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FREE

Applejacks Take Doherty Division Title



The Wellesley Applejacks staff and team members after their 3-1 win against the New Hamburg Firebirds in game six. They will now take on the Glanbrook Rangers. (Photo credit: Jeff McCrea)

By Lee Griffi

Wellesley has advanced to the Provincial Junior Hockey League's South Conference Final after disposing of regular-season champion New Hamburg in six games.

The Applejacks won game six at home by a 3-1 score to send them into the next round of the playoffs. Goalie Noah Bender has been a significant factor throughout the postseason and was sharp again in net, with 37 saves on 38 shots. The six-foot-four Waterloo native has an 11 and 3 record, two shutouts, a 2.29 goals against average and a .927 save percentage during Wellesley's run.

New Hamburg scored the game's first goal at the 11:59 mark of the first period, Kyle Kraemer's second of the playoffs, but Isiah Katsube's powerplay goal tied it up with five minutes remaining in the second period setting the stage for rookie Jake L'Heureaux's heroics. He buried a rebound after a drive to the net by Curtis Butler for the game-winning goal with 45 seconds left in the period. Katsube added an empty-net goal late in the third.

Captain Justin McCombs said the win makes all the hard work worth it. "It's amazing. All year we've been playing for this very moment and to live it and see all the fans here supporting us. To

win it at home is just amazing." He added the team improved as the season went on. "From the start of the year, we faced adversity. We started out slow, but as the year went on, we got better and better. We played in all situations, down a couple of goals, but we came back. We always know we can find a way to win. The boys didn't get down on themselves, even down 1-0 late in the second period. Once we scored once, another one came in, and we just shut them down after that. New Hamburg has a great team over there, and it was a battle." The Applejack's home arena isn't somewhere

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Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette wins three OCNA awards

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette and its contributors have won three awards in the Ontario Community Newspaper Association's (OCNA) 2022 Better Newspapers Competition.

The Gazette won first place for the Best COVID-19 Coverage category out of 28 entries, second place for the Best Guest/Freelance Column out of 13 entries, and third place for the Best Community Website/WebPortal, circulation under 9,999, out of 15 entries. The competition results were announced during a virtual presentation hosted by the OCNA on Friday, April 14th.

The Best COVID-19 Coverage category submissions featured stories from four different authors detailing how the pandemic and associated restrictions affected all facets of daily life, including schools, personal, mental health, and business.

Category judge John Arendt, Editor of Summerland Review in Summerland, BC, wrote of the articles: "The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette told the stories of several people who had been forced to cope with the restrictions. These stories are extremely personal and because of this, they were memorable. COVID-19 coverage is not just about the news, mandates and restrictions, but about how this pandemic affects people. You've done an admirable job of showing this to your readers."

Veronica Reiner's contribution to this category was an article with the headline "Calls to the CMHA Waterloo-Wellington Increased by 60% throughout the COVID-19 pandemic," published on January 27th, 2022. The article featured an interview with Canadian Mental Health Association Chief Executive Officer Helen Fishburn, who discussed an increase in calls to the organization's Here 24/7 Line, along with the struggles that people were facing. Fishburn also provided tips

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NEWS —

Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette wins three OCNA awards

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to improve mental health.

Melissa Mills' contribution was an article called "This pandemic ends with us together," published on February 17th, 2022. It describes her struggle spending hundreds of days apart from her boyfriend, Taylor, due to COVID-19 restrictions, particularly the Canada/USA border closure. He lived about 25 minutes away from her in the United States.

Lee Griffi's contribution was entitled "Area restaurants facing challenges but staying positive as they prepare for re-opening," published January 27th, 2022. It featured interviews with Cindy Larsen

and her husband, Brian, the owners of Quehl's restaurant in Tavistock, as well as Nick Cressman, owner of the Puddicombe House in New Hamburg. They faced price increases, labour shortages, and business shutdowns.

Nigel Gordijk's contribution was called "Rollercoaster school year is taking its toll, says Waterloo-Oxford student," published on January 13th, 2022. It features an interview with Waterloo Oxford District Secondary School Grade 12 student Sam Miller, who describes the challenges of school closures, and unexpected shifts between in-person and remote learning.

Chip Bender's column won second place in the Best Guest/Freelance Column

category. Chip is a counsellor at Interfaith Counselling Centre in New Hamburg, and contributes articles to the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette about once a month. His award winning article is entitled "Bless the Curses," and was published on April 7th, 2022. It describes shifting our perspective on hardships that may befall us in everyday life.

Category judge Thom Barker, Regional Editor in Northwest BC of Black Press Media, wrote of the article: "Great advice for our times. The author of this piece gives us a recipe for coping in an engaging and concise way with relevance for all people."

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette won third

place in the Best Community Website/WebPortal (circulation under 9,999) category. The website provides the option to sort articles based on category, a PDF print edition section of the paper, audio/video news pieces, and locations as to where to pick up the paper.

Category judge James McCarthy, Managing Editor of Northern News Services Ltd. in Nunavut and NWT, wrote of the website: "Really nice local sports and current news that readers will see as soon as they visit. Also like the interactivity of the site where tips can be submitted for news, community events and letters. The letters/opinion portion is where this site is lacking, but the rest makes up for that."

