



Happy Birthday
to Former Mayor,
Hazel McCallion
who celebrated her
100th Birthday
on Feb.14, 2021!



DANGER BY THE CREEK

The City has confirmed that signage will be posted at entrances to the unattended paths along the Creek Trail, warning of the danger! Details to follow upon receipt of more information.

VACCINE PLAN For SENIORS

RHA will be posting important information and updates on how to get your appointment for the vaccine.

See Page 5 for details.

Proud Supporter
of the



Canadian Cancer Society
Société canadienne du cancer

Rockwood Says "NO!"

The City has proposed changes that will have significant impact on our community. A postcard from the City was sent to every home in Rockwood, with an invitation to view the proposal on line. Not surprisingly, many residents filed it immediately in the blue bin. As the site would not open for three weeks, many others simply forgot.

Somehow, when the plan was posted, it was shocking to some residents that Rockwood would soon become the poster child for "Active Mississauga." While bike lanes had been discussed, it became clear that the "Cycling Master Plan" was the real project and not paving roads, fixing curbs and redesigning Rathburn Rd. east of Ponytrail as anticipated by residents.

Once the plan was posted, the RHA sent an eblast to their subscribers to inform



them of the plan and gather feedback to respond to the City on behalf of the community. The data along with a report was sent to Councillor Fonseca and Rory O'Sullivan. The response from both was crickets

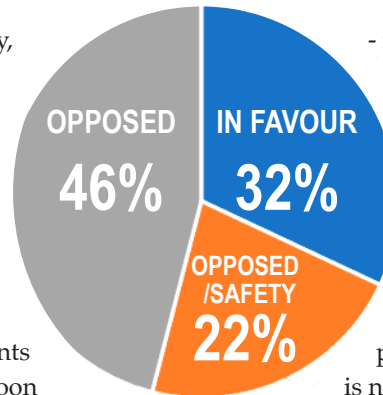
- nothing! Not even the politically correct response that it had been received and they would "get back to us."

The probable reason that nobody responded is that, like the Bough Beeches Speed Bump proposal, the community is not in favor of the plan.

Only 32% favoured the plan and 22% opposed the plan because of safety concerns.

Currently, Rockwood Village has two cycling trails: Shaver and Mitoff on either side of Ponytrail. Both of these are within the community and provide a safe place for families to ride or walk. An additional trail will be completed this spring along

continued on pg 2



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Richard Schwarz • Director

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Community Engagement

While Covid has wreaked havoc on everyone for the last year, there is one positive note. It is much easier to get the community engaged via Zoom than to ask people to show up at a meeting room in a community centre or ice rink.

The RHA has used this format twice, both very successfully. Moving forward, we will probably never ask our residents to attend a meeting anywhere but on Zoom. We strongly believe that in the future, we will request that any community engagement with Rockwood Village also be done by video conferencing as well.

In the past, the City has held meetings on a variety of topics that are now coming back to bite us. For example, how many people attended, or even recall a meeting, on the Rathburn/Ponytrail proposal, the Cycling Master Plan or the Burnhamthorpe Community Centre? These are all on the table right now and the City is moving forward

on plans that were possibly shown to and/or received feedback from a dozen residents.

As our E-mail subscriptions increase, we are able to reach out to more residents to inform them of important issues that affect our community. Using email surveys, we can give the City actionable feedback that actually has some teeth. We will request that Councillor Fonseca have her city staff present any future proposals via video conferencing, to ensure that a reliable sample of the neighbourhood can attend.

To make this work, we need you to subscribe to receive emails that contain important community information, invitations to meetings, and to provide feedback through on-line polling. Providing your email will keep you in touch between newsletters. **RW**

Join us now at

www.rockwoodvillage.ca/join-us.html

CoyWolves in Rockwood

***This is NOT a German Shepherd.
Please be aware, keep pets on a leash
and report any sightings.***



continued from pg 1

the Hydro Corridor from Audubon to Dundas and will intersect with the Shaver Trail. The City plan proposes additional cycle lanes along busy roads. It does nothing to offer cyclists safe passage across Ponytrail from one trail to the other.

