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Close to 100 people crammed into a hall at the Wilmot Recreation Complex Friday evening to hear from speakers opposed to the proposed land acquisition. Photo by Lee Griffi

## MP calls for a study on protecting prime agricultural land

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Kitchener-Conestoga MP Tim Louis has introduced a motion in the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food calling on the committee to undertake a study on the protection of prime agricultural land for long-term agricultural use.

The study will allow the committee to consult with stakeholders, including farmers, on the future use of agricultural land, which will be reported to the House of Commons for a government response. Louis said he has heard from many constituents concerned about the proposal to expropriate and rezone prime farmland in Wilmot Township for a purpose yet to be disclosed.

"The federal government is not involved in the decision to turn farmland into industrial land. I share the concerns of constituents, farmers and other stakeholders regarding the loss of prime agricultural land," he said.

According to the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, 319 acres of prime agricultural land is lost every day in Ontario, despite having some of the most productive farmland in Canada. Only five per cent of Ontario's landmass is suitable for agriculture, and the riding of Kitchener-Conestoga sits in the heart of Ontario's agricultural lands.

"As Waterloo Region grows, it must do so while protecting prime agricultural land," said Louis, adding that while any action the federal government takes wouldn't be in time to make a difference in Wilmot, it could elsewhere.

It is Louis' hope the committee and his government will approve a study and bring in soil experts, stakeholders, farmers and other organizations.

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## Wilmot farmer supports local council as provincial NDP party takes on the land-grab cause

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Hundreds of concerned people showed up at the Wilmot Recreation Complex Friday for a townhall meeting in protest of the Region of Waterloo's plan to drum up 770 acres of farmland for development purposes.

Organizers weren't ready for the size of the crowd, leaving some people upset and having to find other ways to listen and ask questions. The event was arranged by

the Ontario New Democratic Party, which booked an upper hall with a capacity of 80 people. An estimated 300 turned out and some were forced to watch the event unfold on a Zoom call. Others gathered at the facility's outdoor playground where NDP leader Marit Stiles eventually addressed the overflow crowd.

Stewart Snyder, one of the affected farmers, sat beside Wilmot Township Coun. Harvir Sidhu during the meeting and said he has no ill will towards any local elected official.

"I have great respect for the council. Their hands are tied, big time. It's too bad but they are caught. I have no axe to grind with them. They can do the best they can for us but I have a feeling the province can override it all and use them as a scapegoat."

He added the backing from not only the local community but those elsewhere has been comforting as he continues to battle what is still an unknown enemy.

"We can't ask for more support. It's coming

**TIM LOUIS** Member of Parliament  
Kitchener-Conestoga

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COMMUNITY —

# Provincial NDP tackles local land-grab issue

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from all angles. You look at the petition that was started (with over 30,000 names). Who would have ever thought it? A friend of mine from Mount Forest called and said, 'Hey, we're thinking about you. What's going on down there?'

An emotional Snyder said he loves the way the community has rallied behind him and the other affected landowners.

"I would never have thought it, but when I see this, it's unbelievable."

One of the farmers just outside the affected area is Eva Wagler, who grows cabbage with her husband south of Bleams Road. She spoke at a press conference earlier in the day and said she doesn't believe the land grab is stopping with the six affected farms.

"If it can happen to them, it can happen to anybody. They could come to our door tomorrow. I don't think prime (farmland) should ever be questioned, it should not be touched. All of us had milk in our coffee this morning, I'm sure; eggs on our plates. If we stand together we can stop this."

Snyder shares Wagler's concerns that those in power could expropriate land anywhere, not just in Wilmot. Many landowners just outside the affected area are now coming forward publicly to talk about their worries in terms of land ownership and the environment should a major industrial development arrive in Wilmot.

"If they make this industrial who knows what the next step is," Snyder said.

There have been very few, if any, answers from Wilmot Township, the Region of Waterloo or the Ford government to date.



Ontario NDP leader Merit Stiles addressed the crowd inside before going outside to talk to those who couldn't get into the hall. Photo by Lee Griffi

"There has been no official traction but, to be honest, there has been more dialogue in the last week than there was in the first couple of weeks."

Those opposing the potential land grab in Wilmot have, to date, protested only with words by talking to the media, posting on social media and through advocacy from some opposition politicians at Queen's Park. Snyder said he and others thought about taking the next step but at the end

of the day, he believed it wouldn't make a difference.

"One of the ideas we had was to get a tractor and truck parade around the perimeter. It'll be fun for the day but what's it going to get us? They know we're upset."

Some attendees quickly blamed the township for refusing to open the adjoining hall so more people could participate. Sidhu was quick to defend staff at the recreation complex.

The town hall came just days before the Canadian Press released a report that Honda Canada is set to build an electric-vehicle battery plant near its Alliston manufacturing plant. While Alliston is nearly two hours away from Wilmot, there is speculation the 770 acres of land may be used for the development. An announcement from the federal and provincial governments is expected this week.

Senior sources with information on the project confirmed the deal but were not yet able to give any dollar figures.

Ontario Premier Doug Ford on Monday morning told a First Nations press conference there will be an announcement this week about a new deal that he said will be double the size of a Volkswagen deal announced last year.

When Stiles arrived, she said she was blown away by how many people showed up and added the only other time she had seen such support was when her party was trying to save the Greenbelt.

"We were expecting 80 people and there is a hockey game going on but, if this says anything, it says the community has the back of the farming community here."

She added everyone in attendance wanted answers, transparency and accountability, and to save farmland.

"There are a lot of people who stand to make a lot of money. We want to make sure that, above all else, the importance of farming to our economy, our communities and the future of our province, is respected."

## Study requested on protecting prime agricultural land

Continued from page 1

"I am proud to table this motion in Agriculture Committee to study how we can better protect agricultural land. The agriculture and agri-food sector is a vital economic driver in Kitchener-Conestoga and rural communities across Canada, providing healthy food for our community and markets around the world. I will continue listening to and advocating for our hardworking farmers and producers."

The MP admitted it is a bit early to tell what kind of support he will have at the committee level from other parties, particularly the Bloc Quebecois, which brought up the issue of jurisdiction.

"The Bloc tends to be more guarded about staying out of provincial business. That's a bit of a red flag for them. However, they admitted they do want to protect farmland. I understand their concerns and it got me thinking, 'Okay, what can we do at the

federal level?'

Louis explained one of the most frustrating parts of the Wilmot situation for him was the complete lack of adherence to a regional plan that was put in place to promote growth.

"To do it in a responsible way. And when the province tears up those plans and you hear about these issues like with the Green Belt, it erodes people's confidence in what might happen next."

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# COMMUNITY —

## Wilmot land-grab protestors sell signs at St. Jacobs Farmers Market



Laura (no last name given), Kevin Thomason and Hal Jaeger were at the St. Jacobs Farmers Market April 20 selling Fight For Farmland lawn signs in protest of the Region of Waterloo's planned land grab of 770 acres of prime farmland in Wilmot Township. Photo by Sharon Leis

## Wilmot Township staff commemorate Earth Day 2024 with cleanup effort



Wilmot Township staff picked up garbage from the pathways and green spaces near the administrative complex today in honour of Earth Day 2024. Photo courtesy of Wilmot Township

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## COMMUNITY —

# Interfaith Counselling Centre marks 40 years of prioritizing mental health in New Hamburg

By Galen Simmons

Decades before mental health was discussed openly and as part of overall health, an organization that still operates out of the same New Hamburg church basement it started in 40 years ago was prioritizing mental-health care for residents of Wilmot Township and the surrounding rural area.

This year, the Interfaith Counselling Centre (ICC) is marking its 40th anniversary, an occasion that not only allows staff, the board of directors and the wider community a chance to celebrate everything the counselling centre does for those it serves, but also offers reason to pause and reflect on how far rural mental-health care has come in the past four decades.

“Our core values have never changed,” said ICC executive director Matthew Isert Bender. “(They are) counselling is available and accessible in the rural community, it’s professional and high-quality service, it doesn’t matter if you’re green, blue, pink – your race, your culture, your religion – you deserve great service, and cost shouldn’t be a barrier as well. We constantly strive to reduce barriers to service. ... Mental health is health, and all people should have access.

“... (Forty years ago), that was cutting edge or fairly novel or unique at that point. We weren’t alone in it. There was a variety of organizations emerging in the region and throughout the province in that time period. ... But it really was more novel where now mental health is so much more common in the vernacular and many extended health plans have coverage for counselling. ... The founders here really had good foresight. For me, thinking about and preparing for the 40th anniversary over the last few years, ... it started with this mixture of people recognizing, ‘We don’t meet the mental-health needs in the community.’”



Interfaith Counselling Centre executive director Matthew Isert Bender is encouraging the community to join the centre in celebrating 40 years of providing mental-health counselling services to all who need them at the 40th Anniversary Gala Dinner June 19. Photo by Galen Simmons

Bender said it was in 1982 and 1983 when a group of Christian pastors from Wilmot, Wellesley and Tavistock, along with two high-school guidance counsellors, an elementary school principal, a medical doctor and a naturopath doctor, a few dedicated business leaders and other community members first recognized mental health was impacting everyone from young students to patients at the Nith Valley Family Practice, and there was a desperate need for some kind of support service.

Over the years and with the fundraising support of residents and the local business community – including an annual golf tournament organized by The Erb Group that has raised more than half a million dollars over the past 30 years – Bender said the services offered by the ICC have continued to grow and expand always with the goal of meeting the current needs in the community and reducing whatever barriers to service exist at any given time.

Having worked at the centre in some capacity over the past two decades, Bender says the stigma around mental health is largely becoming a thing of the past whereas, even ten years ago, open discussions about seeking mental-health support were almost unheard of. Now, while speaking with residents and local service clubs, Bender says he meets many people in the community who are outwardly appreciative of the services they received at ICC and are open to sharing their experiences with others.

In marking its 40th anniversary, the counselling centre first hosted a Founders Tea event at the New Dundee Emporium Oct. 4, 2023, to thank the founders and board members over the years for their commitment and service to the centre.

