



READY TO FIGHT FIRES: Cailyn Murison tries her hand at controlling a powerful fire hose at the Guelph Eramosa Fire Department's open house on Saturday. Helping her is volunteer fire fighter Les Nelson. - Photo by Rebecca Ring



FUTURE FIRE FIGHTERS? Kristianne Kennedy, Sawyer Parsons, and Brayden Kennedy check out the inside of a fire truck at the Fire Prevention Week open house in Rockwood on Saturday. - Photo by Rebecca Ring

The Rockwood MILLER



Township needs new snowplow

A 1993 snowplow that was scheduled for replacement in 2008 needs replacing or repairing in 2006 because of accidental damage. Repair costs are estimated at \$23,455. Public Works Manager Ken Gagnon recommended that council consider replacing the vehicle with a 2005 model that was built as a demo. The demo is less expensive than a made-to-order vehicle and the wait time is far less. Gagnon asked that council reallocate funds in the public works budget to allow the purchase. He recommended that funds allocated for resurfacing Jones Baseline and Gazer/Mooney be used as those two projects have been postponed due to geotechnical investigation and reconstruction recommendations.

Council resolved that CAO Janice Shepherd intend to amend the 2005 capital budget and give notice of the intention at the next council meeting on October 17. Council cannot approve the purchase until the budget is amended.

Unfinished sidewalk

Ken Gagnon submitted a report to council regarding the unfinished sidewalk on Hwy 7 and Frederick St. Councillor Theresa Gibson Smye requested the report due to pedestrian safety concerns, particularly in the winter. The township and the Seaton Group were installing a sidewalk on Hwy 7 but stopped because of the location of two Bell poles and chamber. Bell agreed to install new poles and remove the old ones. This will allow the township to complete the sidewalk.

Report on Rockwood community halls

In response to a complaint from resident Barb Bonner, the Manager of Property and

Guelph/Eramosa Council Chips by Rebecca Ring

Leisure Services Brad Roelofson submitted a report to council outlining procedures for contacting staff, capacity for Rockmosa, equipment and kitchen stock availability, rental rates, revenue generation, and damage to floors due to table and chair movement.

Mayor Clint Martin suggested including the cost of set-up and tear-down in the rental price. Roelofson said he would look into it and added that there is a new protective product on the floor at Rockmosa which is proving to be very resilient. He has also instructed staff to construct two more chair dollies, as there is currently only one. He said that he appreciated Bonner's input as she has a lot of experience with the hall as a previous manager.

Leaf pick-up

Councillor Chris White made a motion to request a report from public works regarding leaf pick-up in Rockwood. The program here was cancelled and White wants to know what can be offered as a solution. He also expressed concern over lack of communication to residents that the program was discontinued. Councillor McCrae was concerned that if leaf pick-up is reinstated in Rockwood, other areas will need it, too. Mayor Martin said that the cost could be covered by the Rockwood Hydro fund, thereby paid for by Rockwood residents. Gagnon said that leaf pick-up would require 18 labour hours and two or three workers. Council resolved that Gagnon submit a report out-

lining costs and disposal solutions.

New parking lot?

White made a motion to make Station St. a municipal parking lot. Gibson Smye said she did not have enough information to make a decision so council resolved to request a report.

Skateboarding in township

White made a motion to request a risk management report regarding skateboarding safety in the township. Council requested a report on the issue from Property and Leisure Services.

Tree replacement

White made a motion for the township to develop a tree replacement policy. He said "The nice thing about living here is the trees, so we need a formal policy to protect them." According to Gagnon, 97 trees are slated for removal and 80 were planted last spring. Roelofson raised the issue of new tree survival, which depends heavily on the age of the tree at planting and weather conditions. Council resolved that public works prepare a report on the issue.

Fire Safety Week

'Blow out when you go out'

By Rebecca Ring
The Rockwood Miller

Rockwood Eramosa Fire Fighters' Association celebrated Fire Prevention Week with an open house at their fire hall last Saturday. Five volunteer firefighters, four OPP officers, and three ambulance workers were on hand to welcome the public and offer safety information.

Visitors were invited to check out the inside of an OPP cruiser, a fire truck and an ambulance. There were also fire hose

demonstrations where the public could try their hand at controlling the powerful hose. About 20 to 30 families attended the open house.

Fire Prevention Week is a North America wide program started by the National Fire Protection Association to raise awareness about fire safety. It began October 4-10, 1925 to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire which occurred October 8, 1871. This infamous fire killed 300 people, left 100,000 homeless and cost about

\$2 million in damage. A popular legend is that Mrs. O'Leary was milking a cow when it kicked over a lantern, setting the barn on fire, which spread throughout the city. It burned over 2,000 acres in 27 hours. This fact illustrates the slogan "big fires start small."

The theme this year is candle safety. In 2002, candles caused an estimated 18,000 structure fires, 130 civilian deaths, and \$333 million in property damage in the U.S. Rockwood Eramosa's fire prevention officer, Jay Petite, said to "make sure candles are on a fireproof surface, such as a plate or proper candle holder; keep them out of reach of children and pets; in power outages, use flashlights instead of candles; and blow out when you go out. Never leave a burning candle unattended."

Other safety tips included making an escape plan and practising monthly, as well as checking smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. For more information, visit www.nfpa.org.

Fewer people help with fall clean-up

Rockwood and District Lions Club held a community clean-up day on October 1. According to community organizer Kathi Rodd, there were fewer residents participating than for the spring clean-up. She added that the job was not as big as in spring however, which makes the case for on-going community participation in cleaning up and stopping litter. Unfortunately, there were not enough people to clean the entire village but all the highways were done. She said the clean-up went well but more help is needed next time.

Lion Darryl Nichol said

they had a good turnout. On behalf of the Lions, he thanks the soccer club, karate club, and other helpers for their hard work. He extended a special thank you to Kevin at the Whistle Stop for providing coffee, water and juice for the helpers. He hopes to see more people help out in the spring clean-up.

Annual Fall Open House and Farm Tour

ERAMOSA ELK COUNTRY STORE

Sunday, October 16, 10am-4pm
5633 5th Line Rockwood
519-856-0041

3km North of Hwy 124 at Brucedale
Follow the Yellow Signs

*A unique Country experience is closer than you think!
Come out and join us for a day in the country.
View our great selection of quality
Government Inspected Elk Meat.
This year help us support the Rockwood Fire Fighters
when you buy a BBQ's Burger or Sausage.*

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