

Rockwood's ups, downs and in-betweens for 1996

COMPILED BY
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January

DOTTIE'S DINER OPENED: Dot Polo and nephew Kert Pinder opened Dottie's Diner at the former Buddies restaurant location. The diner specializes in home cooked meals, breakfast specials and the "Kerty" burger.

LAND USE TO REMAIN RESIDENTIAL: A third-time application to rezone a section of land at the corner of MacLennan Street and Hwy. 7 to commercial use from residential, was again rejected by the Ontario Municipal Board. Two previous Eramosa Township councils had also opposed Lou Hilts of Park Edge Developments' request.

ROCKMOSA CONVERTS TO GAS: Township Council agreed to finish the conversion to natural gas at Rockmosa Community Centre. "We're quite happy and appreciate Council's support [of \$44,500]," said Gary Martin, chair of the Parks, Rec. and Culture committee. "Rockmosa is a priority this year."

February

INFORMATION CENTRE COSTLY TO RUN: The Rockwood-Eramosa Business Association (REBA), which opened the Main Street information centre in June 1994, wasn't sure it could continue to financially keep the centre open. REBA president Ralph McDonald said low REBA membership and a lack of Township financial support could cause the centre to close its doors.

COUNCILLOR CLOSED BUSINESS: Eramosa Township councillor Cathy McIntyre closed Ray's Family Variety, so McIntyre could spend more time with family and friends, in addition to her Council duties and full-time secretarial job.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP DECISION REVERSED BY COUNCIL: By a one-vote margin, Eramosa Council reversed its earlier decision to register the membership bylaw of the Eden Mills Community Club on the title of the property, which is jointly owned by the Club and the Township. Instead, a copy of the bylaw will be available to the public at the Township office.

March

CENTENNIAL CHOIR BROUGHT HOME GOLD: The Rockwood Centennial junior choir won gold at the Kiwanis Music Festival in Guelph. "They got up on stage with confidence and sang the best I've heard them," said choir conductor Barbara Eley.

GAMES STORE OPENED: Eighteen-year-old Cory Young opens Town and Country Video and Games on Main Street. Young said he wanted to start in business when he was young, before owning a house or having a family to support.

TOUR BOOKLET FINISHED: After a year of hard work by volunteers, the walking tour booklet of Rockwood's historical sites was available for sale at \$2 in many local businesses. REBA member Rosalyn Insley of New Tricks! Designs said

she got a real education about the village while doing a lot of the layout and graphic design for the booklet.

April

AMALGAMATION CONSIDERED: Eramosa Councillors voted to explore the possibility of amalgamating with the Village of Erin and the Township of Erin. "Bigger is not necessarily better," said Reeve Rick Hughes. "We are starting a process and I would call the meeting that we had with Erin 'window-shopping.'"

BASEBALL 'TURF WAR' ERUPTED: The Rockwood Construction League went up against the Rockwood Men's 3-Pitch League in a dispute where each league wanted to play at Lloyd Dyer Park. The furor spilled over into the Rockwood Eramosa Minor Ball Association (REBMA), which assigns ball parks to leagues, prompting its president and vice-president to resign. A deal was made, giving each league the park every other year.

May

CONCERT CREATED TRUST FUND: A benefit concert by children's entertainers *Rick and Judy* for Jake and Justin Van der Geer, raised more than \$1,000. The boys' father, Frank Van der Geer, 31, was killed in a car accident in March with the driver of the second car being arrested with alcohol-related charges.

HOG HILL HEADED NORTH: The popular porcine place moved "42 giant steps north" on Main Street.

Meanwhile, in Hog Hill's former home, landlords Peter and Vija Celmins expanded their antique business, the Rockwood Antique Market.

TWO NOMINATED FOR 'Y' AWARDS: Rockwood's Margo Davis and Janet Daly were each nominated for the Women of Distinction Awards, presented by the YMCA-YWCA of Guelph. Davis was nominated in the Community Life category for her work with the La Leche League, while Daly was nominated in the Business and Economics category for her 30 years of volunteer work with the Guelph Humane Society.

June

ROCKWOOD GOT A WEB SITE: Colin Smith set up a home page on the Internet using photographs and text from the village's walking tour booklet. The Web site can be reached at

<http://www.sentex.net/~cgsmith/>.

CENTENNIAL HELPED FIT FOR HEART: The school's Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser raised \$8,635.61 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation, making Centennial the top fundraiser in south Wellington.

WRITERS' FESTIVAL RECEIVED GRANT: Eramosa Council's first-ever grant of \$1,000 was received

by the Eden Mills Writers' Festival and Publishers' Fair. The Festival organizers had originally requested \$2,000, but organizer and Eden Mills author Leon Rooke said, "We're quite delighted with the grant... especially in light of a 40 per cent cut in funding from the Ontario Arts Council."

See next week's *Miller* for the second half of the events in Rockwood in 1996.

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Meat

Boneless Outside Round Steak Roast
Cut From Canada A/AA/AAA Grades
Beef Hip (Eye Removed) 5.05 kg

2.29 lb.

Deli

Corned Beef or Pastrami
Shopsy's "Outside Round" Deli Sliced or Shaved

3.99 lb.
.88/100 g

Bakery

Fresh Baked French Bread
"Crusty" 450 g Loaf

.99

Produce
Product of Ontario
8 Oz. Tray

Fresh Mushrooms

.79 ea.



A THOUSAND POINTS OF LIGHT: The annual Farmer's Parade of Lights rolled through Rockwood's downtown Dec. 19. Though the evening turned very cold and windy, the streets were lined with appreciative crowds. (Karen Wetmore photo)