Pioneer Day plotter already working on details

Planning is already underway for one of Rockwood's most popular summer events - Pioneer Day - scheduled for the second weekend in June.

Co-ordinator Marla Reid is looking for groups, clubs and individuals who would like to set up a table or a

booth, free of charge, at Lloyd Dyer Park.

"I've sent notices to last year's participants and hope to find some more people who want to sell their goods., services or food," Reid explained last Wednesday.

This year's celebration

may end up being a weekend affair and not just the main celebration on Saturday.

Reid is working on a Saturday night event and there will also be an antique and art show on Saturday and Sunday in Rockmosa.

The popular events, like

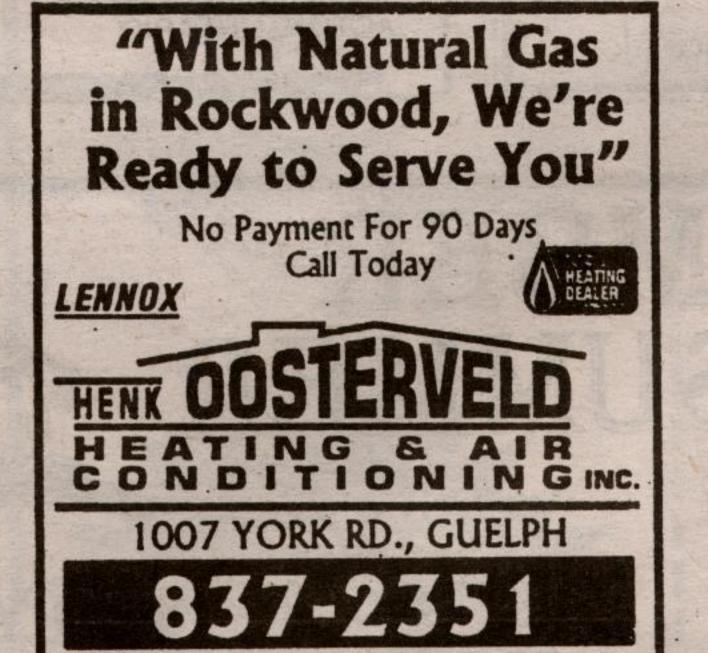
the rubber ducky race on Saturday morning, the parade at noon and the outdoor dance Saturday night will be back, along with horseshoe pitching, baseball games and a tugo-war.

"This is a chance for the whole community to get involved and have some fun in all of the events we have planned. It's a nice chance to meet people and spend time in the village.

"We're in the preliminary planning stages and would love to hear suggestions for new events," Reid continued.

Rockwood's first Pioneer Day celebration was in 1978 and continued annually for seven years until a four year break. Pioneer Day came in popularity and events.

The Rockwood



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Rockmosa's future debated at meeting

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK The Rockwood MILLER

Community groups may have to pay to use the Rockmosa Community Centre, as the sub-committee operating the facility attempts to make it break even.

Last year the 20-year-old hall cost Eramosa Township \$32,000 to operate and after years of neglect, there's a long list of expensive repairs, including a new roof and furnace, that need to be done.

Township councillors and Parks, Recreation and Culture Rockmosa sub-committee members held a special meeting last week to discuss the future of the facility, and although councillors did not endorse the group's game plan, they did agree the subcommittee should talk to some of the stake holders the service groups, clubs and organizations that rent or use space at Rockmosa.

Reeve Rick Hughes said the sub-committee remains committed to making the facility break-even by 2000 and that will probably mean users will have to pay a fee.

"Part of the process is to increase revenue from rentals by making the facility more attractive and possibly dividing the main hall, which holds 300 people, into two smaller rooms," Hughes said.

Currently the hall rents for

approximately \$30 and the kitchen for \$110. Rockmosa was booked 25 times in 1995, just one-quarter of the possible bookings in a year.

Hughes quelled rumours that the Rockwood Lions, who helped build the centre 20 years ago, would have to pay \$250 to use the hall.

"There's been no consideration of charging the Lions at this point in time," he said.

Deputy Reeve Dave Adsett said he was not satisfied with management of Rockmosa and thinks Council should become more involved with its operation.

"If it weren't for mis-management at Rockmosa we wouldn't be in the trouble we are now, with an old building that needs a lot of costly repairs and doesn't breakeven," Adsett said.

"I also have some concern when the person looking after it [Rockmosa] and booking events is a relative of someone who runs a catering business. I think it's too close a relationship that could be an area for conflict at some point." he added.

Ruth Steel both manages and cleans Rockmosa on a \$17,750 contract with the Township. Steel's son owns a catering company.

Steel said she had not been invited to the special meeting and has never been approached about a possible conflict of interest.



TENNIS (BRRR!) ANYONE?

Rockmosa Tennis Club opened its 1996 with a day of snow flurries and chill temperatures. But it didn't stop these brave members from coming out and signing up: in back from left, Justin Davis, Glen Kirstine, Piet Haayen and Kirk Bradley. In front are Linda Davis, John Kneitl, president of the club and Elly Tuitman. (Eve Martin photo)

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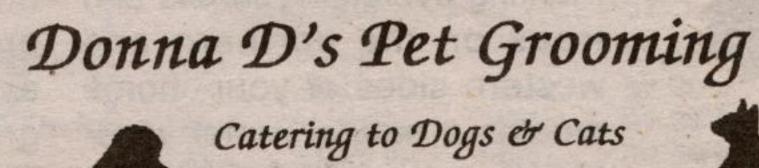
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