

## What Really Matters

in  
**Guelph/Eramosa Township**

with

**Councillor Alan McDonald**



Hi everyone. This month I would like to offer you a kind of "Corporate Profile" of the Corporation of the Township of Guelph Eramosa. It is probably somewhat of a dry read, but will help you grasp what the "business" of the Corporation of Guelph Eramosa Township is.

The Township of Guelph Eramosa is a horseshoe shaped rural and urban community around the north side of the City of Guelph. Guelph Eramosa Township has a population of approximately 10,600 people and approximately 3,450 households. The township is approximately 310 square kilometers in size, about 3.5 times the size of the city of Guelph.

The dam at Guelph Lake is an approximate centre of the township. The dam is 350 meters above mean sea level (Lake Ontario is 74 meters above sea level) and is geographically located at 43° 35' 40" latitude north of the equator and 80° 15' 50" longitude west of Greenwich (or 70 kilometers straight west from the CN Tower in Toronto).

A large area of the Township is threaded through with provincially significant wet lands, all of which are connected with the Grand River water system and controlled by the Grand River Conservation Authority. The Grand River Conservation Authority manages two parks within the township, Guelph Lake and Rockwood Conservation Areas.

The extreme points of the Township are: to the east, Crewsons Corners on Highway 7; to the north, the intersection of Wellington Road 22 and Wellington Road 26; to the west, about three kilometers west along the old Canadian Pacific rail line from the hamlet of Ariss; and to the south, Wellington Road 124 two kilometers south of the intersection with Wellington Rd 32.

There are nine licensed aggregate operations within the Township. There are four rural industrial areas/parks. The Township of Guelph Eramosa is largely agricultural. There are two designated urban centres in the township: Rockwood and Eden Mills (according to the proposed County of Wellington Official Plan). Other areas of population that are designated Hamlet Areas are: Everton, Oustic, Bruce Dale, Crewsons Corners, Speedside, Highway 7 hamlet area, Promenade Park, Hamilton Drive (Cross Creek), Marden, Ariss, Highway 24/Lake Road hamlet area, Shadow Beach, and Hartfield. The township also has two areas designated country residential; they are Walkerbrae Trail and Ellenville Crescent.

The Corporation of the Township of Guelph Eramosa is the lowest tier of Government in the Township of Guelph Eramosa. The Corporation acquires most of its revenue through property taxes. Those taxes are distributed between the four local school boards, the Corporation of the

County of Wellington (next tier of Government in this area), and the operating budget for this township.

The main services provided by the Corporation of the Township of Guelph Eramosa are: road maintenance including snowplowing, water supply and waste water management for urban centres, parks and recreation management, buildings and facilities management, fire and rescue services, permit issuance, and inspections.

The Corporation employs 18 full time staff, 1 seasonal full time staff, and approximately 8 summer staff. The Corporation contracts to outside sources for skills such as engineering, legal, and planning.

The Corporation owns the following facilities: the old Guelph Township Municipal Offices and the new Guelph Eramosa Township Municipal Offices, one 6 bay and one 5 bay public works garage (each with tools and machine shops), one storage shed, one fire hall, the Old Town Hall, Rockwood Hydro Office, Rockwood Medical Offices, Rockmosa Community Centre, Rockwood Community Library, four water pumping stations (with five wells), two water towers, one sewage pretreatment plant, and five waste water pumping stations.

The Corporation owns the following parks and related facilities: Dave Masson Memorial Park, Lloyd Dyer Park, Eden Mills Park, Everton Park, Rockmosa Park, Guelph Township Park (including stores garage, Federated Womens Institute building, gate house, 4 picnic pavilions), and three undeveloped park areas including Cross Creek, Shadow Beach, and Promenade Parks.

The Corporation is responsible for approximately 80 kilometers of gravel roads, 68 kilometers of paved roads, 30 kilometers of chip and sprayed roads, and 32 kilometers of urban residential roads (various unopened road allowances exist around the Township).

Equipment owned by the Corporation for care and maintenance of its real-estate holdings include: five pick-up trucks, three single axle and 4 tandem axle dump trucks with snow plowing and sanding equipment, two loader back hoes, one grader, two tandem trailers, one wood chipper, two trailered generators, one trailered sewage pump, a large assortment of lawn and garden maintenance equipment, 6 lawn tractors, one small loader tractor, two fire pumper trucks, two fire tanker trucks, one fire rescue and command truck, one fire rescue pickup truck, one fire rescue boat, one antique fire truck and one antique street flusher truck.

O.K. O.K. enough you say? What about the real numbers? Show me the money! Until next month: same bat time, same bat place.

Your comments and suggestions are appreciated. Please contact Alan McDonald at 519-856-1167 or at 125 Princess Street, P.O. Box 268, Rockwood, ON, N0B 2K0.

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## Rockwood's Pioneer Day festivities

BY DEBORAH QUAILE  
THE COMPASS

In a town of natural beauty that can boast a river-side park with a pavilion, there are far too few outdoor concerts to enjoy. However, Friday, June 11th was an entertaining evening of live music in Waterside Park, or as performer Ian Reid put it, "... the pre-Pioneer Day Hootenanny by the river!"

With a slight breeze rustling the trees' leaves and the calm, tranquil water flowing by, the crowd was entertained by Ian, singing and playing guitar, and Dan Jansen's vocals. The two treated residents and visitors to "old" favourites by the Beatles, Del Shannon and much more. Ian's pleasant chatter put grownups at ease while kids played air guitar and wore themselves out on the slide/climber.

Many thanks to the talented performers and their music for a warm summer evening!

The Rockwood Rubber

Duckie Race ran with a good crowd to cheer their ducks on. Due to slightly adverse weather conditions, i.e. the wind being stronger than the current, the race was run upriver.

"They're all trained to swim upstream," announcer Marla Reid commented, as the Big Yellow Duckie waved them on from the shore.

The winners and their

prizes were:

- 1st, Chris Jacomb, stained glass panel by Gillian Higson.
- 2nd, Ben Austriaco, Duckie Blanket by Joanne Blomberg.
- 3rd, E. Woodhauis, two quilted pillows by Betty Death.
- 4th, Candice Timbers, 1999 Millennium Coin Set from the Royal Bank, Rockwood.
- 5th, Mary Logan, chocolate from Candies of Merit, Guelph.



**Hootenanny by the River** - Dan Jansen, left, and Ian Reid, right, provided welcome entertainment at the Friday evening concert in Waterside Park, Rockwood.

## Rural Olympics

SPECIAL TO THE COMPASS

Are you interested in being the best "Round Bale Pusher" in all of Ontario? Perhaps you have a special talent for finding "Pennies in the Manure Pit!" If these two events interest you, then gather up a team of four to participate in the 2nd Annual Rural Olympics.

The 4-H Youth Corps Co-ordinators have been busy thinking up the most unusual events to include in the Olympics. Provincial finals will be taking place at the Fergus Fall Fair, Wellington County, on Sunday, September 19th. To have a chance to be Provincial Champions you will have to jump through the hoops at your local and regional competitions first... well, maybe not hoops, but tires.

To obtain more information contact Tanya Gregson, Youth Corps Co-ordinator for Region 4 at (519) 855-4682 or e-mail at wjgregson@sympatico.ca

Come out and be a part of the 2nd Annual Rural Olympics and show everyone what you've got! There will be lots of prizes to be won, free food to be eaten and fun to be had! Sign your team up today!



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