

Idle Pursuits

35th anniversary donation to Milton Choristers



PHOTO BY DONNA DANIELLI

Mattamy Homes donated a cheque for \$10,000 on October 7 to support the Milton Choristers during their 35th anniversary season. The money will be used for events such as a 35th anniversary Gala performance at the Mississauga Living Arts Centre, two Christmas concerts and a Birthday Bash at the Gambrel Barn in Milton. Pictured are: (back) Choristers President Cori McTaggart, Chorister member Jim Douglas, and Mattamy representative Karen Maki, Sonja van de Hoef (right) and Music Director and Chorister member Barb Barone (front).

It's murder in Milton!

By DEBORAH QUAILE

Kick off your local theatre season with an engaging comedy called *Murder at the Howard Johnson's*, the newest production by the Milton Players Theatre Group. The play, written by Ron Clark and Sam Bobrick, is set in - of course - a hotel room as three characters find themselves entangled in a love triangle. Arlene and her lover, Mitchell, a dentist, plot to kill Arlene's husband, Paul, a used car salesman, but a few plot twists manage to throw a wrench into their plans.

Tim Beddoes plays Paul, and his real-life spouse, Sharron Beddoes; plays Arlene, the woman with murderous intent. Graham Morley plays Mitchell, the dentist. Geoff Ford is the play's director.

Murder at the Howard Johnson's runs October 24, 25, 30, 31 and November 1 at The Milton Seniors Centre, 500 Childs Drive, Milton. Both dinner theatre (Saturdays only) or show only tickets are available at Delacourt's (Main and Martin Streets, Milton) for cash or cheque only. VISA orders are accepted by calling 905-875-0629. The show only is \$15 per person, with cash bar and refreshments available, or an evening of dinner theatre is \$35 per person with a cash bar.

Rockwood: A Mosaic of Memories

By DONNA DANIELLI

Rockwood: A Mosaic of Memories is the latest offering from local author and historian Deborah Quaille. It's quaint charm is exuded through a series of anecdotes and vignettes, drawing realistic pictures of local country life over the centuries. Quaille breathes such life into recollections of Rockwood citizens from the past that it is almost as though the dearly departed have pulled up a chair and invited you to sit for a cup of tea. The retellings of the men and women who first came to Rockwood to carve out their existences are vivid and compelling. Equally inspiring is the deft way in which Quaille has meticulously acknowledged all of her many sources in the researching of this gem of a book.

The history is aptly named a "mosaic" in that it seamlessly patches together subjects such as pioneer settlers, local business histories, explanation of Rockwood customs, detailed personal histories and my personal favourite, a section on local ghosts. The only thing that the book lacks, that would have been handy, is a map of Rockwood denoting some of the locations mentioned for those of us that are unfamiliar with the local landscape. Otherwise, *Rockwood: A Mosaic of Memories* is one of those books that you can go back to time and again for an entertaining look at local history. While the first reading may engross you in the depth of the startlingly vivid account of lives in

Rockwood, a second reading is almost mandatory to take time to savour the many photos and copies of historical documents included in a way that does credit to extensive research Quaille obviously conducted in the writing of the book.

Rockwood: A Mosaic of Memories is a welcome addition to the bookshelf of anyone wanting to settle down and lose themselves in the past of long ago days for a few hours. It is available at The Rockwood Library, Rockwood Pharmacy, and The Rose Garden, Rockwood; Eden Place in Eden Mills, or from the author at

