

The Rockwood MILLER



41 years on the job Fred Pierce is retiring

BY MAGGIE PETRUSHEVSKY
The New Tanner

Guelph/Eramosa Public Works Superintendent Fred Pierce is packing it in the end of March after more than 41 years on the job. Pierce, who grew up on a Guelph area farm, started working for the former Guelph Township in 1960 at the age of 18. In addition to knowing about livestock and farm machinery, Pierce learned plenty about engines and trucks from his father who owned a garage just north of Guelph.

Pierce recalls his first day on the job was spent with a shovel and a broom cleaning curbs around the University of Guelph. At that time, the University was in the township and the township crew consisted of two men.

Over the years he ran the loader, the trucks, the salter, the sander and of course, the snowplow.

He liked to open the plows up so that he could throw the snow back off the roads as far as the snowfence. That meant run-



QUITTING TIME: Fred Pierce is retiring as Public Works Superintendent for Guelph/Eramosa at the end of March. He has been with the municipality since 1960. - Maggie Petrushevsky photo

ning at speed and he still grins as he remembers being told to "slow down" sometimes with the plows.

When his boss retired in November of 1987, he took over as road superintendent for Guelph Township. The crew had increased to two by then, so he had to train his replacement while taking on the responsibilities of his new job.

He came to Eramosa in 1997, before it amalgamated with Guelph Township, and took over its crew of six while his son Greg, contin-

ued to run the Guelph crew. At the time, Pierce was running the two municipalities separately although everyone knew what was coming.

At present Guelph/Eramosa has a crew of 11 to look after 220 kilometres of roads. Bob Jestin looks after the roads crews while Greg Pierce handles the municipality's water and well systems.

"It's been a good life," he says of municipal employment. "The work was steady year round and the benefits were good."

He and wife Faye moved into Guelph in 1990 and she still has her catering business, Pierce says.

Pierce enjoys fishing and hunting for things with his metal detector. He also has an 11-year-old granddaughter, Kayla, with whom he does a lot of things. He still likes operating equipment like the grader and the backhoe and since a number of people know he's retiring soon, he doesn't expect to be idle for long.

But for now, he'll be off to Florida with his wife, two daughters and granddaughter on Easter weekend.

Allow S.E.R.G.E. to add offices

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Guelph/Eramosa council approved an amendment to its current site plan to allow S.E.R.G.E. Capital Investments to add office space to its industrial facility on the Seventh Line east of Rockwood.

The existing plant manufactures conveyor systems in a building slightly over 12,000 square feet in size. Plant owners want to add just over 1,180 square feet of office space.

Planning consultant Amanda Kutler of MacNaughton, Hermsen, Britton Clarkson Planning Limited told council the facility already has 54 parking spaces while the municipality's official plan only requires 17 spaces. It meets all the requirements of the official plan and of the various commenting agencies, but the townships lawyers suggested a new site plan agreement be drawn up for the development.

A number of recommendations were also proposed relating to storm water management and drainage on the site to ensure water does not drain onto neighbouring properties.

Coun. David McCrae also questioned whether the facility has a water storage pond for fire protection since it

does not have municipal services. Since no one could answer the question and there were no comments from the municipality's deputy fire chief, Kutler said she would look into it.

"I don't know whether that's necessary for an addition," McCrae said. "But when we expect that for all new industrial development, what's our policy with changes to existing industries?"



CHOW TIME: Joyce Alerie and daughter Lauren, 1, filled a plate during the Rockwood Lionesses' annual Pancake Breakfast Sunday at Rockmosa. - Maggie Petrushevsky photo



LOOKS GOOD: Bradley Kopdrad is all eyes as Rockwood Lion Woody Wooddeson fills plates for him and his mother Judy during the Rockwood Lionesses' annual Pancake Breakfast Sunday at Rockmosa. - Maggie Petrushevsky

Loitering laws clear, OPP will enforce them

During 2001, officers from Wellington OPP were inundated with calls regarding youths loitering and causing problems. There were numerous calls from people who were harassed by groups of youths as they walked along the sidewalks.

This year, officers intend to aggressively enforce the law when it comes to youths who violate these laws and intimidate others from their right to use public sidewalks. Parents also have a responsibility to monitor their children's behaviour and can be held responsible for their behaviour.

