

Rockwood's Parade of Lights prepared for ninth fabulous year

Special to the Compass

Christmas is closer than you think. To get into that Christmas spirit mark off Thursday, December 13 on your calendar and plan to attend the Rockwood Farmers' Parade of Lights that will kick off at 7 p.m. in the village of Rockwood.

This will be the ninth year that 20-25 farmers decorate their farm equipment and present a Parade of Lights through the streets of Rockwood, Ontario. Each year, different pieces of farm



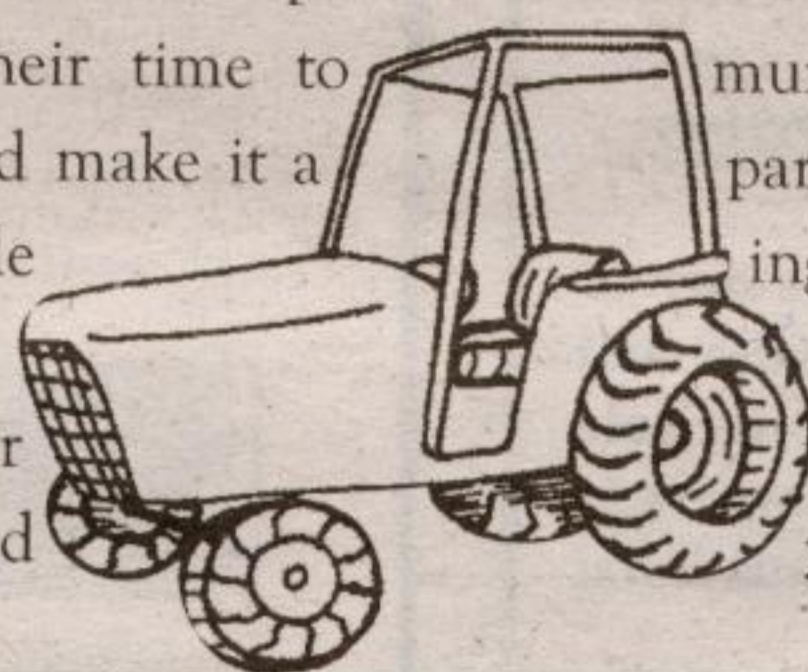
equipment are selected and decorated with thousands of lights and Christmas decorations with every effort taken to avoid duplication. This has never been a problem in the past, as most farmers work hard to select a piece of equipment that is quite unique and interesting when decorated. You will find some tractors and other pieces of farm equipment which will be over 50 years old, while still other floats will be brand new equipment this year.

The parade originated as a way of having fun while giving something to the local community. The first year people simply held up their arms and stopped traffic so that the parade could proceed, but now the popularity of the parade has increased to the point that a number of agencies, such as the OPP and several local fire departments, volunteer their time to assist the parade and make it a safe and enjoyable evening for all.

Last year between 6000 and

8000 people from all over Southern Ontario came to Rockwood to see this free and fun event. The parade appeals to the young, the old, the young at heart, and the agricultural community. No advertising or business activities are allowed to take place with the parade.

One of the nicest compliments received is to see other small communities initiate their own parade as a result of attending Rockwood's Parade of Lights. For more information visit the web site www.blahs.on.ca



Mull'n it Over

with

Bonnie Mullen

Picture a well-worn kitchen table surrounded by women of a certain age. The coffee is poured and the stories start to flow. These are the tales, poems and essays you will find in *Around the Table, The 2001 Rockwood Crone Memoirs*.

The Crones, a group of remarkable women of wit, wisdom and power, have been meeting in Rockwood since 1996 for weekly dinners and occasional workshops, but this is their inaugural publication.

For Gill Reynolds this was the first opportunity to see her work in print.

"I enjoy the Crones dinners and workshops and I've made many friends in the group," Ms. Reynolds said. "Nora Savade lead a memoir-writing workshop for us and I've since take a couple of her other workshops too."

This collection of reflective writings has emerged from 21 contributors of various backgrounds, lifestyles and experiences between the ages of 59 and 91. Childhood memoirs including work horses, berry picking, piano lessons, washboards, root cellars and a first kiss; poems which speak of time and place; transitions like moving the country, mothering and menopause are considered. Reminisces of the gramophone, 78s, LPs, 45s and songs like Gorge Forman's *When I'm Cleaning Windows, The Red River Valley* and *When I'm 64* are honoured.

More serious topics including mastectomy and reconstruction sur-

gery, death of a sister, bankruptcy, divorce, depression, obesity, a union strike and life in an institution are discussed candidly with passion and compassion.

Judy Marsh, who shares her tale with cancer commented "I hope in writing my story it will help someone else get through something like this."

You will surely want to add this locally-written book to your holiday shopping list. Just call Jean McClelland 519-763-4881 to order.

Around the Table,
The 2011 Rockwood Crone
Memoirs
ISBN: 0-9689276-0-2
Softcover \$15



The Youth Service Canada Project in Rockwood has been working on village enhancement since May. Their latest project involved a Chocolate Festival at St. John's Anglican Church Hall on Saturday, November 17. Included was a detailed display that the group put together on Rockwood's Schneider family and their chocolate making in the old Candy Factory. Project coordinator Debbie Marshall of Eden Mills believes that the first festival was a great success, thanks to the many people that participated and attended.

