



A MONTHLY SURVEY THROUGH THE FARM FENCEROWS AND VILLAGE VERANDAHS OF NASSAGAWEYA, ESQUESING AND SOUTH ERAMOSA

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"A RURAL PAPER TO CALL OUR OWN"

MARCH, 2000

## Encore performance

Rockwood's Doug Breen back on Guelph/Eramosa Council

BY DALE HAMILTON  
THE COMPASS

Rockwood resident Doug Breen is the newest member of council in Guelph/Eramosa Township.

Following the surprise resignation of Councillor Gary Martin, Breen was asked to fill the vacancy left on council, being the person in line with the next most votes in the last election. Breen is not new to local politics. He served on council prior to the amalgamation bi-election in the fall of 1998, an election in which he was not returned to his seat. Everyone was acclaimed, except Alan MacDonald, who ran successfully against Breen. Although Breen admits he would have been happy to have been on board throughout, he harbours no ill feelings and says he is "...glad to be back ... and glad to be representing my home ward."

During Breen's previous stint on council he was involved in the amalgamation of Eramosa and Guelph townships, a process he found "both frustrating and

exciting." Now the main items on the agenda have to do with monitoring development that has already received approval. "Whenever there's development, there's bound to be issues."

Breen is no stranger to municipal politics. His father, grandfather, brother and several uncles served terms on council in the London area. He grew up on a farm near Putnam and graduated from the University of Guelph as an Aggie. He and his wife Krista have two children, ages one and two-and-a-half. They've live in the stone cottage on the corner of Frederick and Main for about eight years. Breen is well aware that this makes him a "newcomer" by rural standards. He sees this as an advantage and a disadvantage. The disadvantage is that he doesn't know the community inside out, but he chose to be here, has "no axes to grind" and "brings no baggage" to the position. Breen points out that there's

nothing he wants to get out of his position; he simply wants to "give something back to the community."

In his everyday life Breen is a regional superintendent for a number of local golf courses. He finds that his day job and his work on council are similar in many ways. He views both jobs as being about "spending somebody else's money and trying to get the best results for the least cost."

Breen is quick to admit that being on council, working full time and helping to raise a family makes for a hectic schedule - his day timer never leaves his side.

When asked about his resignation, Gary Martin was on his way out the door and only had a few minutes. The reason for his resignation was simple - not enough hours in a day. With a booming business on his hands by day and a boy scout troupe on his hands by night, he said he found it next to impossible to meet his commitment on council.

## MARDI GRAS FEVER!



PHOTO BY REID KENNEDY

**PARTY WITH A PURPOSE** - Many students and staff of Brookville Public School were on hand and in costume on February 18th for the Mardi Gras Silent and Live Auction and Dinner, a fund raiser initiated by the Brookville School Council. The event raised over \$22,000 for activities, resources and programs. Pictured from left to right are Dan von Cube, school principal Rick Nodwell, and John Twitchell.

## Milton residents honoured with Heritage Awards

BY DONNA DANIELLI  
THE COMPASS

The Milton Historical Society and Heritage Milton Local Architecture Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) presented their 10th Annual Heritage Awards Ceremony on Sunday, February 20th.

Among the honourees that day were many members of the rural community. Brookville

Public School was presented an award by School Trustee Erica Andrews in recognition of the Family Heritage Treasure Box Project for Grades 2-3. The award winning box on display at the ceremony contained family trees, mementoes such as family photographs, favourite family recipes and information on family

celebrations.