Section 79 of the Child and Family Services Act states:

Allowing child to loiter, etc.

(5) No parent of a child less than sixteen years of age shall permit the child to,

(a) loiter in a public place between the hours of midnight and 6am; or

(b) be in a place of public entertainment between the hours of midnight and 6am, unless the parent accompanies the child or authorizes a specified individual eighteen years of age or older to accompany the child.

Police may take child home or to place of safety.

22 awards for local music pupils

Students of the Bookbinder's Keyboard studio of Rockwood performed at the Kiwanis Music festival of Guelph 2002. They included Marc-Gabriel Barber, Eliesha and Delcinea McDonald, Constance, Aaron, Anastasia and Stefan Smelsky, Nicole and Megan Beatty, Beckie Den Engelsman, Michelle Savage, Cailey and Kassia Van Veen, Devon Jones, Robin Librach, Matt Burtney, Kelly Millson, Kasia Sitarz, Sarah Kasabosky.

Most of the students entered competitive classes, (some more than one class), others preferred non-competitive. One student Robin Librach entered with her own composition, "Happy Suns" and received very good adjudication. They played very well, and received all together 22 awards. (Topped the 17 awards received last year).

Every person who contravenes this section is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 or to a term not exceeding one year in jail or both.

For those youths who loiter in any area where signs are posted prohibiting that activity, officers will enforce the Trespass to property Act.

Section 2 of the Trespass to Property Act states:

(1) Every person who is not acting under a right or authority conferred by law and who,

(a) without the express permission of the occupier, the proof of which rests on the

defendant,

(i) enters on premises when entry is prohibited under this Act, or

(ii) engages in an activity on premises when the activity is prohibited under this Act; or

(a) does not leave the premises immediately after he or she is directed to do so by the occupier of the premises or a person authorized by the occupier, is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine of not more than \$2,000 RSO 1990, c. T.21, s. 2(1).

Everyone should be aware of these laws and how they might affect you.

POLICE BEAT

Domestic Assaults

On Saturday, March 2, at 12:12am, officers from the Wellington OPP responded to a report of a domestic assault at a residence on Highway 7 in Guelph-Eramosa Township.

The incident began when a couple, who lived common-law, started arguing over their daughter not calling home. The suspect retrieved a knife from the kitchen and stabbed the victim, a 48-year-old male in the right bicep as he was lying on the couch. He did not require medical attention. Alcohol was factor.

A 51-year-old female was arrested and charged with Assault. She was held in custody pending a bail hearing in Guelph Court on March 4, 2002 at 10:30am.

Speeder of the Week

On Saturday, March 2 at 3:45pm, Constable Guy Morin of Wellington OPP was on patrol when he observed a 2002 Jeep Cherokee travelling northbound at a high rate of speed on Wellington County Road 125 in Erin Township. The vehicle entered the radar beam and recorded a speed of 143 km/h in a posted 80 km/h zone.

A 24-year-old Milton woman is charged with Speeding. She is scheduled to appear in Guelph POA Court on April 11, 2002 to answer to the charge.

Eight Killed in Crashes

As if "7 Dead" wasn't a wake up call for motorists less than two weeks ago, the Western Region OPP is reporting eight dead on area highways this week.

Police are advising motorists that until they start to obey the rules of the road and adjust to road and weather conditions, the crashes will continue to happen.

The leading cause of all these collisions is "speed too fast for conditions." These collisions could be prevented if people had SIMPLY slowed down to an appropriate speed. Failure to wear seatbelts was also identified as a contributing factor.

A crash at 50 kilometres per hour is equivalent to falling from a third story building and impacting with the ground. Even with a seatbelt on and an airbag deployed,

IT'S STILL GOING TO HURT!

Officers stop 13,615 vehicles

Officers of Wellington OPP are working to reduce the number of Impaired Drivers on the road throughout the county. So far this year, officers have stopped 13,615 vehicles in RIDE checks.

There have been 446 motor vehicle collisions so far this year and 15 of these involved alcohol.

During the month of February, officers conducted 45 roadside screening device tests and arrested 14 drivers for Impaired Driving offences. Three of these drivers were caught in RIDE checks.