From left to right, back, are: Nicole, Chris, Alison, Spencer. Middle: Misty, Evan. Front: Emily, Jackie, Heather and Darrin

Acton quarry changes hands

(Continued from page 5)

wide area. It seems to me that if the escarpment has been designated as something special, let those that already have licenses operate, but question how many new licenses do we give? You have to wonder how much more can we give out."

Dufferin Aggregates isn't sure what it will do with those 400 acres at this pint.

"We would be looking at them and seeing what opportunities are available there," said Ms. Lowe. "But it's early days yet. We have no plans at this time. It's too early."

One thing Dufferin is looking seriously at is a way to preserve the lime kilns which are on the property.

"These kilns have a great historic value," explained Ms. Lowe. "They're relics of an early industrial era and there's an incredible inter-

est in maintaining and restoring them."

Quarry neighbours who have concerns about the quarry's hours of operation, blasting impacts and effects on water quality and supply are encouraged to call Sarah Lowe at 905-761-7500, extension 566. "Our approach would be to do studies on environmental impacts on the neighbours. We like to get to know our neighbours and involve them in the process. If people have any questions, we'll be happy to answer them."

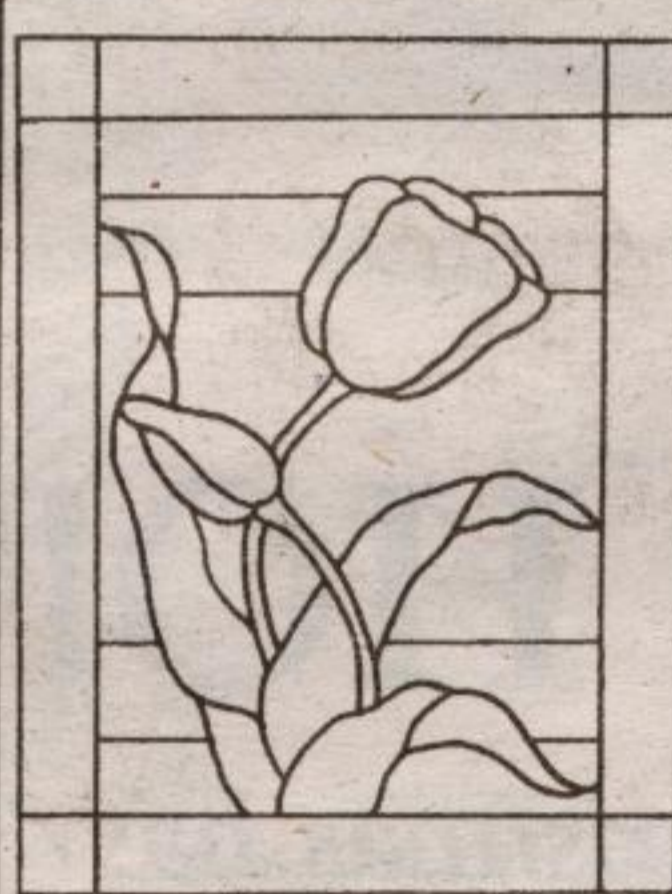
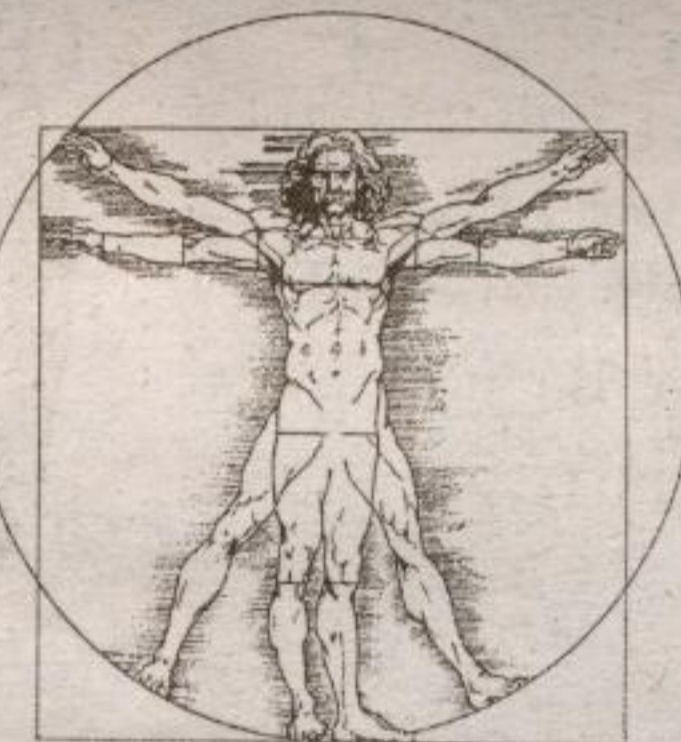
Dr. Tim Peloso, B.Sc.(H.K.), D.C. Rockwood Family Chiropractic

We wish you

Happy Holidays and
Good Health

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Please don't DRINK and DRIVE