The bottom line is that of those residents who cycle regularly, the majority do so in the safety of the current trails. Trail #11, along the "Hydro Corridor", would be the logical route for cyclists who want a longer path.

The City stated that following review of the feedback, they would make adjustments and report back to the residents with more public engagement. **RW**

If you wish to be part of that engagement, sign up for our E-blasts to receive your invitation to join events and get updates:
www.rockwoodvillage.ca/join-us.html

For more information on the results of the survey and the report sent to the City, visit our website:
www.rockwoodvillage.ca

Bringing Joy to Neighbourhood Kids

We finally had some cold enough Canadian Weather. For the last two weeks or so, a resident near the Garnetwood community has been scraping, shovelling and flooding the ice pad at Garnetwood Park. I have taken advantage in recent days, with plenty of appreciation. When I walk by on my daily walks with my dog, it's a joy to see the local kids and families having fun, along with the exercise they are getting.

I have met and chatted with this gentleman a few times when he is out working or surveying what can be done to make it better. I think that anyone who goes out of his way to do something for the community, as he has, should be recognized in some way, even if it is in a small way.

Just thought I would pass this along, because it's a great thing that's going on ...

Andre Wozniak

Thanks for your letter Andre
Taking care of an ice rink is a big deal. Many hours of work are required to get a base and then maintain it. Then Mother Nature decides to send warm weather and melt all that hard work. So, it's back to the beginning and the process starts again.

Grant Dunbar has been taking on the Garnetwood rink, which he describes as "an act of love" for many, many years. This year, we have another labor of love happening at Beechwood Park, courtesy of the Tabakians.

In recognition of their service to the community, and to express our thanks for



spreading some sunshine in tough times, the RHA will be sending these neighbourhood heroes a gift certificate from another type of local "watering" hole. RHA Board

GTAA - Night Flight Sham

After studying night flights for a year, the GTAA has proposed new recommendations for preferential runways. The preferential runways will be used under normal conditions during the overnight hours. The results of the study and the proposed take off and landing runways are posted on our website.

The problem is that the study was done over the past year! While this study may or may not be good for us, the point is that the study is irrelevant. Flight numbers are down drastically. Any comparison to a "normal" year is simply an exercise in fun with figures. The results indicate that the North/South runway will only be used as it is currently, which is when the wind is out of the north.

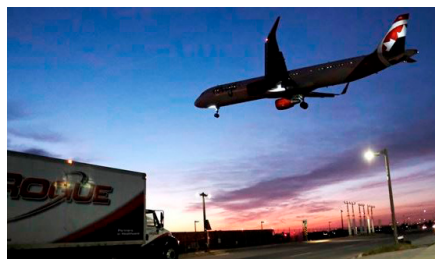
This message was sent to our subscribers with an opportunity for them to read the report and comment.

The RHA has responded as follows: "It seems rather apparent that this study is irrelevant. Air traffic is only a fraction of normal activity as this study was completed during a pandemic and nobody was flying. Our neighbourhood (Rockwood

Village) is just south of the airport and under the N/S runway. We have had a peaceful year, but you will need to test your hypothesis when air traffic is normal.

One of our residents sent this noteworthy comment, "It, (the GTAA) never simply lies when it's also possible to insult the public's intelligence: about two decades ago, the GTAA invited members of the press to observe first-hand how rapidly runways could be cleared of snow. Then, later the same day, it operated its newest N/S runway for hours, while claiming it had no choice due to the time involved in clearing snow from the alternative runways." **However, the issue is not the noise. The issue is safety.**

Another resident provided a thought-provoking account of what else is happening overnight at the airport. During the evening hours, aircraft are serviced. To ensure the fitness of aircraft, engine "run ups" are completed. To certify the fitness of aircraft, they are parked and then the engines are run up to high rotation for long enough to satisfy the service



requirement. This servicing is done in the evening hours between 7 p.m. and 6 a.m. Servicing is done on a runway that is not in service.