The celebrations will officially conclude with a 40th Anniversary Gala Dinner June 19 at the Puddicombe

Banquet Hall in New Hamburg. With a goal of raising \$40,000 for the centre, the gala dinner will be a memorable evening of fine food, storytelling and wonderful music featuring local musicians Daniel Lichti, Angelica Appelman and Mike and Diana Erb. The money raised, as with all money raised for the centre, will help subsidize counselling services for those who can’t otherwise afford them.

“You honour the past by continuing to live into the future and living into those core values, continuing to move them forward,” Bender said. “... The other way is you stop and celebrate, so the 40th Anniversary Gala is a bigger-ticket item. ... It is unabashedly a fundraising event where we can celebrate, enjoy nice food and four local musicians – world-renowned and Juno Award winning musicians.”

For more information and to purchase tickets for the 40th Anniversary Gala Dinner, visit [www.interfaithcounselling.ca/general-1](http://www.interfaithcounselling.ca/general-1).

#### Key Dates in ICC’s formation:

- May 12, 1982 – a group formed, using the name New Hamburg and Area Counselling Society.
- July 11, 1983 – New Hamburg and Area Interfaith Counselling Society was incorporated as a not-for-profit charitable organization.
- Nov. 1, 1983 – counselling doors opened. Earlla Phegan was the first counsellor.
- Nov. 15, 1983 – Community Open House officially launches Interfaith Counselling Centre
- March 4, 1998 – legal name changed to Interfaith Community Counselling Centre
- May 1, 2015 – Current logo launched. ICC – Interfaith Counselling Centre.

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## The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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COMMUNITY —

# Let's Tree Wilmot hosts tree planting along New Hamburg's Nith River flats

By Emily Shannon, Tri-County Mennonite Homes

On April 20, Let's Tree Wilmot (LTW) and Tri-County Mennonite Homes (TCMH) joined forces for a tree-planting event on Albert Street in New Hamburg.

More than 35 volunteers braved temperamental spring weather to support this event. In total, 450 trees were planted on Saturday during morning and afternoon shifts. We could not have achieved our goal without the support of volunteers – thank you!

This event marks the beginning of an ecological-restoration project along the river flats of the Nith River behind TCMH's Nithview Community. Thanks to a \$60,000 grant from Earthscape, a creative playground and landscaping firm in Wallenstein, the ecological project will be supported over the next several years.

The project includes removing invasive plant species, planting native grasses, enhancing access through trail systems and connecting with barrier-free trails at Nithview Community for seniors, families and community members to enjoy. When completed, deep-rooted grasses, various trees, owl boxes, turtle mounds and other wildlife amenities will attract animals and visitors alike.

Of the trees planted on Saturday, 300 came from LTW's very own seedling bed. Varieties like catalpa, basswood, red oaks and sugar maples were the first trees to be transplanted from the seedling bed. The seedling bed was carefully tended over the last two years and will provide additional trees for future planting projects.

The trees from the seedling bed represent LTW's long-term commitment to keeping Wilmot beautiful by increasing tree canopy in the township.



Let's Tree Wilmot and Tri-County Mennonite Homes partnered to plant 450 trees April 20 as part of an ecological-restoration project along the river flats of the Nith River behind Nithview Community in New Hamburg. A total of 35 volunteers helped plant trees off Albert Street in New Hamburg. Contributed photo

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# COMMUNITY —

## Tavistock and District Historical Society hosts annual meeting

By Gary West

The Tavistock and District Historical Society (TDHS) is certainly one that is very active in the Tavistock area.

That was shown on April 20 when a large contingent of interested area residents met in the Grace United Church auditorium for the 20th-anniversary annual general meeting of the TDHS.

The meeting was to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the first-ever published history of Tavistock compiled by the grades 7 and 8 students of Tavistock Public School.

Several former students offered comments on their years at school as school pictures appeared on a screen overhead. Many who were in attendance smiled as they saw how they looked in school pictures from past decades.

Bob Routly remembers when there were only two paved streets in the village – Woodstock Street and Hope Street East.

Tory Ann Reibling (Neeb), who became a teacher herself, had the audience nodding their heads in agreement when she talked about how girls were required to wear only skirts or dresses. She also recalled how music teacher Ida Kollman came to the school every week to teach music and students practiced for many weeks to get ready for the music festival in Stratford.

Having a class in the room beside the furnace room also brought back memories to her.

The Tavistock and District Historical Society has temporary displays at Scotiabank, D & D Cuisine and the library, and always exhibits at the Tavistock Fall Fair in September.



Historian Paul Bartlett presents some historical facts about Tavistock Public School to the audience at the annual meeting of the Tavistock and District Historical Society April 20 in Tavistock. Photo by Gary West



History was remembered by grades 7 and 8 students who attended Tavistock Public School decades ago. Pictured in the front row from left are Keith Woelfle, Karen (Seltzer) Peat, principal Jim Axtmann, Bob Routly and Darlene (Ducklow) Hardy. In the back from left are Michael Eckstein, Bob Gladding, Joni Faber, Paul Steinman, Paulette (Morgenroth) Roth, Ron McDermott, Tory Ann (Neeb) Reibling, John Roppel, Mary (Getz) Houghton, Ted Seyler and Klaus Peter Grapp. Photo by Paul Bartlett

## Show us your Wilmot



Show Us Your Wilmot Facebook group member Amy Cardiff recently posted this reflective sunset photo shot in New Hamburg. Photo courtesy of Show Us Your Wilmot

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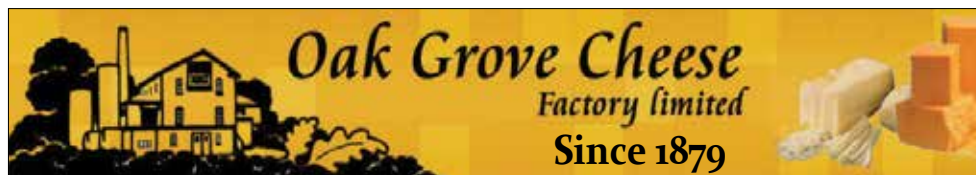
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COMMUNITY —

# Perth County to install speed-radar signs in 22 reduced-speed zones countywide

By Galen Simmons

To combat speeding in communities across the county, Perth County council voted recently to pay \$308,000 for the purchase and installation of speed-radar signs in 22 reduced-speed zones countywide.

At the April 18 county council meeting, councillors voted to draw the required funds from the county's \$3-million capital roads reserve to purchase and install the signs this year, despite the project not being included in the 2024 capital budget.

"Since 2020, public-works staff have utilized four solar-powered, speed-radar signs to promote speed awareness and track speeds in our reduced-speed zones," county public-works director John McClelland said. "The department has received positive feedback from the residents of the towns and villages where the signs have been deployed, with the only negative being the minimum frequency they are up at any one location."

In his report to council, McClelland detailed criteria recommended for the permanent installation of speed-radar signs in the county. Those criteria include:

- the sign must be within a reduced-speed zone along a county owned roadway located in a town, village or built-up area;
- the reduced-speed zone is on a through road where there are no stop controls within or at the end of the reduced-speed zone;
- the speed limit on either end of the reduced-speed zone is 80km/hr;
- the location for speed-radar signs will be within the reduced-speed zone approximately 80-100 meters from the beginning of the reduced zone;
- other installations, location or removal of the permanent speed-radar signs will be at the discretion of the director of public works; and
- the permanent speed radar sign program will be reviewed every 10 years and/or if there are issues with maintenance or the effectiveness of the program.

Based on that criteria, staff identified 22 locations where permanent speed-radar signs will be installed. Giving councillors the option of having all the signs purchased and installed at once or purchasing and installing them through a phased-in approach, staff ranked the 22 locations based on traffic volumes and 85th percentile speeds.

Topping the list of ranked speed-radar-sign locations was Perth Line 72 in Donegal followed by Perth Road 119 in Brunner, Perth Road 121 in Poole and Perth Line 26 in Harmony.

"I looked at the 22 locations and I can definitely see them all being on here, then I was looking at the ranking and I was somewhat dismayed that Harmony was up fairly high ... and then St. Pauls was like four from the (bottom),"

Coun. Jim Aitcheson said. "Of all the traffic that speeds through Harmony, probably 90 per cent of that speeds through St. Pauls because that's your cottage traffic, your truck traffic, everything. I was kind of surprised St. Pauls would be that far down and Harmony up where it should have been."

Aitcheson also noted that Wartburg, which was ranked at 12th on the list, and Rostock, ranked at 20th, are located on the same road and he questioned why the rankings differ so drastically.

"We had to choose some criteria in order to rank these, and we thought that was best facilitated through how busy is the road traffic volume and the 85th percentile speed we observe within the reduced-speed zone," McClelland said. "As it pertains to Harmony and St. Pauls, our traffic volumes are taken on an average annual daily traffic basis. So you're correct, the traffic in the summertime heading to cottage country is going to be higher. We look at traffic volumes on an average over the course of the year. Harmony also is a 50 km/hr reduced-speed zone whereas St. Pauls is a 60 km/hr reduced-speed zone."

"You saw a report earlier in the year regarding Kurtzville, and we compared both Harmony and St. Pauls in that report, and you saw basically similar 85th percentile speed even higher in Harmony than St. Pauls. That could be just from the characteristics of the roadway, it could be from enforcement."

With the speed-radar signs expected to cost roughly \$7,000 each, council was unanimous in its decision to not only purchase and install all 22 signs at the same time, but to do that this year as opposed to setting them aside for the 2025 capital budget.

"I want to speak in favour of being all in here," Coun. Todd Kasenberg said. "I think this is a fine opportunity for us to show immediate leadership on this issue. We know that these signs are well-appreciated by local environments. People who are living in these areas have expressed appreciation for the temporary signs when we used them, and I think we show clear leadership in suggesting that we are concerned about the safety of these areas on our county roads."

In addition to the 22 permanent signs to be installed across the county, McClelland said staff will still be able to use the four temporary signs as needed to track and control speeding in high-traffic, reduced-speed zones that don't meet the criteria for a permanent sign including Milverton (Perth Road 131), Dublin (Perth Road 180), Shakespeare (Perth Road 107), Millbank (Perth Line 72), Fullarton (Perth Road 163) and Gowanstown (Perth Line 88).

