

1996: McIntyre resigns, Spirit Valley rained out

July

CONSTRUCTION CONTINUED: Rockwood's first traffic signals were being added to the Main-Alma Streets intersection. "The traffic signals in Rockwood were needed for safety and to make the intersection less confusing," said Len Smeltzer, Eramosa's works superintendent.

APPLEYARD CELEBRATED 50 YEARS: Vibraharpist Peter Appleyard played to a crowd of more than 300, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of his music. Appleyard was joined by many guest musicians, including singer Salome Bey.

COUNCIL HELPED ROCKMOSA: Eramosa Councillors formed a new committee to run the Township-owned facility, in order to help it reach the goal of breaking even financially by the year 2000.

August

LIBRARY TURNED TECHNO: To upgrade and automate the catalogue system, the Eramosa Community Library spent \$20,000. The new system will allow users to quickly search for a book from among the library's 15,000 titles.

COUNCIL WON'T BUY PRINTS: Eramosa Council decided not to make an offer to purchase either of

two prints from Group of Seven artist A.J. Casson. The prints, *Rockwood, 1926* and *Saturday Afternoon* depicted the village.

ERAMOSA DROPPED DEVELOPMENT CHARGES: In an attempt to make Eramosa a more attractive place to locate, Township Council enacted a bylaw which exempts all non-residential development from paying most development charges.

September

SPIRIT VALLEY RAINED OUT: The Spirit Valley Experience, hyped for months as a festival of the arts and nature with performers and artists from around the world, was cancelled due to the untimely visit by Hurricane Fran.

WRITERS' FESTIVAL A SUCCESS: Despite lingering bad weather, the Eden Mills Writers' Festival still attracted 2,000 people. The event was held under the covers of Camp Edgewood and brought in 33 writers including Carol Shields and Margaret Atwood.

MANAGER TERMINATED CONTRACT: Ruth Steel caught Council off guard when she terminated her contract after 20 years of cleaning the community centre and eight years as Hall Manager.

October

SIDEWALK SWITCH CREATED UPSET: After persuading Council to put the sidewalk on the north side of Jackson Street, residents became upset to find Council decided against it when it realized it would cost about twice as much to put it on the north side. The cost increase would have come about from having to move many hydro poles on the south side of the road.

SENIOR OF THE YEAR: Rockwood's Sijtske Drijber was presented with the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation Senior of the Year award. Councillor Gord Tosh, who nominated Drijber, said her involvement with the local news, children's groups and arts organizations were outstanding contributions to the community.

MCINTYRE RESIGNS: Councillor Cathy McIntyre surprised her colleagues when she resigned from council, two-thirds of the way through her term. McIntyre had sold her Rockwood home and had moved to Guelph, making her ineligible to hold office in Eramosa.

November

SATISFYING AUDIENCE COUNT AT REVIVAL: The Spirit Valley Revival, which replaced the

Spirit Valley Experience, was described as "artistically superb and superbly successful" by organizers.

EIGHT IN RACE: Eight people were vying to replace Councillor Cathy McIntyre's seat on Township Council, after her resignation.

December

USER PAY PICKUP SYSTEM: All Eramosa residents will have curbside garbage pickup in January and by March will start to pay \$1.75 for each bag of garbage placed on the curb. Public meetings will be scheduled on the proposal.

MARTIN NAMED TO COUNCIL: Eden Mills resident and long-time member of the Eramosa Library Board Nadia Martin was named as the replacement to Councillor Cathy McIntyre.



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READING TIME: Reading all about different countries at the Eramosa Community Library last Saturday were Joe Aitken, who turned 5 on Friday, his brother Nik, 6 and their dad Hal. (Karen Wetmore photo)

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