The runway generally used is 06R-24L which is parallel to Hwy 401 and is the closest in proximity to Rockwood Village. As a result, and most importantly, the volume of Hydro Carbons entering the atmosphere in our "shared local environment" and the burning of unspecified amounts of jet fuel are certainly exposing every person living in our community to a high level of these toxic compounds. The quality of air should be the concern, not the noise. **RW**

The RHA is still looking for a resident "watchdog" for the GTAA, in hopes of keeping them honest.

Education Madness

The 2019/2020 school year was filled with educational uncertainty for students, parents, and educators, due to the lingering teacher strikes and pandemic distance learning. With the pandemic continuing into this 20/21 school year, things haven't improved.

If the education world thought it had seen its fair share of changes, it was in for a real surprise when the Minister of Education called for an overhaul of the province's elementary math curriculum.

With parents and teachers scratching their heads on why this decision was happening during a pandemic, starting in September 2020, the Minister of Education promised the revolutionizing of mathematics in order for students to be prepared for "work in a rapidly changing world." When you combine all of

these changes with an even bigger question of whether to send your child into a somewhat socially distant school setting, or to redesign part of your home to accommodate for a technological classroom, stress levels for parents are off the charts.

As an educator, one of the best ways to deflate some of the anxieties within education is to build confidence in students. An excellent strategy to develop this is by infusing educational concepts into family interactions. In other words, try to make learning fun at home!

While learning complex math concepts can be stressful, learning essential mental math may also present a challenge. Developing one's mental math skills can be as much fun as tossing a pair of dice on a table,



and racing for an answer. Roll a pair of dice and see how fast you can

add them, subtract them, multiply them, or even treat them as exponents! Shake it up by using different coloured dice, use two or three for higher level thinkers, and remember to keep score if your child enjoys the competition. This game can be designed to meet the needs of all levels of learners, both young and old alike.

Whether your family is working from home, or heading into the school or office, positivity is one of the most effective tools in education. Try to celebrate even the smallest educational gains your child makes; students are always looking to us adults for confirmation that we are all in this together. **RW** David Ferrari

On behalf of the Peel District School Board, I wish you and your families good health in these difficult times. Stay Home. Stay Safe.

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Welsh Cakes from

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Millions of these simple and delicious 'cookies' will be consumed in Wales on March 1st which is Saint David's Day - the Welsh national holiday, equivalent to the Irish St. Patrick's Day.

1 cup (225 g) of all purpose flour.

1 teaspoon of baking powder.

½ cup (110g) of butter.

¼ cup (75g) raisins.

1/4 cup (75g) sugar.

1 large egg.

A little milk if required. Honey optional



- Combine the flour and baking powder, and fold in the butter. When the mixture looks like oatmeal add the sugar and raisins. •Beat the egg and add to the mixture. Use your hands to make a dough, add milk if it's too dry.
- On a floured surface roll out the dough to about ¼" thick. •Cut into 2 ½" rounds with a cookie cutter.
- Heat your griddle or frying pan over a medium heat and cook the cakes for 2 to 3 minutes on each side until they are cooked through and golden brown.
- Serve them immediately with butter or honey.

Enjoy!



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Peel Planning for Vaccines



Plans are underway for mass distribution of Covid-19 vaccines once they become more readily available. According to Region of Peel Health, this process should be rolling out around the middle of March. The plan is to distribute vaccines "safely, widely, and quickly to as many residents as possible."

The RHA has committed to supporting our local "senior residents" by providing public health notices on our website and E-blasts to keep residents informed of when and where they can get their vaccines and how to get an appointment. We will be posting regular bulletins as we receive information from Peel Health. Please pass this information along to your neighbours, families and friends. Better still, tell them to sign up to receive our E-mails.