Data collected by the signs will also be shared with local police to help guide traffic enforcement.

The full list of locations that council approved for speed-radar signs are as follows:

1. Donegal (Perth Line 72)
2. Brunner (Perth Road 119)
3. Poole (Perth Road 121)
4. Harmony (Perth Line 26)
5. Gadshill (Perth Road 119)
6. Carthage (Perth Road 131)
7. Molesworth (Perth Line 86)
8. Avonton (Perth Road 130)
9. Rannoch (Perth Road 139)
10. Hesson (Perth Road 121)
11. Fullarton (Perth Line 20)
12. Wartburg (Perth Road 135)
13. Millbank (Perth Road 121)
14. Staffa (Perth Road 180)
15. Newton (Perth Line 72)
16. Britton (Perth Road 147)
17. Kurtzville (Perth Line 88)
18. Cromarty (Perth Road 180)
19. St. Pauls (Perth Line 20)
20. Rostock (Perth Road 135)
21. Brodhagen (Perth Line 44)
22. Prospect Hill (Perth Road 139)

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COMMUNITY —

# North Easthope Antique Tractor Club hosts annual meeting in New Hamburg

By Gary West

Area organizations with substantial memberships require a good nucleus of members who provide leadership into the future.

The North Easthope Antique Tractor Club (NEAT) recently held its annual membership meeting at the New Hamburg Legion, and it continues to thrive and grow from its humble beginnings years ago.

As their history shows, six area farmers thought it would be good to gather with other owners of antique tractors and form a tractor club.

Those original North Easthope farmers included Ed Green, Calvin Hoffman, Harold Seyler, Laurence Diamond, Allan Wilhelm and Al McLeod.

They also decided to tour local churches, community halls and restaurants with their tractors to help organizations raise money through catered breakfasts and lunches.

They began driving their antique tractors when the weather was warm and invited those interested to come and see their antique machines that were the cornerstones of farming in the past.

When some of these tractors came into existence, teams of horses slowly became a thing of the past, giving way to the beginning of the Industrial Revolution for early farm tractors that could do more work in less time.

Members of the club meet weekly beginning the middle of May at various churches and eating establishments throughout the counties of Perth, Waterloo and Oxford.

Many members of the elderly farming community are often seen explaining to younger generations how their lives were affected with the advent of these antique tractors that meant so much at the beginning of their farming careers.



The North Easthope Antique Tractor Club executive members include, from left, past president John Schyff, vice president Murray Gingerich, president John Mohr, social convener Wayne Gerber, and secretary-treasurer Ron Neeb. Photo by Gary West



North Easthope Antique Tractor Club executive member Ron Neeb shows off his antique, two-cylinder 1934 John Deere General in last years Canada's Day Parade in Stratford. Photo by Gary West

## WORSHIP IN WILMOT TOWNSHIP

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# COMMUNITY —

## The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Weekly Quiz

1. When was the last time the Toronto Blue Jays won the World Series?
2. What is the most abundant wild bird worldwide?
3. Where was chess invented?
4. Eminem's 8 Mile is named after a road in which city?
5. How old was King Tut when he became king?
6. What does A.I stand for?
7. What was Superman's home planet called?
8. Which age do you have to reach to be eligible to become President of the United States?
9. The term port side is referring to what side of a boat?
10. What blood group is a universal donor?

Answers found on page 20

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

*Does someone in your family have a special day coming up? Let us know at [thewtgazette@gmail.com](mailto:thewtgazette@gmail.com) to appear in our Birthdays and Anniversaries listing or to arrange for a special announcement ad.*

**April 26:** Happy birthday to Augustus Spylo (6)

**April 27:** Happy birthday to Liam McGregor (21), Joel Kalbfleisch (29) and anniversaries for Frank and Rebecca DeWeerd (5th) and Ted and Marilyn Gaudun (56th)

**April 28:** Happy birthday to Elizabeth Vanstone (20) and Evan Heinbuch (21).

**April 29:** Happy birthday to Nash Hamilton (8), Brady Roth (22), Shirley Wilhelm (72), and Jean Houghton (103).

**April 30:** Happy birthday to Evan Nahrgang (14), Makenna Bartlett (20), Connor Shantz, Benjamin Albrecht, and Michael Johnson.

**May 1:** Happy birthday to Ty Brown (7), Chloe Hulcoop (7), Natalie Flach (20), and anniversary for Dave and Susan Wiffen.

## The Old Gazettes

By Jake Grant

*Slowly but surely, I'm reading through the past pages of the Tavistock Gazette (est. 1895). Within this weekly column I'd like to share with you some of my findings.*

**April 24-May 1, 2019, Edition (5 years ago)**

Since last November, students at the Hickson Central Public School have been dedicated to rehearsing for this year's production of the French classic Beauty and The Beast Jr. Last week, four shows brought the production to life in front of fellow students and family with some amazing costumes and staging resulting in a memorable event.

Both Grade 7/8 classes (about 40 students) of Chris Ross and Craig White at Tavistock Public School held a boat race last Thursday as a part of their unit on Heat. After a few elimination heats, the fastest three boats belonged to Max Harvey, Emma Michiels and Carter Roth.

**April 22-29, 2009, Edition (15 years ago)**

The ladies of Knox North Easthope Women's Missionary Society (WMS) were delighted to have their April meeting at the Maples Home for Seniors. This is the 125th year of the Society founded in 1884 and the ladies are marking the occasion with a photograph of this year's group.

Living your dreams is a phrase used by many in the financial sector these days. But for Jeff Workman, a financial planner with IPC Woodstock, and current resident in Shakespeare, fulfilling the dream was something he felt he had to do. In September of

2008 he set out on a 12-day journey to Africa where he climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro with two friends and raised over \$19,000 for the "Climb for Kids Sake" charity.

You may have seen them. Jamie-Lynn Hauss and her son Jacob are training partners and mom runs while pushing his 3-wheel stroller around the village. But the whole exercise is not for fun, it's part of a prescribed routine that allows time together while Jamie-Lynn trains for marathon races. And last week it all came together as they competed in the 113th running of the Boston Marathon. Lynn finished with a time of 3:50:50 placing 2,826 in her division.

Tavistock Public School crokinole tournament winners were Colby and Anna Mohr. The pair were tops out of 38 teams scoring four 20's in their final game.

**April 20-27, 1994, Edition (30 years ago)**

An article in the London Free Press last week said Tavistock residents are "no doubt lining the streets chanting, 'we're number one,'" after the local P.U.C.'s entry in the first ever municipality water taste test was judged the best water in Western Ontario.

A Junior Kindergarten class for the 1994-1995 school year at Tavistock Public School was approved by the Oxford Country Board of Education at their recent meeting in Woodstock.

Residents of the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock "surprised" Cancer Society organizers this year by showing an increase in donations to the annual "Great Ride for Cancer" and purchasing the total over \$7,800.

Youngsters attending Baby Band at Grace

United Church in Tavistock held their own Fashion Show last week with all outfits modelled priced at under \$15. Models include infant Andrew Danen and Jesse Kaufman. Standing are Kelsey Henry, Justine Danen, and Adam Kropf.

A total of 24 Brownies and Guides from the 1st Hickson Group gathered at the Hickson School on Sunday afternoon to participate in the Great Ride Against Cancer. The girls raised over \$543.00 for their efforts as they peddled around the subdivision at least ten times before returning for drinks and doughnuts on a perfect, sunny day.

**April 24-May 1, 1974, Edition (50 years ago)**

On Friday afternoon, April 26th, the Prime Minister of Canada will visit and address the students of College Ave. Secondary School in Woodstock in a scheduled assembly. Senior students from Woodstock Collegiate Institute and Huron Park Secondary School are also invited to attend this assembly.

Frank Lange, president of the Tavistock & District Minor Hockey Association welcomed close to 400 players, coaches, managers, and parents to the annual banquet on April 25th in the Tavistock Memorial Hall Reeve Wm.

Tavistock Jets lost two close games in their annual competition at the Toronto Tournament last weekend. Their first game was against Brampton who scored their 3rd goal in the last two minutes squeaking a 3-2 victory over the Jets. At 2 o'clock Saturday the Jets met Essex where Essex tied it late in the third and scored with under 1:39 left to eliminate Tavistock from the Tournament.

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Interim Pastor Harold Schlegel.

131 Wettlaufer St., Tavistock 655-2581

Sunday Worship services begin at 9:45am, with coffee and fellowship to follow at 11am. Masks welcomed but not required.

All Ages JRSS will follow after the worship service.

Stream services online at [www.tavistockmennonitechurch.ca](http://www.tavistockmennonitechurch.ca)

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## COMMUNITY —

## Nine Wilmot churches to observe Red Dress Day May 5

By Galen Simmons

Part of an ongoing effort to support local Indigenous communities and heed the calls to action of Canada's 2015 Truth and Reconciliation Commission, nine Wilmot churches will observe Red Dress Day May 5 in remembrance of thousands of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and two-spirit people across the country.

Beginning in 2010, Red Dress Day was born out of the REDress art installation by Métis artist Jaime Black, based in Winnipeg, Man., in which hundreds of red dresses were displayed in public spaces to raise awareness for the missing women.

This year, the Wilmot Ecumenical Working Group on Indigenous/Settler Relationships – a group with representation from local faith and non-faith communities formed in 2017 as a direct response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 calls to action – was invited by Elder Nina DeShane of the Wilmot Family Resource Centre to participate in this day of remembrance.

"It would mean so much to Indigenous people if the churches would acknowledge Red Dress Day by hanging dresses at their places of worship," DeShane said in a press release issued by the working group.

"It's not just out west, it's not just out in big cities, it's happening in our small townships as well," said Tammy Gagnon, a Métis woman who lives in Bright Hamlet, runs a women's healing circle at Mannheim Mennonite Church and has experience working with victims of rape and human trafficking, many of whom are Indigenous.

"It is happening in our backyard and I'm hoping that the churches that are participating this year kind of open up that realization that this is happening here and for



**Nine Wilmot churches will be marking Red Dress Day May 5, a day of remembrance for the thousands of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and two spirit people across Canada. Twenty-two dresses were smudged in Wilmot on Oct. 11, 2023, by a member of the local Indigenous community. A profile of a missing person is attached to each dress. Photo courtesy of the Wilmot Ecumenical Working Group on Indigenous/Settler Relationships**

us to be aware of those things. Part of our reconciliation process is the knowledge sharing between Indigenous and settler communities. This is a great way for our churches, which have a bigger audience, to help share the need for awareness."