On hand to receive the award and demonstrate a small portion of the work which went into their Heritage Treasure Box were Brookville students Andrew Martin, Joshua Martin, Jay Muise, Ben Manshanden, Dali Carmichael, Sarah Tosh,

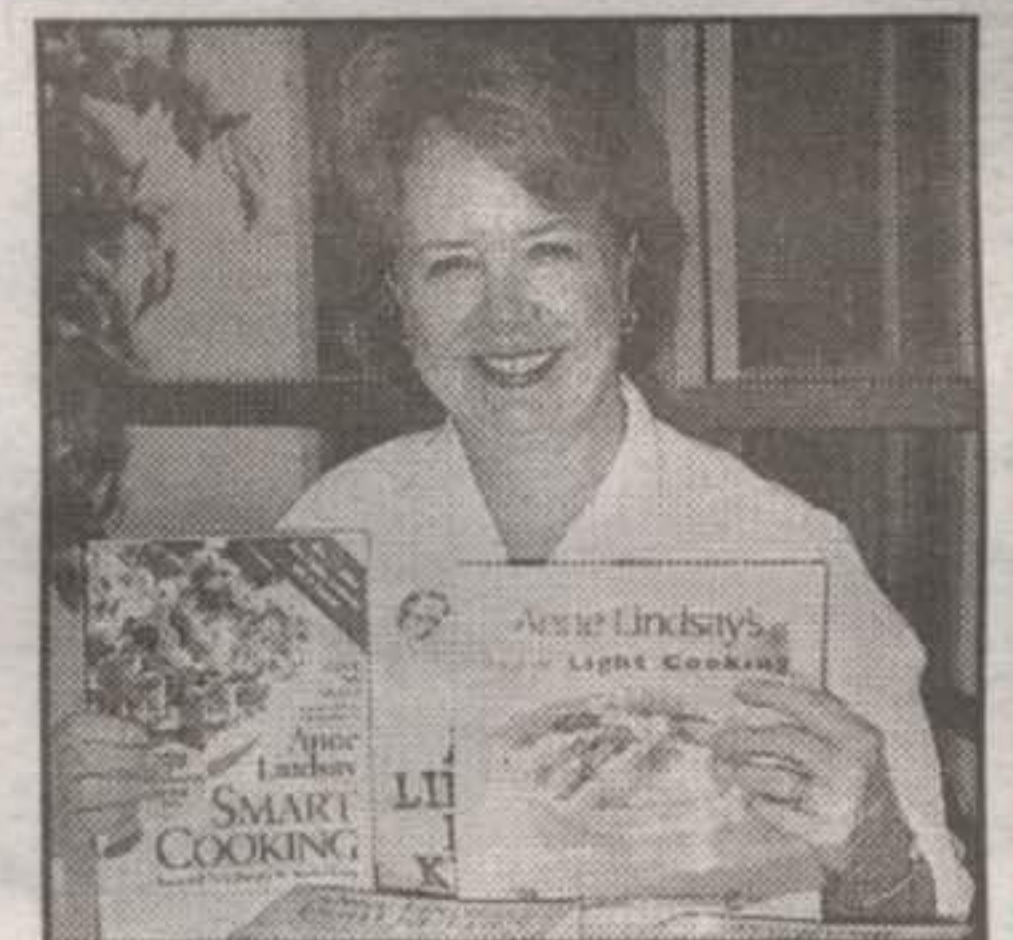
(continued on page 16)

## Inside This Month's Compass

### Lighten up your life

Author and chef Anne Lindsay, noted for her series of heart-smart and healthy cookbooks, was at the Milton Market Cooking School to whip up some delights and autograph her latest book "Anne Lindsay's New Light Cooking."

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### Shoobox Memories

William Thomas Near and his wife, Margaret "Maggie" Sinclair were both born in Erin Township, Wellington County. Thomas and Maggie married in 1885 and bought the west half of Lot 29, Conc. 6 in Nassagaweya Township.

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### Settle in Hearthside

Warm entertainment on a winter's night - that's what musicians Jan Hanko, left and George Grosman provided during a sold-out show at Milton Regional Museum's Hearthside, with smokey and soulful blues, jazz, and a smattering of lively Russian folk tunes.

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### Trouble with witches

The Milton Players Theatre Group just finished a run of *Bell, Book and Candle*, written by John van Druten. Audiences were captivated by the quirky story and excellent acting by the group, especially Shadow the cat, who stole a few hearts along the way.

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