Phase One, which includes: long-term care home staff and residents, hospital workers, essential caregivers and other employees of congregate living settings that provide care for seniors, is underway. We are expecting that those over 80 will be eligible to receive their vaccine in early March. However, they will need to know the how, when and where to receive it. RHA will be providing that information to its residents.

As larger quantities of vaccine are received, they will initially be distributed to community clinics across Peel. Priority will be given to those people most at risk. The plan is to immunize as many as 1,000 per day by using large facilities such as community centres. The closest clinic is currently Paramount Fine Foods Centre, 5500 Rose Cherry Place, Mississauga.

Late in March and into April, as the shipments start to increase substantially, additional centres and venues will open. These will possibly include drive-in or drive-through locations, pharmacies, and primary care offices. During this phase of the rollout, 8.5 million doses will be shipped to the province for those over 80, front line workers, teachers, as well as those with chronic illness and their caregivers. **RW**

It will be important for everyone who wants a vaccine to keep informed of when and where they can get the vaccine. Keep up to date with the plan by going to: local news or www.peelregion.ca/vaccines. The RHA will also send out E-blasts to its subscribers, as more information is made available. To receive our E-blasts, go to: www.rockwoodvillage.ca/join-us.html to sign up or visit www.rockwoodvillage.ca

Community Safety Virtual Meeting



Chris Fonseca Ward 3 Councillor



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Bough Beeches Bumps *Bumped*

At our AGM last October, the City rolled out their proposal for traffic calming on Bough Beeches. The discussion was heated. With other important items sharing the agenda, it was agreed that the topic deserved its own Zoom meeting. A special meeting was held on November 11, and all those who participated in the AGM were invited.

The residents represented both those in favor and those opposed to the proposal. Many brought forward ideas to incorporate speed bumps and other options, and the use of stop signs and speed traps was discussed.

The City advised that this was an all or nothing situation and did not want to negotiate any in-between scenario. While the meeting appeared to favor a negative response, there was no clear consensus by the end of the meeting, and the RHA proposed a survey to put

the question to Rockwood residents for a measurable response.

A survey was prepared by the RHA and sent to the E-mail subscribers. Residents were asked to respond as to whether or not they were in favour of having the speed bumps on one or none of three sections or projects designated along Bough Beeches. The response was clear.

The results of the survey were sent to Councillor Fonseca, advising her that the residents of Rockwood had spoken and that the RHA supported their response to reject the proposal. We also sent the written response of many residents.

It was clear in the written responses

that safety and speeding is a concern, and requested the councillor to work with us to identify alternate opportunities to address these issues.

We hope that we can work together this year to ensure that these community concerns are resolved. **RW**

SURVEY RESULTS

PROJECT 1:

Rathburn (Garnetwood Park) to Fieldgate: **Yes 48%** **No 52%**

PROJECT 2:

Fieldgate to Rathburn (Rockwood Mall) **Yes 37%** **No 63%**

PROJECT 3:

Rathburn (Rockwood Mall) to Burnhamthorpe **Yes 43%** **No 57%**



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The City has announced that a new spray pad will be installed in Garnetwood Park this summer. In January, the City reached out to the RHA to gather feedback from the community as to elements of the layout, location and design. The funds for this project are from the community benefit program designated from the Chelsea on the Green development.

With the help of Sue Lawton, PPS Trustee, and the Sts. Martha and Mary Parents Association, a survey was sent to all school children in the area. As children will be the end users, they were given the opportunity to vote on their choice of four themes: Forests/ Woods; Oceans; Creeks/ Rivers/ Wetlands and Sports. Almost 40% chose Creeks/ Rivers and Wetlands. Sports came in second at 25%.

A sign has now been posted in the park signalling the coming attraction and a proposed location. While the City has identified a location south of the parking lot, the RHA has requested it be situated west of the parking lot, between the parking lot and the basketball courts. The area will include seating, umbrella tables, and landscaping, plus ground level and vertical spray. The splash pad will be *accessible for all*. **RW**

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