### MEWCS NEWS

#### **Seniors Program:**

For more information on all EWCS Seniors programs and services, please contact Sherri Plourde at 519-833-0087.

Day trip to Casa Loma -Tues. April 21. \$35 per person. (buy your own lunch).

Free computer help for seniors in Erin/Hillsburgh offered by THE SNERDS (Senior Nerds) volunteers.

Line dancing Fri. 10am-12pm, Centre 2000, EWCS Seniors room.

Bridge -Fri. 1-4pm, Centre 2000, Centre 2000, EWCS Seniors room.

#### **Volunteers Needed:**

For all information on volunteering, call Kelly Stockdale at 519-833-9696 ext 222

Meals on Wheels volunteers in Erin/Hillsburgh needed to deliver hot meals and assist in the kitchen. Call VON at 1-800-506-6353.

Volunteer with truck urgently needed to help with various tasks.

Drivers needed in Rockwood – to drive residents to medical appointments. Mileage paid.

Volunteer Bus Assistant – to help Seniors attending the day program.

Free children's programs:

Free children's programs a satellite of the Ontario Early Years program, we offer lots of stimulating programs for newborns to pre-schoolers and their parents including Panda's Place, Toddler Power Hour, My Baby & Me, Tot Time, Time Together, Kids Korner and more. Call Marlene MacNevin at 519-833-9696 ext 223 or visit www.eastwellingtoncommunityservices.com

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## Come join is for the best breakfast deal in town!

Rockwood & District Lions Club's



30th Annual



### PANCAKE BREAKFAST Sunday, April 19/09 9am-1pm

At Rockmosa Community Centre Rockwood, Ontario

Adults - \$7
Children 12 & under -\$3
Preschoolers - Free
Tickets available
at the door

Breakfast Includes: Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Fruit cocktail, Orange Juice, Coffee,

Tea or Hot chocolate
& ALL YOU CAN EAT
PANCAKES



### ON at

to weather the global economic downturn better than most other countries, we are not immune to its effects. That's why our government introduced an Economic Action Plan to help us out of this downturn and to assist those

citizens who have been

negatively affected

While Canada continues

Our Economic Action Plan is making unprecedented investments to protect vulnerable Canadians and to help them get the support they need, when they need it. These investments are designed to create jobs, help workers affected by the global economic downturn and create better opportunities for Canadian workers through skills training.

Some people have been recently affected by job losses, so I'd like to highlight some of the recent improvements we've made to Employment Insurance (EI) benefits.

We're extending EI benefits by increasing the maximum duration of these benefits by five weeks, raising it from 45 to 50 weeks.

We're enhancing amounts to the province for skills training programs, to increase the number of people eligible for skills training programs, whether or not those people qualify for EI benefits.

We've introduced an enhanced work-sharing program, to help Canadians stay in their jobs and help companies avoid layoffs. This pro-



Michael Chong from Parliament Hill

gram helps employees keep their jobs by supplementing their wages with EI benefits for those days that they are not working. Under this program, the employer shortens the work week by one to three days and pays reduced wages accordingly. For the days or shifts not worked, the employee will collect EI benefits to

offset their reduction in pay.

Improvements to Employment Insurance

The employee must be permanent "core staff" and be eligible to receive regular EI benefits. The employer must have been in Canada for at least two years and show that there has been a decrease in sales/orders of at least 10%. These work-sharing agreements have a minimum duration of six weeks and a maximum duration of 52 weeks. This program will help Canadian businesses weather this temporary downturn.

We've also improved the Wage Earner Protection Program. This program reimburses eligible workers for unpaid wages, vacation pay, severance pay and termination pay they are owed when their employer declares bankruptcy or becomes subject to a receivership. This program will pay up to four weeks of EI benefits.

In addition, our government announced over \$60M in additional funding to speed up the processing of EI claims. The funding will help us more rapidly process applications by hiring hundreds of new staff, by increasing automation, by temporarily recalling recently retired civil servants and by extending the hours of operations of our call centres.

We've made all these changes to Employment Insurance to help Canadians and their families better weather this global economic slowdown.

If you wish to find out more about these enhancements to Employment Insurance, please contact me at chongm@parl.gc.ca or at (866) 878 5556.



READ-A-THON CHAMPS: Rockwood Centennial School's 2009 Read-a-thon was a huge success, doubling the funds raised last year to \$9359. Ms. Benstead's grade one class raised the most money at \$665. Top individual earners were Cooper Gidge and Scoti Brown. Funds will go to erect a sign board in front of the school and to purchase technological equipment for the classrooms. - *Submitted Photo* 

# NEW CHILD CARE OPENING IN ROCKWOOD

# Pre-registration now accepted for Upper Ridge Child Care Opening June 1st, 2009.

At the Upper Ridge Child Care, we offer a loving, structured Early Childhood program for children ages 1 - 5. Our goal is



to provide a high quality child care program by creating a safe, healthy, and nurturing environment that promotes the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development of your child and responds to the needs of your family.

To pre-register or for more information contact:
Andrea at 519-856-1668 or
Kelly at 905-593-2321

## Corrections

There were some factual errors in last week's article entitled "The fluoride story for the layperson"

The cutlines under George Elliot's photos in the lab should have read'

All fluoride work was done in the mid 50's at the Department of Food Chemistry, University of Toronto, the fluoride in nutrition.

Correct Sentence: 'Fortunately, fluorine is not found free in nature.' Fluorine gas is very reactive with almost anything, seizing an electron to become fluoride which can be free in nature. The gas can only be produced under carefully controlled conditions in a laboratory.

The DMF value in fluoridated and non-fluoridated communities was 1.5 in 2005. This number was unfortunately left out of the article.

