

Road to be paved - eventually

BYMAGGIE PETRUSHEVSKY
The New Tanner

Disgruntled Jones Base-line residents won't get their section of road paved any time soon even though Guelph/Eramosa councillors agree it needs it.

A petition signed by 15

residents and presented to council by Albert Roelofs on Monday asked the municipality to pave the section of Jones Base Line between Highway 7 and County Road 125.

The road is commonly used as a bypass for Guelph, the residents say, and as such sees heavy traffic, speeding

vehicles and plenty of heavy vehicles. Since that road is only partially paved residents say it is dangerous both for those speeding drivers and anyone else they meet, including school buses loaded with their children. The gravel surface does not stand up well to heavy rain or to spring break up.

In the presentation Roelofs pointed out that maintaining a hardtopped road couldn't help but be cheaper than all the calcium coats applied in summer and grading throughout the warm weather to take care of potholes.

Council agreed the road is in rough shape and also that gravel roads do cost more to maintain. However there are a number of township roads in need of serious improvement, including this one.

Road superintendent Fred Pierce said that piece of road is "about comparable" to the section of the Fourth Line which the municipality is currently rebuilding, and as such needs to be completely re-done. But money spent on upgrading now would be wasted unless the proper base is in place first.

He also pointed out the municipality is in the process of doing a long range road study which won't be completed until spring break-up when council tours all the roads.

Coun. Doug Breen said the township has a lot of roads in poor condition and priorities need to be set before money can be earmarked for reconstruction in any area.

Coun. Les Foote said

The Rockwood MILLER

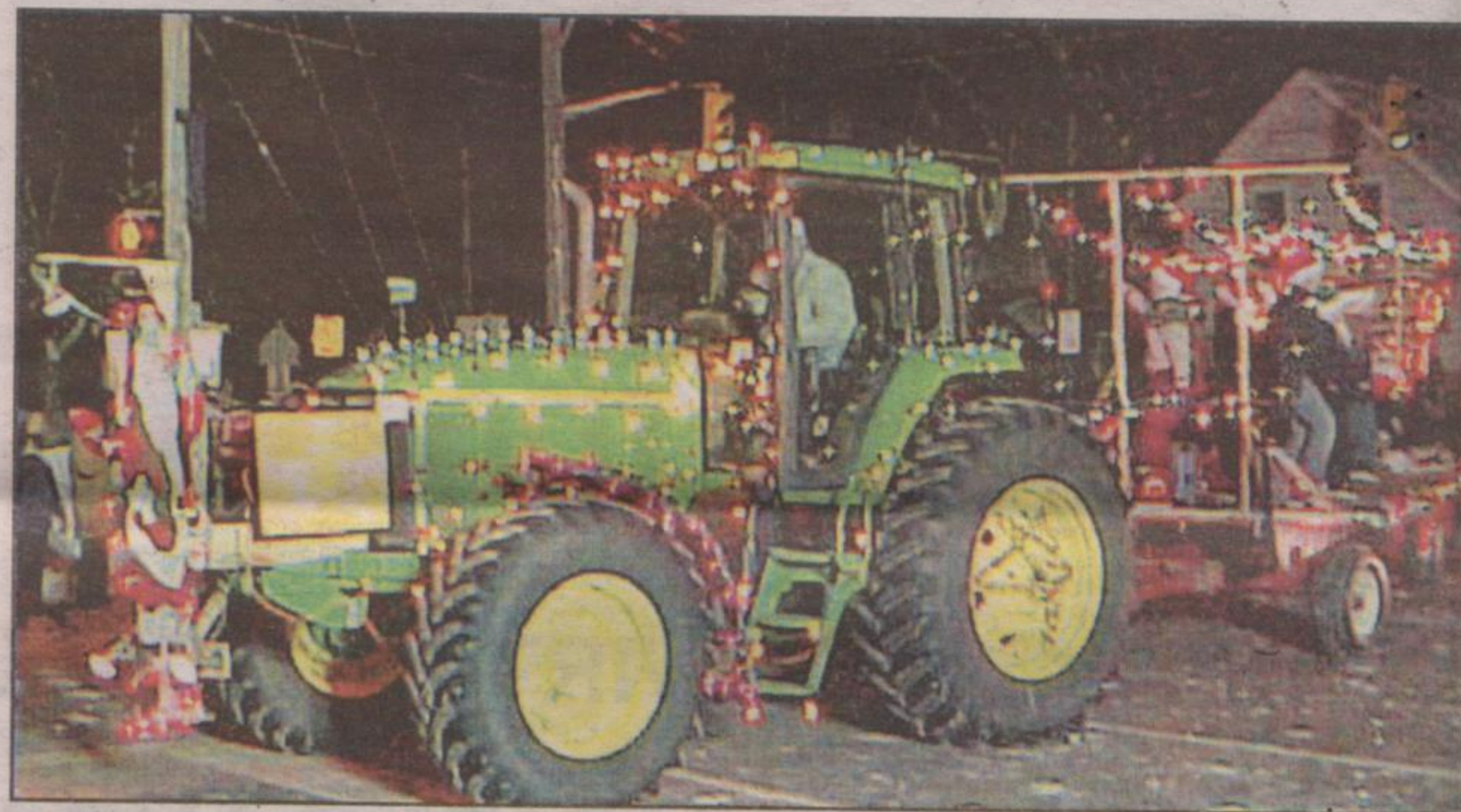


Parade of Lights a sparkler

Thousands see unique parade



Santa Claus, of course, was the big attraction at the Rockwood Parade of Lights last Thursday evening. - Photo by Ted Tyler



Thousands of multi-coloured lights adorned farm equipment of every description at Rockwood's annual Parade of Lights. This was the eighth consecutive year for the parade produced by the farmers of the March Blahs Committee. - Photo by Ted Tyler

Guelph Township spent 30 years rebuilding its roads to present standards and there's no doubt Eramosa is facing a similar process and time frame.

Mayor Dave Adsett said while council is sympathetic to the neighbours' concerns,

the timing for answers is uncertain. Council will contact Roelofs when decisions are made.

Meanwhile the township roads department may apply another coat of gravel as a "bit of a bandaid".



The Grinch that stole Christmas was another popular attraction at the Parade of Lights on December 14th. - Ted Tyler Photo

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