To assist with the observance of Red Dress Day in Wilmot, the ecumenical working group purchased 22 red dresses, each of which was smudged by a member of the local Indigenous community in accordance with and respect of Indigenous

customs and culture.

Each dress includes a profile of a missing or murdered Indigenous woman, girl or two-spirited person and an explanation of Red Dress Day, and they will be hung either inside or outside each of the nine churches for a time period leading up and after Red Dress Day on May 5 as determined by each faith community.

"We are providing the resources and then different congregations will decide to do

things in different ways," said Marie Pavey, co-chair of the ecumenical working group. "Each congregation is going to get two red dresses from us and we are asking them to either post them outside the church or inside the church for a time period before and after May 5 so it is visible. We've also provided resources for them to speak to their congregations on May 5 about Red Dress Day during services or education times that they may have."

Pavey filmed a video explaining the day and the working group's participation in the awareness initiative to be shown at the local churches, if they choose. The working group is also encouraging locals to hang red dresses at their homes on and around May 5 in observance of Red Dress Day.

In May 2023, members of the House of Commons in Ottawa unanimously supported a motion recognizing this ongoing crisis as a "Canada-wide emergency." The motion also called for the funding of a new public-alert system to be activated when someone goes missing. Red Dress Day acknowledges past and ongoing violence against missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and two-spirited people and the resilience demonstrated by Indigenous people and communities in dealing with this crisis.

The working group's next sponsored event will be a Blanket Exercise in collaboration with the Mennonite Central Committee on Thursday, June 6 at 7 p.m. at the New Hamburg Community Centre. The Blanket Exercise is an interactive experience that shares the colonized history of our country from the perspectives of the First People. Sensitive subjects will be discussed, including residential schools, assimilation and missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and two-spirited people.

## Mornington Communications installs new fibre line on Perth Road 106 South Easthope Township

By Gary West

As home and farm families in rural areas get excited about high-speed, fibre-optics internet, workers with Weber Contracting are busy installing lines on the side roads of Perth County to do just that.

The Clifford company is contracted by Mornington Communications, which has its head office in Milverton and a satellite office in Tavistock.

The installation was continuing on Perth Road 106 in South Easthope Township April 22 with plowing in fibre optic lines and bidirectional drilling taking place as the installation continues. These lines are installed four feet below ground level.

Workers said weather doesn't pose a problem as they work rain or shine.



**Ben Rheubottom from Walkerton operates the Vermeer bidirectional drilling machine April 22 for Weber Contracting Ltd. On Perth Road 106 in South Easthope Township. Photo by Gary West**



**Steve Pilon from Wingham rolls out the orange plastic tubing in which the fibre-optic wire will be placed by another machine. Photo by Gary West**



COMMUNITY —

# Multicultural Association of Perth Huron officially launches Mobile Food Bank program

By Galen Simmons

Responding to a need for after-hours and weekend support of locals experiencing food insecurity, the Multicultural Association of Perth Huron has officially launched its Mobile Food Bank program.

Though the association has been providing free food, personal-hygiene products and other household supplies to newcomers and other locals in need for more than a year, it recently launched the program as a way to support those who are unable to access support from area food banks during regular business hours Monday to Friday and promote the association's ongoing need for donated grocery store gift cards to support the program's goal.

"For us here, we have some difficulties. There are some people moving here from different worlds," said Charles Gak, who immigrated to Canada from Sudan and now volunteers with the multicultural association to help deliver food, supplies and gift cards to those who need them as part of the Mobile Food Bank program. "They came direct to (association executive director) Geza (Wordofa) here. Even they have children. They don't have access to a bus and they don't even have a place to go. In the meantime, they are waiting for the government to do something for them, but if they don't get nothing, they can't wait."

"I remember last year one day, a Ukrainian came to this country. I went with Geza and we went everywhere helping them. Canadians support the Ukrainians. ... Now there is a problem in Gaza and even in Lebanon - they have economic problems - and in other countries in Africa like The Congo, and also in Haiti. And they are coming here. We need to do something."

According to Gak and the other volunteers who help deliver food, supplies and gift cards to those who need them across Perth, Huron, Oxford, Wellington and Middlesex counties, some newcomers either don't understand or are unable to navigate the process they need to follow to access support through local food banks.

Others, meanwhile, including area residents native to Canada, are unable to make it to their local food bank for support during normal business hours for any number of reasons, chief of which is a lack of available public transportation in rural areas of the region.

"Our main goal is to fill the gap," Wordofa said. "The main thing is weekends. From Friday to Sunday, that's three days. It can be critical. Food is a human right. You have the right to eat. Rent is expensive, gas is expensive. I never expected people coming to us with a shortage of something. We are not a super-rich organization, but we do what we can."

"In a big city, you can see the people suffering. Here, you don't always see it."

Wordofa is asking locals to donate gift certificates from their area grocery stores in any amount to the multicultural association either by calling the association's emergency hotline at 1-888-308-6274 or emailing info@maph.ca. Those in need of after-hours or weekend support can also reach out to the multicultural association to request assistance at that phone number or email address.

Donated gift cards will either be given to residents in need directly so they can shop for groceries themselves or, for those who can't get to a grocery store, the association's volunteers will purchase specific items and deliver them personally.



The Multicultural Association of Perth Huron has officially launched its Mobile Food Bank program serving locals in need after hours and on weekends across Perth, Huron, Oxford, Wellington and Middlesex counties who can't access food-bank services during regular business hours. Pictured from left are association volunteer Charle Gak, association executive director Geza Wordofa, and volunteers Hira Dhariwal and Asrat Negawo. Photo by Galen Simmons

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## SPORTS —

# Firebirds win South Division crown

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

The New Hamburg Firebirds have punched their ticket to the Provincial Junior Hockey League's (PJHL) final four. They will now take on the Lakeshore Canadiens in a best-of-seven league semi-final.

The outcome of Friday night's game seven was never in doubt as the Firebirds jumped out to a 5-0 lead just past the midway point of the second period. Owen Bruder started the barrage just 17 seconds into the game as he wired a loose puck past the Grimbsy goaltender. Owen Sculthorp made it 2-0 seven minutes late on a pass from Owen Fischer and then it was Fischer's turn with a goal just over 14 minutes into the first.

Owen Bruder and Jake Thompson scored in the second before Grimsby's Hunter Zoccoli was finally able to get the Peach Kings on the board. Thompson added his second of the game in the third period on a powerplay. New Hamburg broke open a close series by outscoring Grimsby 11-4 over the last two games.

Head coach Shane Gerber said he isn't sure what the difference was, but he'll take it.

"I wish I knew," he joked. "I don't really have an answer. These guys just continue to work hard and the minute our opponent doesn't, it opens up for us."

He added when compared to the team's play at the beginning of the season, there has been a tremendous amount of improvement.

"They do it collectively. Everyone is pulling the same rope so to speak, and they are all playing within the system. When you do that and you start to believe that it works, you see the results."

He said it takes 24 players on the roster along with the affiliated players.

"At any point I can insert anyone, and they are willing to play inside our system. It's not just the 20 guys playing that night. It takes everyone to get this far."

Firebirds captain Owen Fischer said they aren't satisfied with the division title and they will be ready for the next series.

"It's another milestone. We are moving forward, learning how to win consistently in different barns. We trust each other and it's such a great group. We are going to keep that going, not changing a thing."

New Hamburg hadn't seen Grimbsy play

all season, something Fischer said made it difficult to prepare when you don't know who you're playing.

"That first game we came out a little slow and we were really feeling them out. Then we could see their tendencies and figure out what would work and what wouldn't. We built off that and were able to be successful."

Gerber echoed his captain's thoughts and said they are in the same boat entering the series with Lakeshore.

"We don't play them or see them play and, for me, you can watch video but until you get on the same ice, you just don't know. There is no doubt they will be a tough test."

The Canadiens, largely thought of as the top team in the PJHL, enter the series after a four-game sweep of Thamesford where they outscored the Trojans 22-5.

## Moment of silence for former PJHL player

Former Blenheim Blades captain Craig Spence is being remembered as a great player and an even greater teammate and friend. The 22-year-old from Chatham died Tuesday in a collision on Highway 401 in London.

"He was a well-spoken player that led by example," Blades general manager Bob Price said. "He was well respected in the dressing room, well respected by the coaches, well respected by everyone that I knew. He will be sadly missed."

New Hamburg and Grimbsy circled centre ice in the Wilmot Recreation Centre before Friday night's game for a moment of silence in Spence's memory.

## Lakeshore vs. New Hamburg – Schmaltz Cup Semi-Final

Game 1 – Tuesday, April 23 @ 8 p.m. in New Hamburg

Game 2 – Friday, April 26 @ 8 p.m. in Lakeshore

Game 3 – Sunday, April 28 @ 4 p.m. in New Hamburg

Game 4 – Tuesday, April 30 @ 8 p.m. in Lakeshore

Game 5 – Friday, May 3 @ 8 p.m. in New Hamburg \*

Game 6 – Saturday, May 4 @ 4 p.m. in Lakeshore \*

Game 7 – Sunday, May 5 @ 4 p.m. in New Hamburg \*

\*If necessary



Members of the 2023-24 Firebirds pose for a team picture with the South Division banner. Photo by Susan Mills



Players from the Firebirds and Peach Kings came together at centre ice to remember former Blenheim Blades captain Craig Spence who died recently in a tragic accident on the 401 near London. Photo by Susan Mills

## Canadiens down Firebirds in game one of PJHL semi-final

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Lakeshore has struck first in their Provincial Junior Hockey League (PJHL) semi-final series with New Hamburg.

Trevor Larue's goal at the 5:42 mark of the first overtime gave the Canadiens a 3-2 come-from-behind victory on the road Tuesday night.