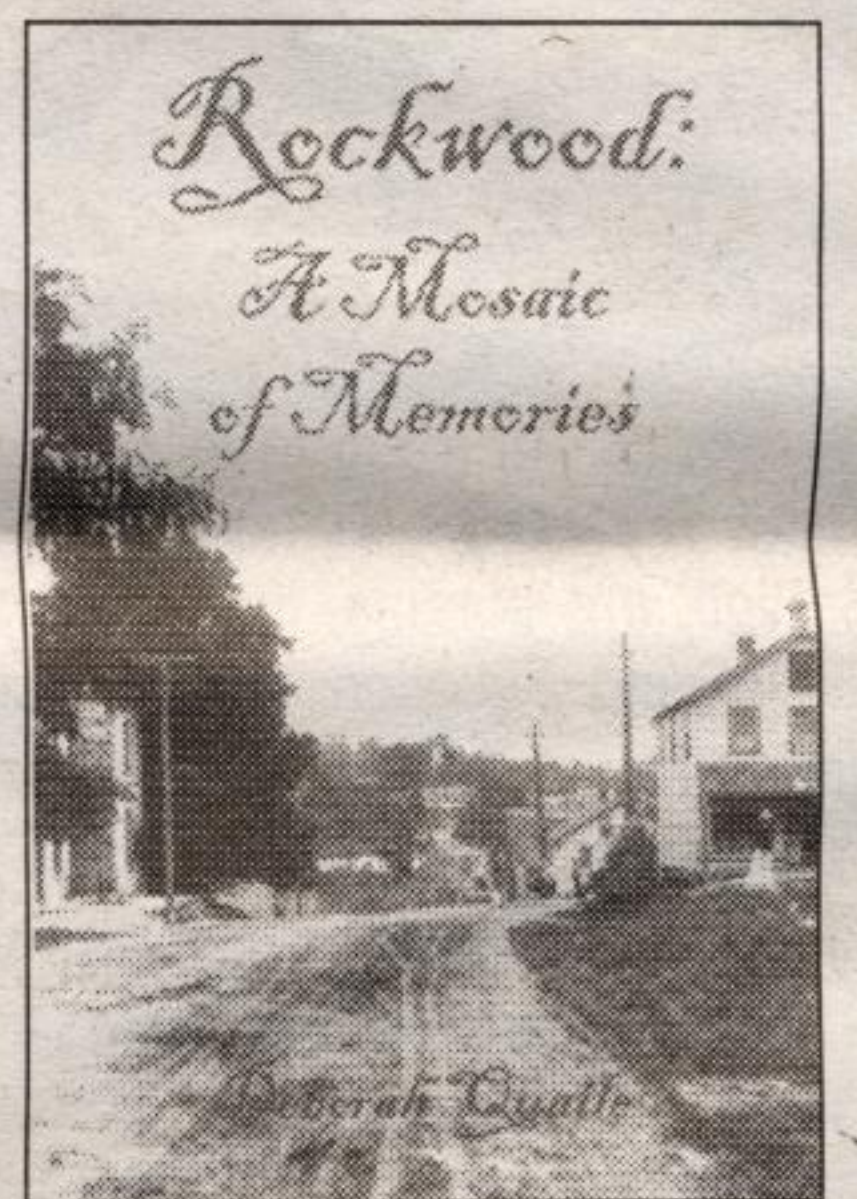
<http://cogeco.home.ca/~dquaille>

Proceeds from the sale of the book benefit local charities.

ROCKWOOD: A MOSAIC OF MEMORIES

ROCKWOOD: WORDBIRD PRESS, 2003

SOFTCOVER, B&W ILLUSTR. & PHOTOS, 253 PGS., \$20



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Next meeting
Tuesday, Nov. 4
at 6:30 pm
Call Kristine at 519-853-8859 to register. \$15 per person (inc. dinner).

Brew your own wine at Vintner's Cellar

Vintner's Cellar, Acton, is a wine brew-on-premise store. They have a variety of over 30 types of wine in their menu made from concentrate, semi-concentrate and pure juice. Once you decide what type of wine you want to make, Vintner's Cellar does all the labour involved to complete the process. The process takes approximately five weeks, at which point you receive a phonecall to make an appointment for bottling your wine. Customers must participate in this easy, automatic and fun process. Before you bottle your wine you must taste it to ensure

it meets your approval - this is definitely the "fun" part! Vintner's Cellar can customize the wine by adjusting the sugar content to make it sweeter or add oak to simulate an oak cask fermentation. Each batch of wine yields at least 30 750 ml bottles.

Typical clients are people who enjoy drinking wine but don't like paying the high costs and taxes at the LCBO. People can also decorate their wines with personalized labels and shrink wrap for special events and Christmas gifts. Co-owners Susan Seads and Stephen Attwell actively participate in sponsorships and community events. The store has recently been named Business of the Month, awarded by the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce for October.

Fall is a good time to brew your holiday wine. Vintner's Cellar adds new

varieties all the time and they have a complete line of fruit wines, Port, Sherry, and ice-style wines. If you're interested in making wine visit the store at 41 Mill Street East, Acton or call 519-853-2255.

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