



NOAH'S ARK SPOTTED IN ROCKWOOD: What would a parade be without an ark? Well, we're not sure either, but this one, made by the Rockwood Veterinary Clinic for the Pioneer Day parade, definitely added to the festivities of the day. (Eve Martin photo)

Township gives \$1,000 grant to Writers' Festival

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Rockwood Miller
Eramosa Township Council's first-ever grant of \$1,000 was gratefully accepted by organizers of the Eden Mills Writers' Festival and Publishers' Fair at a recent Township Council meeting.

Although Festival organizer and Eden Mills author Leon Rooke had requested a \$2,000 grant, he agreed with Reeve Rick Hughes' assertion that it was wiser to accept the \$1,000 offered than to have the request sent to the Township's Recreation, Parks and Culture Committee where there was no guarantee that any money would be approved.

"We're quite delighted with the grant," Rooke explained Monday. "The money will enhance our financial situation considerably, especially in light of a 40 per cent cut in funding from the Ontario Arts Council."

For the past four years the Festival received \$7,000 annually from the Arts Council. With an expenditure budget of \$21,000 the 40 per cent cut will be felt deeply.

"If we have good weather and the turn-out we expect, we will be okay," Rooke said. "But, if the weather is bad, we could be in trouble."

Reeve Hughes said all councillors except Deputy

Reeve Dave Adsett voted in favour of the grant. Adsett historically has refused all grant requests on the grounds that Council should not be handing out taxpayer's money to groups who come asking for financial assistance.

In its eight years, the Festival has brought over 200 poets, novelists and non-fiction writers to the village, along with a combined eight-year attendance of 14,000, which has led to massive traffic jams and congestion.

In addition to running a free shuttle bus between Guelph and Eden Mills and hiring off-duty OPP to help direct traffic, this year organizers have asked Council to close Eden Mills Road to all but local and emergency traffic from 11 am until 5 pm on Sunday, September 8. Township Council sent that request to staff for a report.

The Eden Mills Writers' Festival is a non-profit, volunteer-supported event. Organizers claim it is the largest such rural event in North America, drawing national and international authors and press.

Highlights this year will be Margaret Atwood's launching of her new novel, readings from Pulitzer Prize winning author Carol Shield and a great line-up of children's authors.

MP Chamberlain's July 1st message

The following are excerpts from Guelph-Wellington MP Brenda Chamberlain's annual Canada Day message:

"Canada Day means more than a celebration. For all of us in Guelph-Wellington, it

is a time to celebrate our history and identity and to focus on what brings us together.

"As citizens of the best community in Canada, it is our unique privilege to live in Guelph-Wellington. We are a truly remarkable people. Young and old, rural and urban, we represent all that is good about Canada. A community that is proud, caring and responsive to each other's needs.

"I ask all residents of Guelph-Wellington to celebrate our community's values, traditions and cultures and we remember why we are proud to be Canadians. This year in particular, we have much to be proud of.

"Canada is our home, it is the best country in the world. Happy Canada Day."