Antonio Pasqualino and Jake Thompson

scored twice in the third period to give New Hamburg a 2-1 lead before Matteo Frattaroli forced the extra period with a goal at the 16:57 mark. Ethan Galan gave Lakeshore a 1-0 lead with the only goal of the first frame.

The Firebirds outshot the Canadiens 32-29 and 442 fans were in attendance.

Game two will be played in Lakeshore on Friday at 8 p.m.

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SPORTS —

# Braves reveal new coaching staff with local flavour

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

The Tavistock Braves have named their new coaching staff and they are familiar names to anyone who knows minor and junior hockey in town.

Zac Berg has been named head coach along with assistants Brady Oliver and Jake Wiffen while Jensen Van Boekel, also a member of the Tavistock Royals, will serve as the team's goalie coach. The four coached the Tavistock Titans U18 team this past season and were teammates with the Braves several years ago.

General manager Brent Lange said Berg and his clan were the right choice.

"We had a good number of candidates to interview over the last week. There were definitely some good ones and we did have to make hard decisions, but ultimately Zac and the staff he brings with him were the best candidates for the job."

He added the new staff aren't far removed from their playing days with the Braves.

"This is an exciting opportunity for our club to add four former players from the organization who each played three to four years for us and had great junior careers. They were all big contributors to our Doherty Division Championship in the 2018 season."

The new coaches are preparing for an extremely quick turnaround with the team's spring camp starting next week.

"Being they just finished their season a few weeks ago, it won't be hard for them to get back into the swing of things," added Lange. "If they all bring a coaching element to our team like the way they used to play for us, we're in solid shape for the future. This is a great opportunity for them and our club to add four local young men to our coaching staff for the 2024-25 season."

Berg said being behind the bench has been something on his mind for a few years.

"It was definitely something that was on our minds when we started coaching. We were never really sure when an opportunity was going to arise. When this one



Tavistock Minor Hockey grad and former Brave Zac Berg has been named head coach of the Braves. Contributed photo

came up with the Braves, it was certainly something we wanted to go forward with as this is an organization that means a lot to all of us and we will look to continue the success that we have had here in the past."

He added he and his team are looking forward to creating a new energy around the Braves during the upcoming season.

"Having my close friends be part of this with me makes it that much more special. They have always made it more enjoyable to come to the rink. It is nice to have that support system behind you right away. We have gotten together a couple of times already to start talking about our new journey and we certainly have big plans for this organization."

The new coaches say they will bring a sense of competition and intensity to the table, and they will be pushing their players to give their all on every shift.

"I have always been a believer that hard work can always beat skill, especially in a playoff series," said Berg. "Next week will be a great way to start observing and evaluating the talent that is out there. It is an exciting process and I am eager to see the potential that these players bring to the table. Our goal as a staff is to run a camp that creates a sense of competition between the players."

# Wellesley player selected in OHL draft

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Sixteen-year-old Wellesley native Brock Schaus was selected in the 12th round of the recent Ontario Hockey League draft.

The goalie was taken by the Brantford Bulldogs after a AAA career that started in Guelph and finished in Kitchener with the Rangers. Schaus posted a 2.02 goals against average in 17 games this season.

Schaus said being drafted meets one of his on-ice goals as a hockey player.

"It is every kid's dream. You watch these guys play at the Aud (in Kitchener). I've always looked at that and have had it as a goal in the back of my mind."

He added no one was more pleased than his mother, Elle Schaus, that he was drafted to a team not so far away from home.

"I know she was pretty happy with that. Then again, at the same time I would be happy to get drafted by any team but I am very honoured to have been taken by this organization. They have a great reputation."

Brock Schaus will attend a media day April 26 and then he'll attend the Bulldogs camp this summer. He added his game is in a good place but he knows he can improve.

"I pride myself on my technically sound style of play and some of my next steps include being able to ramp that up and be able to play that way at a higher level at a much faster pace."

His father, Dan Schaus, said he's proud to see his son's hard work pay off.

"He works incredibly hard. It takes a really strong work ethic to even get to AAA hockey and from there it separates even

more. He's the kid who puts himself to bed at a good time, does the right things and works incredibly hard. It hasn't come easy, but he's put the work in. I'm happy for him that his hard work has paid off."

Goalies these days are, generally speaking, well over six feet tall. Brock Schaus is listed as being six foot and 165 pounds, but dad doesn't think his son is done yet.

"No, I don't think so. He has a lot of tall relatives and I'm six foot one and I'm one of the shorter ones in the family."

Dan Schaus added all he wants to see from his son's hockey career is for him to be the best he can be.

"I would be happy for him to achieve as high a level as he can play, but there is another experience he is getting this summer."

That experience came as a result of an invitation from a friend of Brock Schaus' to play in a ball hockey league a few years ago.

"The Kitchener team ended up qualifying for the provincials and they ended up winning that. Then they went to the national tournament and Brock was selected by Team Canada to play at the World Championships this summer in Slovakia," Dan Schaus said. "He's getting all these different experiences in life and it will help shape him as he grows up. When he gets to be our age, he can look back on all the things hockey and ball hockey have allowed him to experience."

Brock Schaus was named the most valuable goalie at the national tournament leading to his selection to represent his county. The tournament runs from July 4-7 in Zilina, Slovakia.



Brock Schaus was not only chosen in the recent OHL draft, but will also be representing Canada this summer at the U16 World Ball Hockey Championships. Contributed photo

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## SPORTS —

# Wilmot Wolverines earn bronze at OWHA provincials

By Rod Lichti

On the weekend of April 12-14, the Wilmot Wolverines U15C hockey club travelled to Oakville to compete in the OWHA Provincial Championships.

Having qualified for the tournament in an exciting best-of-three series win over the Ayr Rockets, the Wolverines were excited for the opportunity to face 15 of the best teams in the province.

Pool play began on Friday and the Wolverines secured wins over the Huron Heat and Ilderton Jets. The final round-robin game in pool play took place on Saturday afternoon and, with a victory over the Georgina Golden Hawks, the Wolverines ensured first place in their pool and a second-place seeding among the eight teams advancing to quarter-final action on Saturday night.

The quarter-final game was a rematch with the Ilderton Jets, hungry for redemption. The Wolverines jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in the first period and were able to control the play right through the second period. However, the Jets were not finished as they came out flying in the third period and scored an early goal to narrow the deficit to one. The Wolverines stepped up their defensive game from this point and were able to hold off the attack from the Jets and secure a spot in the semi-finals on Sunday morning.

The early 8:15 a.m. game had the Wolverines up against the Nepean Wildcats. Both teams started the game skating well as the action was back and forth. Midway through the first, the Wildcats opened the scoring before netting two more goals late in the period to take a 3-0 lead into the second. Goals in each of the second and third periods pushed the lead to 5-0 for the Wildcats, leaving the Wolverines to prepare themselves for the bronze-medal game, which would begin in just a few hours.

In this match, the Wolverines would face a very tough team in the Chatham-Kent Crush, who the week prior had clinched the U15C Western Ontario Girls Hockey League championship. During league playoffs, the Crush had defeated the Wolverines by a score of 3-0 but the Wolverine players knew they were ready for the challenge and welcomed the rematch.



The Wilmot Wolverines 15C hockey team won bronze at the OWHA Provincial Championships in Oakville recently. Pictured in the back row from left are Becky Bender (manager), Rahel Ellig (on-ice helper), Laura Cross (assistant coach), Kayla Schenk (assistant coach), Maya Rempel, Chloe West, Norah Boertien, Mackenzie Hallman, Morgan Boertien, Lauren Fidler, Rod Lichti (head coach), Celia Funston, Summer Kollman, Krista Boertien (trainer) and Christa Fidler (trainer). In front row from left are Madeline Lichti, Violet Bender, Anna Cross, Cheyenne Forler, Bridget Etue and Adeline Steckley. Contributed photo

The first period was a very tight-checking affair and both goalies were called upon to make big saves for their teams. Midway through the second frame, Norah Boertien was able to find open space in the slot and, from behind the net, her sister, Morgan, battled for a loose puck and made a perfect pass to Norah. A quick shot and the score was 1-0 Wolverines. As the second period ended, both teams headed to the dressing room to prepare for an exciting finish.

The third period was another tight-checking affair as the Wolverines went into full shutdown mode. Their motto, "Bend but don't break," was on full display in the defensive zone as they continually thwarted the offensive threat from the Crush, keeping them to the outside and frustrated by the strong play of the Wolverines.

As the horn sounded, players, coaches and fans celebrated the bronze-medal victory – a very exciting 1-0 win in a game where both teams played at their best.

This victory secured just the second medal ever by a Wilmot Wolverines team at the OWHA Provincial Championships. It was a fantastic way to end the season for the Wolverines Team who finished with a record of 35-12-6. Season highlights include becoming Stratford Aces Tournament Champs, Orangeville Sweetheart Tournament Champs, WOGHL semi-finalists, and OWHA provincial bronze medalists.



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COMMUNITY —

# Open letter to Wilmot council: creation of agricultural advisory committee

The following is a letter written to Wilmot Township and shared with the Gazette by Wilmot resident Rory Farnan requesting the township consider creating an agricultural advisory committee.

“Shovel-ready” land assembly has put Wilmot’s agricultural sector at the forefront of discussion across our Township, Waterloo Region, and throughout Ontario.

Rural and urban stakeholders have come together to raise awareness of a plan to expropriate 770 acres of prime agricultural land for industrial rezoning. This recent issue further highlights a growing discussion around sustainable growth and development that our township is currently undertaking.

Citizens across a broad spectrum are

asking questions around the future protection of our agricultural assets and how, as a community, we achieve future growth while continuing to support our valued agricultural sectors continued success.

Referencing the Region of Waterloo’s 2020 Bulletin of Census for Agriculture, revenue in Wilmot grew from \$139.7 million dollars in 2011 to \$181.9 million in 2020. And yet, given its growth, a significant contribution to our local economy, it is my belief that we are undervaluing the sector, which requires a seat at the table to help shape its future.

Therefore, I call on council to establish an agricultural advisory committee in Wilmot. This advisory committee would report to council and consist of community stakeholders across the township to

provide advice and guidance with a focus on the enhancement and delivery of local agricultural initiatives.

