

What Really Matters

in Guelph/Eramosa Township

with

Councillor Alan McDonald



Well, what shall I not write about this month? I will not write about effective leadership. I won't write about motivation and teamwork, nor effective communication and trust. Ah, I will write about money.

A budget meeting for the year 2000 was scheduled for May 29 (our year end is December 31). It was our first consideration of 'how much' for the year. Finally we can start to consider what we WANT and what we NEED.

Our budget last year was prepared by seven departments, including: general government,

protection to persons and property, environmental, health services, transportation, planning and development, recreation and culture. Each of the seven department budgets was then detailed further by line items such as advertising, heating oil, capital expenditures, and waste disposal.

The money we have available this year is especially obscure - to me anyway. We do not, or may not, have \$680,000 dollars available from other government sources as we did last year. We do not, or may not, have any surplus this year, as we did last year. We have the first year of a new corpo-

ration behind us. So we have one fact of history at our disposal. Yet I have not received any report detailing how much money we spent in 1999. Before going to press, I was crossing my fingers as I went to the meeting.

If we have to make a decision to raise taxes or cut back services, which do you prefer? If we must cut services, what services do you think we should cut?

Perhaps we will see a tax cut! Want to buy some property in Florida? I hope that I am 'out in left field' on this one.

Contact Alan McDonald at 519-856-1167
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Happy fifth birthday!

Greenscape Nursery, just outside Rockwood on Highway 7, celebrated its 5th Birthday on May 6th with gebak en koffie (or cake and coffee) on a warm and sunny spring day. Sibling owners Richard and Daphne den Drijver were pleased to help customers search out the perfect items for their gardens from their wide selection of plants and accessories.

PHOTO BY DEBORAH QUAIL

The Rockwood Grist Mill

BY H. LLOYD DYER
SPECIAL TO THE COMPASS

Tag (Clarence) Hortop ran the grinding mill for many years. He was a good size, and very strong. I have seen him pick up bags of grain with one hand, give the bag a swing and build a pile against the wall up to seven or eight feet high. Tag liked potatoes very much and would eat them three meals a day if Mae, his wife, would cook them for him.

Tag married Mae Bolton, my cousin. Harry Bolton (the father) lived at 170 York Road, Guelph. Mae and Tag got married there and after the wedding they both rushed out to the 1926 Dodge Coupe to get in and away before anyone could shower them with confetti. But someone had blocked the car up so that the back wheels cleared the road by a couple of inches. Tag started the car in a hurry, went through the gears, but the car did not move forward. An ample amount of confetti descended on the newlyweds.

At the mill, Tag had bins of grain and to keep the mice population down, Tag had a lot of cats. Tag had dishes of milk around for the cats and they multiplied. The cats were underfoot all over the mill. Tag decided when Charlie Hamilton was down from the Everton Mill (that Tag's brother Harry ran) he would have a bag of

cats to go to the Everton Mill.

Charlie Hamilton lived at Everton, had a truck for summer driving, a team of horses and a sleigh for winter driving, and carried loads of supplies from one mill to the other. Tag gave Charlie a tip to take the bag of cats to the Everton Mill and let them out when no one would see them. Everything went great, but whether Harry did not feed them as well of the cats did not care for their new environment, they came down along the river and were back to Tag's mill in a week. Tag was sure surprised.

I have a snapshot showing my grandfather, John Martin Dyer, standing in front of the Grist Mill under a sign "Harris and Co." My grandfather ran the mill for years for William Harris years previous. He was nicknamed by farmers "Honest John."

Golden Woods In-School Show Results

BY GREG GILBERT
SPECIAL TO THE COMPASS

Our first In-School show was held Sunday, May 21 and was a great success. There were over 20 riders in ten classes and over 70 spectators. We would like to congratulate the ten winners of our show.

Best Groomed Horse and Rider: Laura Porter & Marshmallow
Junior Walk/Trot: Cassandra Baile & Chinook
Junior Walk/Trot, Individual Canter: Kaitlyn Parsons & Sarah
Junior Walk/Trot, Canter: Kaitlyn Parsons & Pins
Senior Equitation: Wanda Mostert & Sarah
Senior Hack: Amanda Duffield & Bracken
Junior Forward Position over poles: Laura Porter & Marshmallow
Junior Low Jumping: Brittany Medland & Chloe
Senior Low Jumping: Sam Quinn & Cookie
Senior Jumping: Amanda Duffield & Cookie

Thanks to all who attended, participated and helped out. The next in-school show is July 23rd, focussing on dressage. Visitors are welcome. For more information call 519-856-0505.



Meet Me at the River: The Eden Mills Theatrical Hike

June 17, 18 & 24, 25, 2000
Tickets \$3-5 or \$15 per family

Join a cast of more than 40 on a theatrical walking tour of Eden Mills, with both historical and contemporary scenes, plus music and dance en route. Meet lots of colourful characters, including a ghost baseball team, baby turtles, dancing ice cream cones, The Bridge Troll, The Cat House Choir, a Leon Rooke impersonator, etc. Lots of fun for the whole family!

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Tuesday, June 13, 2000 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
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IN
ROCKWOOD

Don't miss out ... bring the whole family!

Hwy. #7, Rockwood (west of Acton)

Friday, June 9
• Live Music in Waterside Park, Main Street South

Saturday, June 10
• Rubber Duck Races on the river, 10 a.m.
• Parade at Noon
• Activities all day long and Outdoor evening dance in Lloyd Dyer Park