

Heritage of Eden Mills celebrated

In 2010, Eden Mills village, situated in the river valley of the Eramosa, looks much like it did 100 years ago. Before then, with its cedar wetlands, it was the favoured hunting and fishing grounds of the Neutral Indians or Attiwandaronk, "people of the deer".

Founded by the Kribs brothers in 1842, "Kribs Mills", was renamed Eden Mills in 1846 by the new mill owner, Adam Argo. Argo renamed the village, as to him the location seemed to be as beautiful as the Garden of Eden. In the early 30's, Eden Mills was a favourite cottage vacation destination, with a stop on the electric radial train line that ran from Guelph to Toronto. Life in Eden in the 50's was idyllic and community-oriented. In winter, kids spent their spare time skating on the pond and tobogganing down "killer" hill, and in summer, swimming in the mill pond. Social life revolved around the two churches, the village hall and the softball diamond.

On Sunday February 7 the Eden Mills and District Community Club will celebrate the unique history of the village, hosting Eden Mills History Day at the village hall.

Club president, Chris Wilson is enthusiastic about the day, and notes that it is important to create a time and place to share our collective stories and to make history fun and interesting for all ages.

Valentines dinner and dance

Want to romance your sweetie for Valentine's Day? Tickets are still available for the Mayors' Valentine dinner and dance being hosted by East Wellington Community Services (EWCS) and the Erin and District Lions Club.

The mayors in question

are Chris White of Guelph/Eramosa and Mayor Finnie of Erin. The event features a catered dinner, dancing, live and silent auctions, a 50/50 draw and a cash bar. Money raised will help fund EWCS programs and services.

For ticket information call 519-833-9696.

Valentine Tea

Members of the Nasai-

History Day Coordinator, Barb Marshall learned to love history through her grandfather, Norm Marshall, who owned and operated Marshall's General Store and the Post Office in Eden Mills for over forty years (1925 - 1967). "Grandpa instilled in me and my three brothers, a passion for the history of the area and our pioneer roots," Marshall said. The Marshalls are descendants of the first pioneers who settled in Nassagaweya Township. Barb's brother Michael, is one of a few who were born in and lived their entire life in the village. Mike, 56, recalls life in his grandfather's store, "People would come from all over to purchase grandpa's famous old cheddar cheese and thick slab bacon, which was wrapped in brown paper cut from a big roll, and tied with a string." Along with Mike, Wilda MacDougall and Mel (Squeak) Tolton are two other villagers who have spent their whole lives in the village.

Special to the event this year, Allison Montgomery will be on hand with her new children's book, *The Adventures of Eden Mills*, co-authored with her mother Patricia Sanders, who lived in Eden Mills as a child in 1948.

Dr. Barb Kingscote, retired veterinarian and author of *Ride the Rising Wind* who along with her husband, Dr. A. Kingscote, founded Spirit Valley Farm, Eden Mills

in the 1960s, will be in attendance. Dr. Kingscote also started the 1st Spirit Valley Girl Guide District.

Enthusiastic young historian Eric Brown, 20, who is helping coordinate the event, moved to Eden Mills when he was four weeks old. "I love looking at the old pictures and imagining what it used to be like, not so long ago, when there were two general stores, a blacksmith shop, a taxidermist and a saw mill," Brown said.

For Eden Mills History Day, over twenty families and groups, including historical societies and churches have reserved tables to display their historical items and photos. Displays from the Township of Guelph Eramosa's Heritage Committee will also be there.

Tea, coffee, juice and homemade baked goods will be offered for sale, to enjoy while you swap stories and soak up the history.

Come out and learn about the unique history of the village and its families, and visit.

The Eden Mills History Day run from Sunday February 7, 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. at Eden Mills Hall, York Street.

The \$2 Admission will benefit Eden Mills Community programs.

To reserve a table to show your historical pictures or objects/family genealogy/pictures call Barb 519-856-4463.

Around ROCKWOOD



weya Historical Society will serve high tea at Victorian Valentine Teas on February 13 & 14 at the former Nassagaweya schoolhouse on the Fifth Line at 15 Side Road.

Reservations are recom-

mended for two seatings scheduled at 1 and 3 p.m. on February 13, and 1 p.m. on February 14. For information call 905-854-4827.

Stamp your passport

Rockwood merchants have come up with a unique

plan to help persuade Rockwood residents to shop locally. They've created a passport that will be mailed to all village residents containing information about local businesses.

All of the businesses are profiled in the passport that contains a question that can be answered by visiting the business or checking out its website.

People can answer the questions and submit them to the Village Sweet Shop to be entered in a draw for prizes. Ballots must be in before March 16 and are available at 12 Rockwood businesses.

The draw will be made on March 17, and the first 12 correctly completed passports will earn prizes.

Distracted driver rules now in effect

Distracted drivers are a safety risk to themselves as well as all other users of our roadways. It is illegal in Ontario for drivers to use any electronic devices that can cause driver distraction (not exclusive to cell phones) since the legislation came into effect on October 26, 2009. This includes typical texting devices, iPhones, iPods as well as cell phones.

The OPP's initial focus was on the education for the first three months of this legislation, but as of Monday, officers ramped up enforcement of this legislation in an effort to curb message texting, and hand held cell phone and other electronic usage while driving.

The Countering Distracted Driving and Promoting Green Transportation Act prohibits

the use of devices with display screens and hand-held communication and entertainment devices except when these devices are used in a manner prescribed by the legislation.

Devices exempt from being prohibited for use by drivers under the proposed legislation include:

- display screens of GPS navigation devices;
- hand held communication and similar devices as long as they are used as prescribed by legislation (hands free sets);
- commercially-used logistical transportation tracking systems;
- collision avoidance systems; and
- instruments gauges and systems providing information regarding the status of systems of the vehicle.

Drivers may place emergency calls to the police, fire department and emergency medical services. If possible, drivers should pull off the road before making an emergency call.

As of Monday, Wellington OPP officers started to issue tickets to drivers found in violation of this legislation. The typical fines issued will be \$155 for these infractions.

Wellington OPP is committed to promoting and enhancing the road safety of all users of our roadways. Police want to remind drivers that driving in winter weather is tricky enough at times. If you need to use a cell phone or electronic device, be smart and pull off the road and park it before making that call.

Rockwood Naturopathic Clinic

presents

FAMILY DAY WEEKEND WINTER DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT

Have a family fun day while raising money for two organizations in need, ALS Society and Parkinson's.

Registration forms will be available on the clinic's website at:

www.rockwoodnd.com

FUN, FOOD, PRIZES, and EXERCISE!

What could be better than the satisfaction of knowing you are helping out those in need in our very own community.

DATE: Sunday, February 14th, 2010

TIME: 11am - 2pm

PLACE: Rockwood Naturopathic Clinic
4200 25th Side Road

See www.rockwoodnd.com for directions

PHONE: 519-853-2443



TED ARNOTT, MPP
WELLINGTON-HALTON HILLS

Working for All of Us

Website: www.tedarnottmpp.com • Phone: 1-800-265-2366



The
ALS Society of Canada



Parkinson Society Canada
Soci t  Parkinson Canada