Establishing this local advisory committee provides the agricultural sector in Wilmot the most direct and transparent connection between policy decision making and our farming community. It elevates the voice of our farming community while presenting an opportunity to minimize the impacts to farmers and the farming sector in the future.

It is an opportunity for education and awareness to both council, staff and, more broadly, the community.

To conclude, the creation of an agricultural advisory committee in Wilmot will:

- Visibly demonstrate to the public the

importance of the agricultural sector in Wilmot.

- Help build networks and capacity for future sustainable farming in the township.
- Accurately assess the dynamically changing needs of our local farming community.
- Reinforce the township’s understanding that rural agriculture and urban growth is about the long game.

It is my hope that council will swiftly adopt a motion to create this committee. I thank you in advance for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,  
Rory Farnan, Wilmot Township resident

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OPINION —

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK: *The multitasking joys of working from home*



**By Galen Simmons**

In 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic forced most of us to stop working from the office, I'd already been working mostly from home for the better part of a year or two.

Sure, I'd drop in at the office to keep my boss at the time happy and to upload photos to the

central server, but I did the majority of my work from the tiny little desk in the bedroom of my attic apartment, allowing me to roll out of bed and begin my work day without the hassle of a morning commute or even the need to brush my teeth or put on pants before I began answering emails and making phone calls.

While my work-from-home routine has evolved significantly since then – I promise I'm wearing pants as I write this – I have become a diehard supporter of remote work over the past five years, and the notion of returning to any kind of office makes about as much sense to me as ignoring all the public-health and other lessons we collectively learned from the pandemic.

Personally, I am way more productive without other people

around. When I worked at an office, I'd often find myself distracted by conversations with co-workers, unnecessary trips to get coffee and literally anything else I could find to keep myself from doing actual work.

While there may be plenty of distractions at home and my penchant for procrastination hasn't improved much, I find instead of wasting time doing nothing productive at the office, I use those little breaks from work to do the household tasks that need to be done anyway like starting a load of laundry, emptying the dishwasher, or – as I'm planning on doing this week – filing my taxes.

I also find my eating habits are both healthier and less expensive. Instead of walking over to McDonald's or Tim Hortons for a coffee or some lunch, I make my-

self much better coffee at home and my lunches would make the authors of Canada's Food Guide proud. And, since I'm responsible for setting my own schedule, I can use the power of procrastination to actually get some exercise during the day – something that gives me that much-needed boost after lunch and helps refresh my brain for the remainder of the day.

After working remotely for years, my girlfriend recently started a new job that required her to work from an office for the first two weeks and every Monday and Tuesday after that. While she appreciates the opportunity to socialize and collaborate in person with her co-workers, it's clear the all-important work-life balance is harder to achieve when she's at the office from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

I realize we're both lucky to have jobs that allow us the flexibility to work from home and there are many professions that don't offer that luxury. For those employers that can however, giving employees who have proven they can work independently the option to work remotely demonstrates a level of trust and gives them the freedom to balance their work and personal lives, something that can really strengthen relationships between workers and their bosses.

I'm the kind of guy who will always be happier and more comfortable at home, so maybe I'm biased, but I really don't see the downside to letting employees work from wherever suits them best.



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## TRAVEL —

## OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Road Trip: some flexibility required



By Paul Knowles

Road Trip! That clarion call used to stir the blood of us all in a younger and more adventurous era.

Now, I have rediscovered a love for loading the car and hitting the road. We've enjoyed three extended trips in the past 13 months or so into the U.S. and eastern Canada.

So, I have become an advocate for this travel option. Advantages abound. No airports comes to mind, closely followed by not spending hours sandwiched into a seat on an airplane, which brings to mind trying to pack everything you need for two weeks in a carry-on.

Our most recent trip saw us headed south, touching nine states and the District of Columbia. It took 33 days and covered 7,500 kilometers. We stayed in 14 different accommodations, from friends' guest rooms to five-star resorts to heritage inns. We ate gourmet meals,

fast food and muffins and mandarins in the car. We braved 70 m/hr legalized insanity through the hills of West Virginia, and 30 m/hr restrictions protecting endangered Keys Deer. We rode on golf carts and a variety of watercrafts from the Cabbage Key cruise boat to the Pirates of the Caribbean ship.

We visited Myrtle Beach, seven different parts of Florida, Virginia and Cooperstown, N.Y. It was great, all of it. I will be writing about these destinations and more over the next months.

But an extended automobile journey does come with its own issues.

First, you have to hope that nothing goes wrong with the vehicle. We were fortunate.

Second, you have to enjoy driving. I encountered very few problems. Most drivers were careful and surprisingly polite, but in one case, I did have a very aggressive tailgater who eventually passed me in a dangerous situation. As I quietly cursed this "ugly American," I noticed the plate was from Ontario.

The third issue is the biggest – you have to be flexible and patient. I am working on that.

Things happen. Traffic happens. Lost bookings happen.

Let's talk GPS. I have become very dependent on GPS to keep me on the right road. But my GPS and I do not always agree on the specific road. There were only three or four times GPS let me down, but they were doozies. Three times, it tried to take me through locked gates. And once, as we drove from Richmond to Alexandria, Va., we started and ended the trip on the I95 but, en

route, GPS took us on increasingly smaller roads until we were navigating the curves of the 35-m/hr Turkey Hill Road. I asked a local if I95 would take one directly from Richmond to Virginia. Of course it did, but my GPS didn't seem to know that.

The greatest need for flexibility concerns accommodations, no matter how well planned in advance.

We had two quick, overnight stops in small towns. In one case, we drove from Florida's Gulf Coast to Virginia, stopping in South Carolina. It was well into the evening when I walked into the reception area of the hotel I had booked well in advance.

The receptionist explained they did indeed have a smoking room as I had requested. I am as likely to request a smoking room as I am a room stocked with raccoons.

"Sorry. That's the only room left. And you've already paid for it."

We walked into the room, breathed once and exited within seven seconds. I went back to explain that we would not be staying.

"Every room in town is booked," she said.

Right across the street was a Best Western. I called. They had rooms. I am still negotiating a refund from hotel number one.

The oddest accommodation moment came at the Marriott Village in Orlando. I went to the front desk at the Courtyard and, after waiting for a few minutes, I was checked in, got the room key and the instructions to our floor.

Arriving on the floor, we could



The first exhibit you encounter at Cooperstown's Baseball Hall of Fame is this sculpture, "Character and Courage" by Stanley Bleifeld, featuring, from left, baseball heroes Lou Gehrig, Jackie Robinson and Roberto Clemente. All photos by Paul Knowles

not find a room bearing the number on our key folder. I returned to the front desk.

"Oh, the room number is actually the final numbers. ... Ignore the first one."

I went back to the floor. Nope. No room with that number either. A passing staff member who spoke little English tried to help. Using the translator on her phone, she produced a message: "There is no room with that number on this floor."

Back down to the desk. We must be on the wrong floor, they said. I took the elevator back up. Tried another floor. Nope. Back down.

The manager got involved. Much confusion and debate. And finally, the light went on.

"You're in the wrong hotel. Your reservation is at the Springhill Suites, just over there. Take

your luggage trolley and head over. ... You're already checked in."

So, we trundled the trolley around the traffic circle, entered the Springhill Suites, and discovered we were, indeed, checked in. Our room actually existed. It was lovely. And the good news? Here, unlike next door, breakfast was included.

Like I said, road trips are great if you approach them with some patience and flexibility. I'm trying. Really, I am.

Paul Knowles is an author and travel writer, and President of the Travel Media Association of Canada. To contact Paul about travel, his books, or speaking engagements, email [pknowles@golden.net](mailto:pknowles@golden.net).



The famous – or infamous? – Sloppy Joe's bar, much loved by Ernest Hemingway, in Key West.



Sunset on Captiva Island on Florida's Gulf Coast.



Exhibits are on display high, low and everywhere at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum in Chantilly, Va.



# OPINION —

## EXPERT ADVICE: *Make Time for massage and “ReNu” your mind, body and spirit*



**By Mercedes Kay Gold**

Angie Hallman is a registered massage therapist with over 21 years of experience. As owner of ReNu Health and Wellness, she and her team have been alleviating soreness and stress since 2008.

Massage is not just part of a soothing spa day but rather head-to-toe therapy offering boatloads of benefits for both physical and mental health at any age.

Massage is all about the therapist's touch, and this reporter was in dire need of some healing hands. A good therapist asks all the right questions and uses varying pressures, movements and different techniques to manipulate muscles, tendons and ligaments. Hallman checked all the boxes in our session. The office was clean, cozy, calming and she listened attentively to my areas of concern before she worked

her magic.

Massage addresses everything from constipation, headaches, nerve pain, fibromyalgia and Temporomandibular (TMJ) disorders to anxiety, depression and much more. A top-notch therapist's touch is an instantaneous wave of wellness.

Whether you have chronic pain from sitting at your computer all day or acute pain from a scary slip or strenuous workout, massage is a holistic approach.

Hallman and her team at ReNu provide a wide range of services to support clients at every age and stage of life. Experts agree regular exercise and healthy eating are key to overall wellness. Hallman recommends a massage every four to six weeks for general maintenance but those recovering from an injury may benefit from more frequent visits.

“In today's computer-dependent society, neck, shoulder and upper-back issues or tech neck are the most common areas needing attention,” Hallman said.

ReNu offers an array of amazing massage options. Prenatal massage is considered safe, and the mother-to-be can relax comfortably in a face-down position in a specially designed pregnancy table. Massage helps reduce stress hormones, increase blood flow and support the lymphatic system, as well as address all the aches and pains of carrying a tiny human.

Infant massage has the same positive effects on a newborn's life, as well as few-

er symptoms of colic, less constipation and a more restful sleep. Great news for sleep-deprived parents.

Cranial Therapy is a gentle hands-on treatment especially helpful for those suffering from headaches, neck pain or TMJ.

For those who love visiting the hairdresser for the relaxing hair wash, the indie head massage with oil is heavenly.

This personal trainer sees sports massage as an ongoing recovery must for avid exercisers, weekend warriors and athletes chasing goals.