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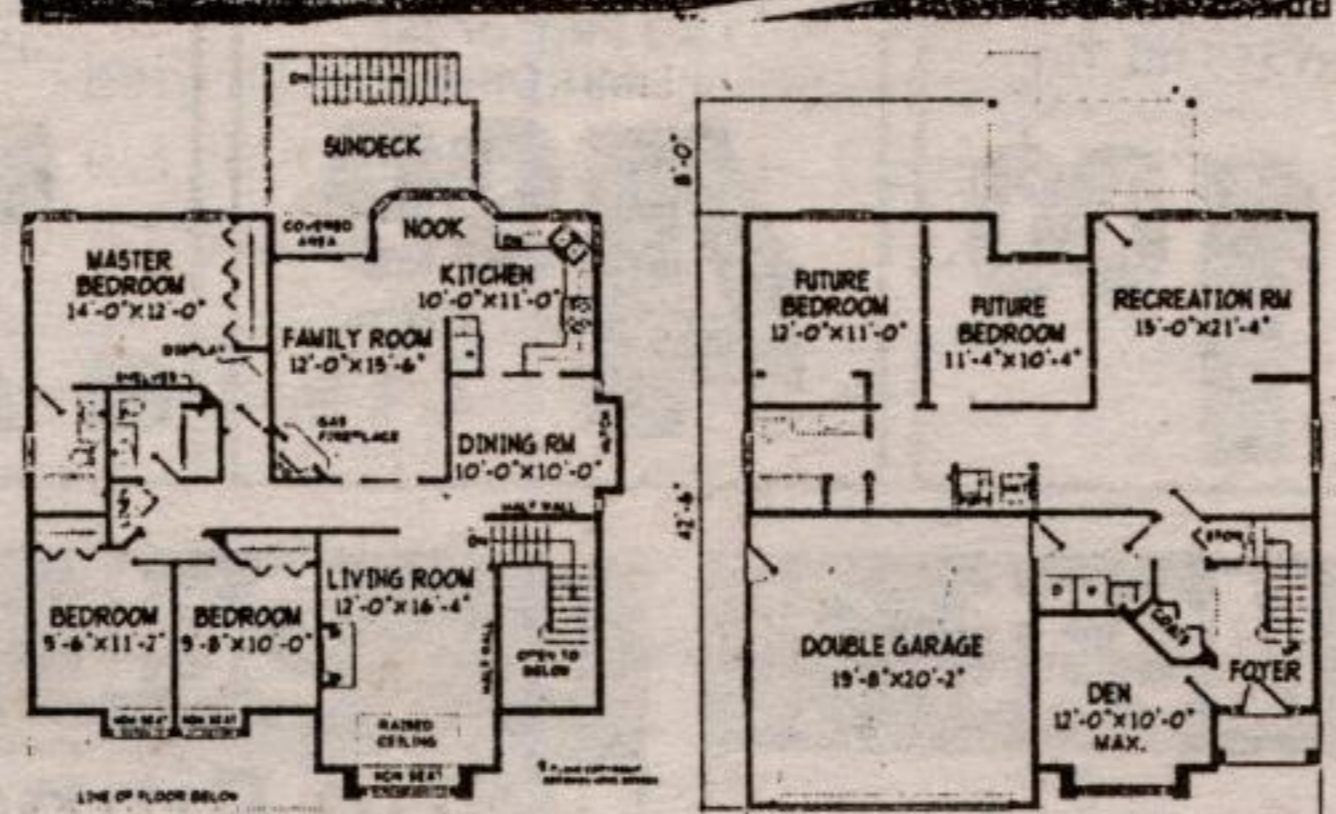
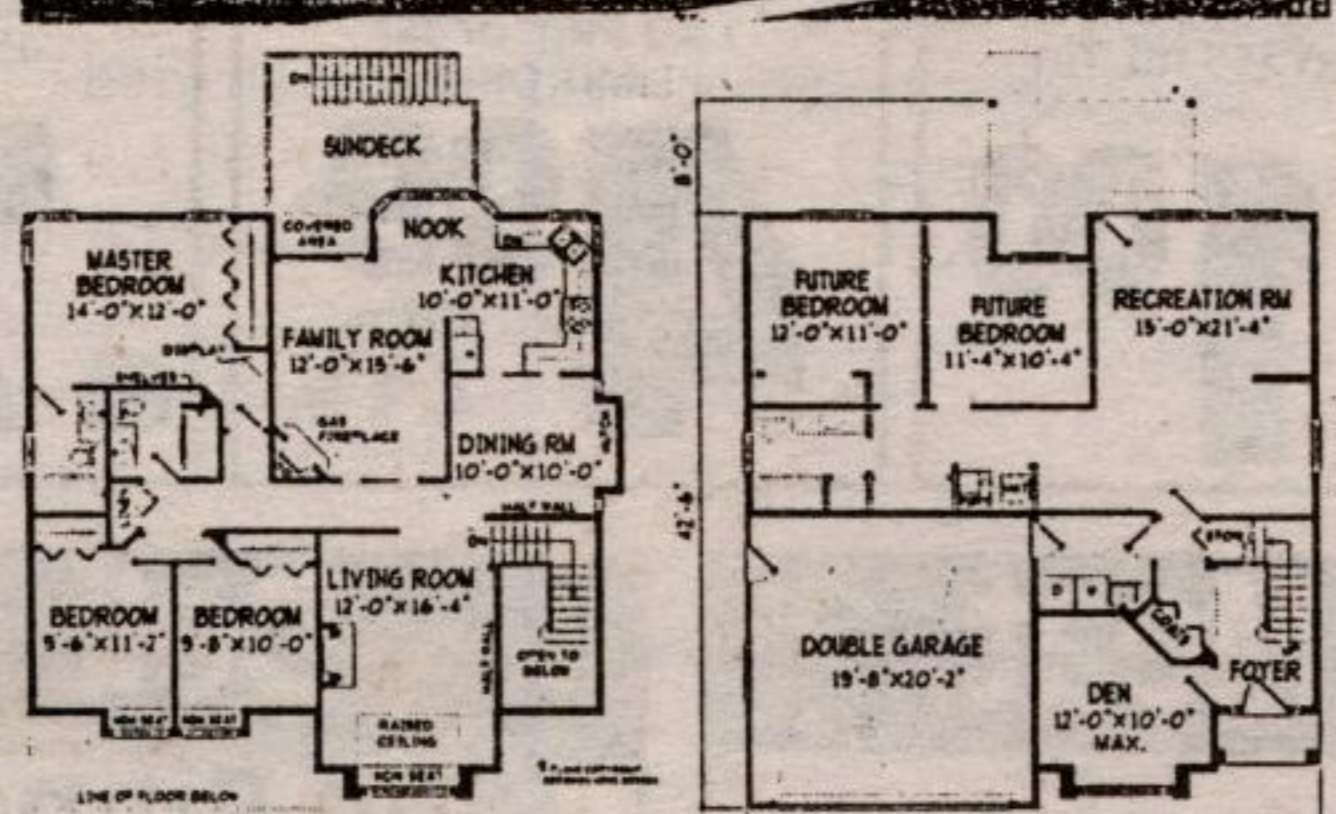
A stylish stucco exterior with feature windows and a dramatic raised entrance create a fashionable exterior look for this basement home. One of the luxuries of owning a basement entry is that the unfinished basement area can be finished gradually as time and finances allow.

Enter into a foyer open to the second storey and brightened by an overhead window. The den, situated just inside the front entrance and apart from the main living area, would make an ideal home office. Suggestions for the unfinished basement area include the addition of two extra bedrooms and a recreation room.

Upstairs, a good sized living room features a boxed out window seat with an arched window. Occupants can look over a half-wall to the foyer below. The dining room features a space saving boxed out hutch, and can be closed off from the noisy hustle bustle of the kitchen by a sliding pocket door. The kitchen boasts an efficient working layout and a breakfast nook featuring a bay window. The family room has a cozy gas fireplace and access to the sundeck.

The two front bedrooms each feature a boxed out window seat. The master boasts his-and-her closets and a three-piece ensuite.

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