

Tree canopy disappearing - planting heritage issue

By Rebecca Ring

In response to a motion made by Councillor Chris White last October, the manager of Public Works submitted a proposed policy to Guelph/Eramosa Council in February, regarding the replacement of trees taken down by the township. Council asked staff to submit it for review to the Guelph/Eramosa Tree Planting Group, Guelph Township Horticultural Society, and the Rockwood Garden Club.

Staff met with their representatives in April and recorded their comments. Suggestions included replacing roadside trees, developing a long range plan for planting trees on rural

roads by reviewing road design standards, a vision for stewardship of trees for the improvement of the natural environment (such as offsetting climate change), three-to-one replacement ratio for mature trees, specifying size and caliper of replacement trees with a preference for larger trees, and increased budget for tree replacement.

Ken Gagnon, manager of public works, responded that roadside planting raised safety and snow removal concerns, stewardship and long-range plans for planting on rural roads should be part of the municipality's road design standards and not part of the tree

policy; and also that the three-to-one ratio, increasing the budget and caliper of replacement trees be considered annually as part of the operating budget and not part of the policy. Staff also recommended that anyone wishing to volunteer in tree replacement and maintenance should approach staff prior to the annual budget process in September.

Mike Nagy of GET Planting spoke at last council meeting to ask for more public input before the policy is put to a vote. He said the township needs to take a leadership role in the greening of the community, adding that as Guelph/Eramosa grows, the tree canopy

is disappearing. He and White expressed concerns over the legacy the community will leave its descendants. He pointed out the historical aspect and stressed the heritage value in protecting mature trees.

Voting on the policy was deferred until more thorough public consultation and round table meetings can be conducted. Nagy added, "This is a legacy issue and everyone should have a chance to say what the township should look like in 50 years." He thanked the township for its continuing support for GET Planting, by providing mulch and accepting charitable donations on their behalf.

The Rockwood MILLER



Council looks at economic development strategy

By Rebecca Ring

The Economic Development Committee submitted a draft strategic plan to Guelph/Eramosa Council last meeting, which included a preliminary 2007 budget.

Key objectives included sustaining and expanding all business sectors, promoting partnerships, minimizing

municipal barriers and supporting new businesses, identifying "soft" and "hard" infrastructure deficiencies and communicating to the responsible authority for action.

The total preliminary budget is \$16,000, with \$6000 for promotion and advertising, \$1000 for com-

mittee travel and training, \$5000 for staff time, \$500 for supplies, \$1000 for staff training, and \$2500 for outside resources.

Councillor Gibson Smye disputed the budget, saying there was not enough allocated for training; "A conference usually costs \$500 for registration only."

The committee is comprised of volunteers and two council members, which will be reduced to one. Parameters such as length of term for the committee need to be established, as municipal terms are now four years and the committee's is three.

Council deferred acceptance of the plan for further discussion.

**More
Rockwood
on Page 19**

Great weekend for Rockets

The Rockwood Rockets, sponsored by Rocking Horse Early Learning Centre, had an unbelievable soccer weekend on September 8 - 10.

At Acton's Soccer Tournament, Rockwood won a very close final game against Acton's Alcot Plastics 1-0. Kari Rimmer, co-coach of Rockwood 1 commented that one of the highlights of the tournament was seeing the social interaction between each of the four Acton teams and the two Rockwood teams.

"All season we only see the competitive side of these players. It was great to see them meeting each other on a more friendly and personal level."

On Sunday, Rockwood played their Rockwood counterparts in the league championship game. All season these town rivals have played their hearts out and kept all games very close. Ultimately, Rockwood 1 won the championship game 2-0.

David Rimmer, co-coach

of Rockwood 1 commented that the level of play in this league is terrific. "The players, parents and coaches in this league have brought the game to a new level this year with not only skills improvement but through support and sportsmanship."

CAPSULE Comments



*We all know the benefits of routine immunization for our children. There has been some interest in the past about the use of thimerosal as a preservative in vaccines due to mercury content. Out of interest all routine childhood vaccines in use in Canada are thimerosal-free except for the hepatitis B vaccine.

*Thimerosal contains ethyl mercury not methyl mercury which is the type of mercury that has a history of toxicity. The world health organization has found no link between thimerosal and behavioral disorders in children.

*Speaking of immunization, this is the time of year we start reminding the public of the importance of getting a flu shot. It doesn't cause the flu and the more people that are immunized the better chance we have of keeping flu in check. By the way, most flu vaccines are thimerosal-free.

*Simply gargling with water can help prevent colds. There was a study done in England last year that showed gargling reduced the risk of upper respiratory infections significantly. Do it for one minute three times daily. It sure can't hurt.

*As health professionals, Mary and Maija are always working hard to improve their knowledge to keep current on the latest in medicine and pharmacy. Pharmacy is a profession of life long learning. It's a very important part of our service to you.

ROCKWOOD PHARMACY
178 Alma Street, Rockwood ON (519)856-9486



GRAND OPENING CEREMONY: The Wellington County O.P.P. Headquarters officially opened in Rockwood on September 8. The Rockwood Centennial Public School Choir began the ceremony with *O Canada*. *Rebecca Ring Photo*



TOWNSHIP OF GUELPH/ERAMOSIA INDIAN TRAIL BRIDGE CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

INITIAL NOTICE

PUBLIC COMMENT INVITED

The Township of Guelph/Eramosa hereby notifies all interested individuals and parties that the Township is considering improvements to the site of Indian Trail Bridge located on Indian Trail over the Eramosa River north of the community of Eden Mills.

The existing single span 14 metre span earth filled concrete arch bridge was constructed around 1913 and has been identified as being deficient with respect to physical condition, structure width and barrier protection.

This project is initially being conducted as a Schedule B activity in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Class Environment Assessment document (June 2000).

The public is encouraged to contact the Township or its consultants, R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited if you have any questions about this project.

Once alternative solutions are developed, further notices will be published and information made available.

For further information concerning this project or to inspect a copy of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment document, please contact:

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