Throughout history, the art of cupping has been seen as ancient medicine and it's back in the spotlight today as an alternative therapy, helping relieve pain and increase blood flow and circulation thanks to celebrity influencers like Lady Gaga, Kim Kardashian and Justin Bieber. Glass or plastic cups are applied to the skin with suction, causing the skin to rise. After removal, circle marks remain in a wide range of colors.

ReNu also offers breast massage for those who have had implants, reductions or a mastectomy. There are thermal palms to decrease tension and increases circulation in a manner similar to a hot stone massage. Infrared blankets are more than trendy. Snuggle under the sauna blanket and relieve fatigue fast while the body sweats out toxins.

Feeling fabulous impacts life and leads to longevity. Life is busy, but even 30 min-



eNu Health and Wellness in New Hamburg offers a number of massage therapies including prenatal massage. Contributed image

utes dedicated to the mind, body and spirit soothes the soul. Massage is marvelous, so much in fact, the resting heart rate and blood pressure drop and it's not uncommon to have a cozy cat nap right on the table.

I highly recommend ReNu for renewing you!

ReNu Health and Wellness is located at 251 C Huron St. in New Hamburg. Book online or call 519-662-6277.

## EXPERT ADVICE: *Hey! It's Bay Days*



**By Scott Dunstall**

It should still be on when this prints, but if it isn't, it isn't. They don't publish the dates so that you panic and jump in your car or on your computer to make sure you take advantage of the biggest national sale for men's fashion in Canada – once in the spring and once in the fall.

Believe it or not, I have almost missed some sales cycles if I am off doing my usual 8,000 things per week, in which case I have sometimes got on my computer at 11:45 p.m. on the last day to find something – anything – to avoid FOMO (fear of missing out). This is not the time to buy pieces of your style. How many times have you guys heard me say don't shop in a panic with a deadline, like the day before a business trip or special event. Physicians heal

thyselves because here is Scottie with 15 minutes to go and I am trying to find that magical mystery piece. This is probably why I have a 10-foot scarf because I didn't check the length and green plaid boots just because they were on sale.

But some of the mainstream things that men are looking for at this time of the year seem to run out of stock quickly during Bay Days, especially the popular colours and double especially if the discount is more than 40 per cent. So, Docker shorts in royal blue for example, could be on thin supply in-store, especially in the most popular waist sizes. Nothing disappoints more than to see the brand, style and colour from a distance and arrive at the shelf only to find sizes suitable only for hamsters or hyenas. I just made that up and it means nothing more than end-of-the-spectrum sizes.

Can I ask you something? What is going on with The Bay and dress coats? Try and find them on their website. Puffers? Check. Parkas? Yep. Raincoats? Uh Huh. Shackets (shirt-jackets)? Yes. They used to have a section for dress coats (full and mid length). No more. They have a pea-coat section which has a few on there that kind of

fit that description. But no, the dress-coat category at the Bay is no longer. I will soldier on and be determined to find something else before this sale ends. Shoes. I am literally checking the shoe section online while I write this.

These are good deals. To make this list, they had to be north of 40 per cent off, strong brand quality and have an element of uniqueness.

**Steve Madden: Lenn Casual Shoes**

Black or Brown Polyurethane top, solid white rubber sole

What caught my eye?

- \$95 reduced to \$54.
- Interesting streak of blue in the welt (the stitching strip between the top and sole).

**Steve Madden: Arayy Lace up Dress Shoes**

Leather and Polyurethane top and rubber sole

What caught my eye?

- Leather patch on the heel.
- White stitching on the welt.
- \$90 reduced to \$50.
- Reddish brown sole looks sharp against the brown top.

**Calvin Klein: Aggussie Knit Derby Shoes**

Faux Leather top and Rubber soul  
What caught me eye?

- The black is midnight and has a slight micro mesh surface.
- Thin stacked heel makes it all look very sleek and sharp.
- On sale at 40 per cent off, coming in at \$96.

For me, there was nothing that really jumped out at me in the boot department that I don't have already, but I will say that there are some nice pieces on sale during Bay Days that will make you stand out. And if you want to stand out, look for anything but black, then, from what's left, pick something you can live with. And different doesn't mean garish. It's what I do but hey, it may not work for you.

On the slip-on front, I don't see a lot that tickles my fancy but, again, I have specific tastes like sleekness, so I don't get these new blocky jobs that seem to now proliferate this category. The heel flares at the base are 1 ½ inches, the sole is the same height. Both have treads on them like boots. How are these popular? You look like Frankenstein. I never see anyone wearing them, but all the brands make them. I digress.

While we are talking about slippers let's have a little contest.

Google this: The Bay/Stacy Adams/Colbin Loafer.

If I meet you and you tell me that you read my articles, I am going to ask you, 'What colour are the Colbin Loafers?' If you guess the right colour, I will give you a \$10 Timmies card.

If I get anyone that gets it remotely close, then I will publish their names in my next article.

*“Style is just fashion filtered through your personality”*

Scott Dunstall has been on a stylistic journey for over 10 years. His belief is that every guy has a style of their own. When it's discovered, it empowers and builds confidence. Scott has appeared several times on Rogers TV Kitchener as a guest on DAYTIME. His writing has been republished by LinkedIn Top Influencer and INC. Magazine contributing editor, Jeff Haden. He has also written several pieces for the Baden Outlook. You can follow Scott on Instagram @everydaystylebyscott or on LinkedIn @scottdunstall or Life & Style Wilmot on Facebook. Feel free to ask questions or propose collaborations: everydaystylebyscott1@gmail.com.



# COMMUNITY —

## Help the New Hamburg Legion find family members of local First and Second World War veterans

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette staff

To help the local Legion find family members of local veterans so they can be honoured in the 11th edition of the Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command's Military Service Recognition Book, the Gazette will regularly publish a list of names in future editions for which legion volunteers have been unable to find or contact family members. For this year's edition of the Military Service Recognition Book, the local legion has until May 15 to submit local veterans to the book's publisher.

This week's list of veterans are as follows:

- Rhodes, William F.
- Rice, Trevor
- Riehl, Gerald
- Riehl, Jack
- Ritz, Ernest F.
- Routley, William S.
- Sanderson, William C.
- Sarre, George
- Sartorelli, Peter M.
- Sauve, Gladys N.
- Sauve, Rene
- Scherer, Clayton M.
- Scherer, Douglas R.
- Schmidt, Eric John
- Schmidt, Harold E.
- Schnarr, Richard O.
- Schroeder, William H.
- Schwing, William
- Schwoob, Donald
- Scott, John R.A.
- Scott, Murray
- Shilliday, Robert
- Shepherd, William R.
- Skuce, Ruth J.
- Stacey, Anthony
- Steiner, Carl
- Stuebing, Robert A.
- Stumpf, Harold D.
- Summers, Leonard
- Swatman, Kenneth
- Swarman, Michael
- Sweet, Fred R.
- Thiesson, Jacob
- Thomas, Newton A.
- Thonson, Terende
- Vallentin, Adolpf
- Van Trigt, James A.
- Vietch, Harris C.
- Wakelin, Charles
- Walker, Clifford F.
- Wallace, Fred B.
- Wallace, Kenneth M.
- Wallbank, William A.
- Walters, Eric H.
- Watt, Archie L.
- Way, Sidney G.
- Webber, Allan
- Weber, Norman
- Weichel, William W.
- Wiebe, Claire H.
- Wismer, Clarence, H.
- Wrzesniewski, Victor

If you are related to or know someone who is related to one of the above veterans or any local First and Second World War veterans and would like to have their name, story and photo included in the 11th Military Service Recognition Book, email Bob Berg at [rwberg@gmail.com](mailto:rwberg@gmail.com). Please note, a previous email address provided as contact information for Berg has been compromised and messages to that email will not be received.

# Gazette Puzzles

## NHL STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS

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 O W D I S A V S D I Z B H M O O H C B C  
 T I Y Q E H R T E Q C S T A A S C R R X  
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| Bruins    | Golden Knights | Lightning   | Predators   |
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## Pet of the Week



### SPARTAN

This Shakespeare area Quarter Horse named "Spartan", loves going for a walk on a road #106 in South Easthope township on a sunny, warm spring day. He is a 5 year old Gelding who is owned and western ridden by Rick Carty who keeps the horse at parents Heather and John Duiker's farm. Rick has owned him since he was 2 years old, and says he is quiet with a pleasant disposition

Nominate your Pet of the Week by emailing: [thewtgazette@gmail.com](mailto:thewtgazette@gmail.com)



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION CENTRE

# William St. Sewage Pumping Station – Tavistock

## Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study

Oxford County is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) study to identify the most appropriate sanitary servicing solution to support ongoing sanitary servicing needs and anticipated community growth to the year 2046 in the William Street area of the Village of Tavistock.

### About the study

The William Street Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) receives sewage from homes, businesses and institutions within the William Street SPS study area (refer to Study Area map). Oxford County initiated a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study that is considering a wide range of servicing alternatives in order to identify the most preferred solution to support ongoing wastewater servicing needs to the year 2046.

The Class EA study is being planned in accordance with the planning and design process for Schedule B projects as outlined in the Municipal Engineers Association Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (2023), which is an approved process under Ontario's *Environmental Assessment Act*.

### We want to hear from you

Consultation with stakeholders is a key component of the study process and input will be sought throughout the study.

A virtual (online) Public Consultation Centre (PCC) is being held to provide a project update, present the alternative servicing solutions, present the evaluation criteria for selecting the preferred servicing solution, and present the preferred solution.

**Tuesday, May 14, 2024**  
**Online: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

Please check the project website at [www.speakup.oxfordcounty.ca/william-street-sps-tavistock](http://www.speakup.oxfordcounty.ca/william-street-sps-tavistock) for login details to join. Materials will be posted to the project website following the meeting.

**Comments are welcome and should be submitted by Monday, May 27, 2024.**



Submit your comments or questions through the project website or to the project contacts.

To receive project updates, subscribe to the study mailing list through one of the project contacts.

