



GREAT JOB! Rockwood and District Lioness Club members Ruth Polo and Jean Gray show a garden trellis quilt made by club members. Club members were selling tickets for the quilt at Saturday's community garage sale, held on the lawn at St. John's Anglican Church. See any Lioness member to buy tickets for the quilt. (Eve Martin photo)

Big bale warnings

The Farm Safety Association Inc. is issuing a warning to area farmers regarding big bale accidents and how to avoid them.

The handling of large bales has resulted in a number of serious accidents this year. Much of Ontario's hay crop is harvested as large bales.

Along with the benefits of the big bale have come a number of hazards. The manner in which the bale is handled and transported is the leading cause of accidents.

Several operators have been seriously injured when improperly secured bales rolled down the arms of front-end loaders. It is strongly recommended that tractors handling these bales be equipped with four-post rollover protective structures (ROPS), if available for your model of tractor.

A loader should be equipped with a spear or grapple that is designed for the handling of large bales. Keep the

following points in mind:

- Always keep the bale as low as possible for maximum stability.

- The loader should be equipped with a restraining device to prevent the bale from sliding backwards down the loader arms.

- The loader tractor should be large enough and equipped with sufficient counterweight to handle bales safely.

- Set tractor wheels at maximum width to increase stability.

- Try to avoid steep slopes and rough terrain when conveying bales with the loader.

- Avoid sudden starts, stops or changes of direction.

- Travel only at low speeds when moving a bale.

- Keep bystanders clear of all bale handling operations.

- Do not overload wagons used for transport.

- When transporting bales on the roadway, make sure you comply with all Highway Traffic Act regulations.

Roads to be inventoried for future reconstruction

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Rockwood Miller

Eramosa officials know they may have to play catch-up when it comes to fixing Township roads and have asked staff to prepare a roads needs study to identify which roads are in the worst shape and should be fixed first.

"We need to know which roads should be looked at first and what the approximate cost to fix each road will be," explained Reeve Rick Hughes last Wednesday.

Council wants the study done next year, with the intent of completing two or three major undertakings during this term of Council, and having a comprehensive approach towards the remaining roads and bridges.

"We'd like to have a repair or replacement game plan for the next 20 years so

subsequent Councils can easily assess what must be done."

The last roads needs study, done in the late 1970s, identified approximately \$6 million worth of road work to be done and Hughes predicted the updated list will top that figure.

"It may turn out, like our bridges, that we have some work to do," Hughes predicted.

"We still have some roads in the north of the Township that are gravel and you have to ask yourself if it is cost-effective to reconstruct those roads to paved roads if the volume of traffic isn't there."

Roads Superintendent Len Smeltzer said that 60 per cent of the Township's roads are gravel and they will be worked on first.

"This fall we will reconstruct the Fourth Line be-

tween Highways 7 and 24 and next year I suspect we will do the Guelph Town Line or the Seventh Line, down below Hwy. 24.

"Then I think we will do the Fourth Line north of Hwy. 24 which is just about ready for a seal coat," Smeltzer explained last Thursday, noting that they would first get traffic counts on the various roads to determine which are most heavily travelled.

The Township will also do 10 km of resealing work on hard top surfaces, mostly on the Fifth and Seventh Lines.

In a related issue, the Township will do the pre-engineering work for repairs to the bridge on 20 Sideroad between the Sixth and Seventh Lines. The plan is to do the actual construction work next year or in 1998.

MP sends support to Quebec

Guelph-Wellington MP Brenda Chamberlain has sent a letter to the people of Chicoutimi, Quebec offering words of support following the devastating floods which have taken place recently.

"As members of the Canadian family, I have expressed our concern to the people of Chicoutimi and our sympathy at the loss of life during the terrible flood," Chamberlain said recently.

"The letter was written on behalf of our community, and

I wanted the people of the region that has been so overwhelmed by the destruction caused by the flood to know that Guelph-Wellington residents are thinking of them during this difficult time."

The flooding, some of the worst in history, has caused widespread damage, killed at least 10 people and will result in hundreds of millions of dollars in damage.

"I have received a number of calls from constituents asking me how they can help. I

am urging everyone who wants to offer assistance, to contact the local chapter of the Canadian Red Cross Society to make financial donations. The Red Cross will then purchase needed supplies to assist the homeless and those who require the most help," Chamberlain said.

"I am proud of the efforts of the Canadian people, and their government, in working together to help the people of Lac St. Jean in their hour of need."



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