



HOME OF THE NEW FAMILY HEALTH TEAM? EWAG is in the process of establishing an interdisciplinary Family Health Team, which will most likely be based at the Eramosa-Rockwood Medical Centre and the Erin Medical Clinic, both of which would be renovated. - Rebecca Ring Photo

The ROCKWOOD Miller

Council supports Health Team

By Rebecca Ring

In a special meeting last week, Guelph/Eramosa Council resolved to support EWAG's (East Wellington Advisory Group) concept for a Family Health Team (FHT) in Rockwood and Erin, serving the surrounding areas. They agreed to endorse a letter of support to Ontario's Ministry of Health.

EWAG's Executive Director, Ken Dardano, says plans are moving forward in phases. The interdisciplinary FHT will consist of physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, social workers, dietitians and support staff. The program is in its set up phase. EWAG

submitted a business plan to the Ministry of Health, and will submit an interim plan next week. They are now ready to start hiring for set-up positions, such as a business leader who will help implement the FHT.

Draft persons have completed drawings for two facilities: Rockwood's medical centre and Erin's medical clinic. The feasibility of these locations and extent of necessary renovations are being studied. The current physicians in these municipalities support the project.

New physician

Dardano says a new physician is considering joining the

team. He will tour Rockwood in February and may begin with Dr. Jane Hosdil's practice to "get a feel for the area, colleagues, operations and rural issues." East Wellington is under-served with only four physicians for 23,000 residents, well under the 13 recommended by the Ontario Medical Association. The Family Health Team will have four full-time physicians and one part time.

In addition, nurse practitioners will provide primary care and travel to surrounding communities. Dardano says this will help seniors stay in their communities rather than being forced to move to cities to access medical care. He describes the team approach as holistic, providing mental, social, medical, physical and dietary support.

Barring unforeseen problems, Erin and Rockwood are the primary sites chosen for the teams. Dardano hopes they will be fully operational by September 2007; "This

Open house to view school boundary proposal

The Upper Grand District School Board is currently reviewing the school boundaries for Guelph/Eramosa residents.

Rockwood Centennial is overcrowded and the population is expected to grow, while Eramosa Public School is expecting a reduction in enrolment. To address this, a Boundary Review Committee was formed to provide options for dealing with projected enrolment for the two schools for the next ten years.

They posted their first report on www.ugdsb.on.ca. It lists seven options, which include moving students from Rockwood and Eramosa to Centre Wellington and Guelph. They invite comments and questions from the public.

A public information session and open house will be

held at Rockwood Centennial Public School on Wednesday, January 24. It is a drop-in session at the school library from 4 to 6 PM and 7 to 9 PM.

30 ONLY PRESSURE WASHERS

Refubed 2000 PSI

20 - no wheels - \$169.00

10 - with wheels - \$179.00

90 day warranty from date of sale

JIM'S REPAIR SHOP

105 Alma St. Rockwood

Tel: 519-856-2564 Fax: 519-856-9657

1-888-537-7953

Local Crime Stoppers assisted police in making 37 arrests

By Rebecca Ring

January 2007 is Crime Stoppers International (CSI) month. Crime Stoppers is the "World's local crime fighting line," operating in over 20 countries. Anyone who witnessed a crime or has any information on a crime that has been or will be committed can call 1-800-TIPS (8477). The caller is guaranteed anonymity and is rewarded for information leading to an arrest. It is a non-profit program run by citizens of the community with a volunteer Board of Directors.

Last year, its 30th anniversary, was a great success for the tip line. In Wellington County alone, including Guelph, Crime Stoppers (CS) received 935 calls from the public and helped the OPP and Guelph Police lay 103 charges, make 37 arrests, recover \$79,800 worth of stolen property, seize over \$6,318,880 in illegal drugs. Callers were rewarded a total of \$8175, which means \$782 was recovered in property or drugs for every dollar paid out.

depends on the Ministry of Health for resources to establish the facilities and staff." An important phase will be accepting patients to a roster. The MOH requires a certain number of registered patients for final approval and funding.

Program Coordinator Jennifer Smith states, "Our program feels that this is quite an impressive bang for the buck! These figures show how the program is very cost effective and how a lot can be achieved when the community pulls together."

Internationally, they helped clear over one million cases, make over 600,000 arrests, recover over \$1.5 billion U.S. in stolen property, and seized over \$6 billion U.S. in drugs. CSI president Gary Murphy says the message of the month is for citizens to be extra vigilant, keep their eyes open and look out for suspicious characters, adding "never try to get involved with an offender or alleged offender, that is what the Law Enforcement officers are for." He adds, "in an ideal world we would want people to know their local Crime Stoppers number: 1-800-222-TIPS (8477)."

Peter Price, Director of Public Relations for CSI, says "just like you don't know when a crime is about to be committed, you just never know when that information you may have stored in the back of your head will provide the key link to solving a crime. Crime Stoppers provides an anonymous way to pass along your information."

OPP Commissioner Julian Fantino and Premier Dalton McGuinty wrote letters

of support, acknowledging January as Crime Stoppers month. Both congratulated Crime Stoppers on their success and Fantino mentioned activities such as the Ontario Association of Crime Stoppers "forming coalitions with several investigative agencies, including the OPP, Child Pornography Section, the Provincial Weapons Enforcement Unit and First Nations policing partners in northern and remote areas of the Province. In addition, Crime Stoppers International (CSI) is to be commended for recently embarking on the formation of a significant partnership with the United Nations in combating terrorist activities."

Smith says that volunteers and funds are always needed. CS receives no government funding. Funds are raised through events and donations. The next event is "Bowl over Crime" at Fergus Bowling Lanes on January 28, from 11AM to 3PM. Call 519-846-5371 or 519-843-3714 to reserve a lane for an hour of fun for teams of up to six players. All are welcome. There is no minimum pledge but "all funds are greatly needed and appreciated."

Other events include a golf tournament in June, a Jail and Bail, and Halloween Ball. Visit www.crimestoppers-wellington.com for information.



Rockwood/Eramosa School Boundary Review

A Public Information Session and Open House

This is a drop-in session to share information and answer questions on the various scenarios being considered for changes to the boundaries of Eramosa and Rockwood Centennial Public Schools

Please join us on

Wednesday January 24

from 4:00-6:00 p.m. and 7:00-9:00 pm

in the Library at

Rockwood Centennial Public School
Pasmore Street South, Rockwood

UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD