Eramosa examines more equitable garbage collection system

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK The Rockwood Miller

The amount of trash you put out at the curb could determine how much you pay for garbage collection if Eramosa Township Council proceeds with a user-pay system, aimed at both reducing the amount of waste produced and at creating a more equitable system.

Council has asked staff to prepare a report on how to proceed to investigate a possible shift to user-pay. Currently the amount residents pay for collection and disposal of garbage is based on the assessment of each property.

Treasurer Terry Noble outlined that a house in Rockwood assessed at \$7,200 would pay \$83.60 a year in taxes for garbage collection and disposal, and a house in Eden Mills would pay approximately 80 per cent of that figure.

Noble said that in West Garafraxa, which has implemented a user-pay system, they average 1.3 bags per household per week and charge \$2 for each bag.

That means the average household pays \$132.20 per year for garbage, but County staff also report that in some areas the average has gone down to 0.6 bags per week In a report to Council, for a cost of \$62.40 a year.

In an interview last Wednesday Noble said most members of Council see a userpay system as having a little more equity.

"Everybody would pay exactly the same amount for each bag that they dispose of and in our situation, since there is a separate line item on the tax bill for garbage collection in Rockwood and Eden Mills, if they went to a user-pay system, that line would disappear from people's tax bill. So it wouldn't be just a money grab, it's genuinely a different way of doing things," Noble said.

Reeve Rick Hughes agreed that a user-pay system would be more equitable.

"The people who use the system more will pay their fair share and those who do recycle and compost would pay for exactly what they dispose of," Hughes explained

on Friday.

"We plan to have staff bring back a report and hold a public meeting next month on the proposal," Hughes said, noting that Council is already looking at re-tendering its garbage pick-up contract and that the user-pay decision would have to be made before the re-tendering was done.



Suggestions needed for oath

To the Editor,

I recently introduced Bill C-302, "An Act to establish an Oath of Allegiance to the flag of Canada." If adopted,

this legislation would give Canadians their own, official, Oath of Allegiance to our beloved maple leaf flag.

The idea resulted from a letter from a constituent who believed that it would be a positive step for our country. In order to encourage Canadians to consider the importance of our flag and all it symbolizes, the Act requires a Committee of Parliament Oath's wording.

I am writing to ask your readers to consider sending me their suggestions for an Oath. The Oath does not have to be long - I have received a number of suggestions that consist of one line. Suggestions should be sent to my Parliament Hill office, 152

Confederation Building, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6. Postage is not required.

At this critical time in our history, it is important for Canadians to consider the importance of the flag in our lives. An Oath could be used at schools, before meetings, or anywhere that the flag is prominent. I have already received suggestions from every part of Canada includto consult Canadians on the ing over 100 communities from coast to coast.

> I invite Canadians to participate in what I hope will be an exciting and important project in the life of our nation. I look forward to receiving the suggestions from your readers.

Brenda Chamberlain, MP Guelph-Wellington

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shape with keystone detailing, combine to create the traditional colonial look. The living and dining room, each

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set off on their own, provide a private atmosphere for formal entertaining. For less formal events, the great room, within close proximity to the kitchen and featuring a cosy gas fireplace, provides a spacious and comfortable area for family and friends. A large kitchen boasts an efficient work area with plenty of cupboard and counter space and a pantry. The master bedroom features a four-piece ensuite with a soaker tub.

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Thanks for your support!

To the Editor,

On behalf of the staff and students of Wellington Hall Academy, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and The Acton Tanner/Rockwood Miller staff for your support of our school pro-

gram. Our students enjoyed participating in the weekly news articles, and also when the paper featured special events happening in the school.

Thank you for being a great "community" paper.

Jetta Anesea, Director Wellington Hall Academy

Ashley MacIsaac performs at U of G

Cape Breton native Ashley MacIsaac returns to the University of Guelph to stomp, stepdance and fiddle till the horse hair flies, hot on the heels of his sold-out show this past April.

The all ages concert takes place at the Gold Arena Sept. 9 at 8 pm. Tickets are \$20, on sale in Guelph at The Bookshelf, Looney Tunes, The Corner, HMV and Jumbo Video.

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