, he added.

"If you go back to my first year on Council in 1991, it took me about a year to feel comfortable," said Hughes. "I don't know that the timing is really out of synch due to Harris' resignation."

Harris, who in his resignation speech, scolded councillors for not being capable of dealing with the issues, was contacted by *The Miller* but refused to comment on whether he regretted resigning as reeve or if he had future plans to become involved in township politics.

MPP Arnott named chair

MPP Ted Arnott has been named chair of the Standing Committee on the Legislative Assembly. This committee reviews the rules or standing orders governing the procedures of the legislature.

Arnott will also work on the Finance and Economic Affairs committee, advising the Minister of Finance, Ernie Eves, on Ontario's financial affairs.

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