### Project contacts

Gemma Charlebois, M.A.Sc., P.Eng.  
 Project Manager  
 MTE Consultants Inc.  
 519-743-6500 ext. 1227  
[GCharlebois@mte85.com](mailto:GCharlebois@mte85.com)

Don Ford, BA, CMM III, C.Tech.  
 Manager, Water and Wastewater Services  
 Oxford County  
 519-539-9800 ext. 3191  
[dford@oxfordcounty.ca](mailto:dford@oxfordcounty.ca)

*Information collected will be used in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.*

This notice first issued on April 19, 2024



# CLASSIFIED ADS —

## HELP WANTED



### Job Title: Retail Sales Associate – Permanent Part-time and/or Full-time.

Join our growing team and build a career you're proud of!

Yantzi Home Design Smart is looking for people like you to join our growing team. We are a family run business and have been successfully serving the Tavistock and surrounding areas for over 70 years.

We're looking for a creative, energetic, and dynamic individual who is passionate about creating outstanding customer experiences. You are respectful and friendly towards others, and you thrive working in a group.

Previous paint experience is an asset, however, not a requirement. We are looking for the right person to join our team and we are willing to train to ensure continued success in the future of this department.

#### Duties/Responsibilities

- Providing colour and paint product selection advice.
- Receiving product, merchandising, and restocking of shelves
- Staying current with trends in the industry and assisting with home décor items
- Assist customers in locating merchandise in store and various departments.
- Assist customers with finding all items needed to complete their paint and décor project.
- Cashier duties with products being sold.
- Update pricing on merchandise, bins, displays etc. as necessary.
- Build special displays and signage for sales, promotions, and other special events. records, and employee safety records

#### Qualifications

- Paint experience such as colour matching, mixing, sales, knowledge of paint & décor products, would be an asset.
- Ability to work every second Saturday.
- A commitment to service excellence and customer satisfaction.
- Excellent communications, skills, exceptional organization ability, high attention to detail and creative abilities for working on home décor displays.
- Ability to work cooperatively in a team atmosphere.
- Willingness to continually develop professional skills and knowledge base.
- Must be able to lift 40 lbs to assist with customers orders.
- Ability to stand for an extended period.

**We offer competitive pay, a positive work environment, and opportunities for career growth. If you are enthusiastic about sales and enjoy working with customers, we encourage you to apply for the position of Retail Sales Associate.**

**We would like to thank all applicants for their, however, we will contact the most qualified applicants only. Please submit resume to [sales@yantzihomebuildingcentre.com](mailto:sales@yantzihomebuildingcentre.com)**

## Weekly Quiz Answers

- |                      |                            |                     |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. 1993              | 4. Detroit, Michigan       | 7. Krypton          |
| 2. Red-billed Quelea | 5. 9 years old             | 8. 35 years old     |
| 3. India             | 6. Artificial Intelligence | 9. Left side        |
|                      |                            | 10. Type O negative |

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR - APRIL/MAY 2024

### THURSDAY, APR. 25

**Community Care Concepts Lunch and Fellowship**  
12 p.m.

Join us for lunch and fellowship.  
Wilmot Rec Complex,  
1291 Nafziger Rd, Baden

### FRIDAY, APR. 26

**Wilmot Lions / Lioness Club Spaghetti Dinner**  
Serving 5:00-7:30 pm

Includes: Spaghetti Dinner, Salad, Dessert and a glass of wine - \$25.00  
Children 10 and under - \$5.00  
Advance tickets only  
Email: paulmackie@rogers.com  
Or call: 519-498-9302  
New Hamburg Legion Branch 532,  
65 Boullee St, New Hamburg

### SATURDAY, APR. 27

**Women Walk the World event**  
10 a.m.

New Dundee Community Centre  
1028 Queen St., New Dundee

**Wilmot Senior's Woodworking Spring Sale**  
10 am - 2 pm

27 Beck St., Baden

### TUESDAY, APR. 30

**Nith Valley Ecoboosters free in-person educational event**  
7:00-8:30 p.m.

Topic: "STOVE TALK: Introduction to Induction". Please join us to learn about the benefits of induction cooking and see cooking demonstrations by local chefs.  
Register at:  
nvecoboosters.com Questions?  
Contact nvecoboosters@gmail.com  
Wilmot Recreational Complex,  
Room A  
1291 Nafziger Road, Baden

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

**Township of East-Zorra Tavistock council meeting**  
9 a.m.

Council chambers  
89 Loveys St. Hickson

### SATURDAY, MAY 4

**Let's Tree Wilmot Tree Planting**  
9 a.m. to noon

Riverside Park  
Riverside Drive, New Hamburg

### MONDAY, MAY 6

**Township of Wilmot council meeting**  
7-11 p.m.

Council chambers  
60 Snyder's Rd. West Baden

### TUESDAY, MAY 7

**Ostomy Support Group Meeting**  
7:00 p.m.

"How to Avoid Scams and Frauds" with Constable Darren Fischer (Community Resource and Media Relations Officer) Stratford Police Service. Social time and snacks. Everyone welcome. (519)273-4327  
93 Morgan St., Stratford

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

**Community Care Concepts Lunch and Fellowship**  
12 p.m.

Join us for lunch and fellowship.  
Wellesley Recreation Complex  
1401 Queen's Bush Rd. Wellesley

### THURSDAY, MAY 9

**The Community Players of New Hamburg presents: Anne of Green Gables**  
7:30pm

Price C\$37.00  
tickets@thecommunityplayers.com  
1-800-827-7524  
Trinity Theatre at the New Hamburg Community Centre  
251 Jacob St., New Hamburg

### FRIDAY, MAY 10

**The Community Players of New Hamburg presents: Anne of Green Gables**  
7:30pm

Price C\$37.00  
tickets@thecommunityplayers.com  
1-800-827-7524  
Trinity Theatre at the New Hamburg Community Centre  
251 Jacob St., New Hamburg

### SATURDAY, MAY 11

**The Community Players of New Hamburg presents: Anne of Green Gables**  
2:00pm and 7:30pm

Price C\$37.00  
tickets@thecommunityplayers.com  
1-800-827-7524  
Trinity Theatre at the New Hamburg Community Centre  
251 Jacob St., New Hamburg

### SUNDAY, MAY 12

**Optimist Club of New Dundee Mother's Day Brunch**  
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

New Dundee Community Centre  
1028 Queen St., New Dundee

**The Community Players of New Hamburg presents: Anne of Green Gables**  
2:00pm

Price C\$37.00  
tickets@thecommunityplayers.com  
1-800-827-7524  
Trinity Theatre at the New Hamburg Community Centre  
251 Jacob St., New Hamburg



### TUESDAY, MAY 14

**Township of Wellesley council meeting**  
6:45 p.m.

Council chambers  
4805 William Hastings Line,  
Crosshill



### WEDNESDAY, MAY. 22

**Community Care Concepts Lunch and Fellowship**  
12 p.m.

Join us for lunch and fellowship.  
Linwood Community Centre,  
5279 Ament Line, Linwood

### THURSDAY, MAY 23

**Community Care Concepts Lunch and Fellowship**  
12 p.m.

Join us for lunch and fellowship.  
Wilmot Rec Complex,  
1291 Nafziger Rd, Baden

### FRIDAY, MAY 24

**New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale**  
5:30 pm

New Hamburg Fair Grounds  
251 Jacob St., New Hamburg

### SATURDAY, MAY 25

**New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale**  
7:00 am

New Hamburg Fair Grounds  
251 Jacob St., New Hamburg





**CLASSIFIED ADS —**

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- Assist with production

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I have joined Magnolia Group Realty! My team founders have phenomenal client centered relationships and many years of experience in real estate at Coldwell Banker Peter Benninger Realty.

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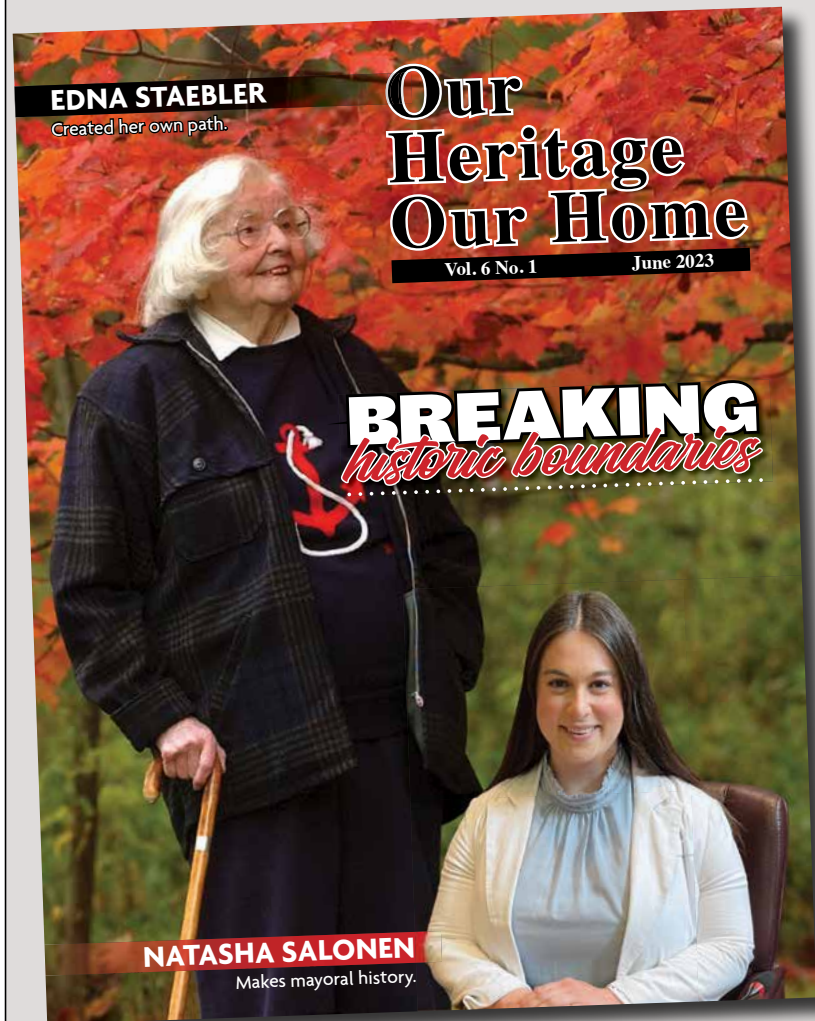
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# Our Heritage Our Home



## VOL. 7

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