Applejacks Take Doherty Division Title



The Wellesley Applejacks celebrate winning game six at home in Wellesley with a 3-1 score against the New Hamburg Firebirds which sent them to the playoffs. (Photo credit: Jeff McCrea)

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opposing teams enjoy playing, something the captain says is a real testament to the support residents give the team. "If you knew nothing about the town of Wellesley and you came to a game, you would think there were 50 or 100 thousand people here. There is just so much support we get that helped us through the regular season and the playoffs."

Butler added that the team really gelled into a cohesive unit. "Wellesley is such a great place to play. The boys are all amazing. We are close like brothers, we battled hard, and we deserved it."

The Firebirds forced a game six with a 4-1 win on home ice Friday after jumping out to a 3-0 lead by the 15:18 mark of the third period. Jessie Schill, Justin McManus, and Cole Stannix found the net before Adam Hoff scored for the Applejacks at 16:39, but Stannix added an empty-net goal to seal the win. Blake Richard stopped 37 of 38 Wellesley shots to earn the win in net.

One of the biggest factors in the series was an anemic New Hamburg powerplay that went on for 10 in the last two games. The Firebirds had a five-minute advantage in game six when Kyle Baker was assessed a major for head contact, but they couldn't

find the back of the net.


The next opponent for Wellesley is the Glanbrook Rangers, who were tied for the best regular season record in the entire Provincial Junior Hockey League with 74 points.

Notes... Katsube's offence has been a key factor in the Applejacks playoff run. He has 21 points in 15 games. Just McCombs and Kyle Baker are tied for second in scoring with 14 points each... Wellesley will have to contend with Glanbrook's Sean Golebiowski, who was one of the league's top scorers with 67 points in the regular season. He has seven goals in right playoff

games.

The schedule is as follows:

- Game 1 – Wednesday, April 19 Glanbrook 7:30 p.m.
- Game 2 – Friday, April 21 Wellesley 7:30 p.m.
- Game 3 – Sunday, April 23 Glanbrook 5 p.m.
- Game 4 – Tuesday, April 25 Wellesley 7:30 p.m.
- *Game 5 – Wednesday, April 26 Glanbrook 7:30 p.m.
- *Game 6 – Friday, April 28 Wellesley 7:30 p.m.
- *Game 7 – Sunday, April 30 Glanbrook 5 p.m.
- * if necessary.



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FEATURE —

Wilmot Fire Brigades holding fundraiser, with the aim of getting more space for display items

By Veronica Reiner

The Wilmot Heritage Fire Brigades have recently finished their monthly 50/50 raffle, in a fundraiser aiming to raise money for more storage space. The organization is pleased to announce that Karmen Hell is the winner, with her share being \$497.50.

This marks the eighth raffle, and Wilmot Fire Brigades member Peter Gingerich said that people are catching on that this is a great way to have fun, possibly win the jackpot, and support a worthwhile local charity.

He added that for this next monthly raffle, the Wilmot Fire Brigades got help from the New Hamburg Domino's.

"This particular month, we also have the good fortune that everyone who buys tickets gets a free large Domino's pizza," said Peter. "We didn't even have to ask them - they came to us."

"It's an online raffle - it doesn't matter where you buy your tickets from, whether it's New Hamburg or Toronto - you still get a coupon for a free pizza."

Ticket sales are going to various locations across Ontario, including Tavistock, Kitchener-Waterloo, Stratford, Mississauga, Woodstock and everywhere in between.

When asked how the 50/50 raffle started, Peter said it started as a fundraiser in order to gain more storage space for the organization.

"We have run out of space for everything,"



Karmen Hell, the most recent 50/50 raffle winner, and Peter Gingerich of the Wilmot Fire Brigades.

he said. "We have equipment that is not even on site simply because we don't have the space for it."

The Wilmot Fire Brigades are hosting several other fundraisers to make money for this goal. For example, the group collects scrap metal and electronics that are sorted and then sold to local scrap dealers. They also hold a monthly can and bottle drive the last Saturday of every month. All proceeds go directly toward operating costs and the new building fund.

The Wilmot Fire Brigades have an antique

fire truck that they have in storage because they don't currently have the room, as well as a horse drawn steam engine fire pumper from the 1800s.

Peter said the search for a new space hasn't been easy, and that the Wilmot Fire Brigades are hoping to stay local.

"We'd like to stay in Wilmot Township if at all possible because we got started here," said Peter. "We started out with just one shed, and it's grown. We now have the shed, along with a portable school building that we purchased many years ago."

The portable is used for some display items, as well as some meetings. The Wilmot Fire Brigades - which has about 85 members total - meets on Wednesday evenings at about 6:30 p.m. until around 8:30 p.m.

"We discuss anything from looking after something that has to be repaired, or doing some cataloging," said Peter. "We're in the process of digitizing out cataloging, so we've got an accurate record of everything. Right now is pen and paper."

The Wilmot Fire Brigades have thousands of items, which could be as large as a truck to as small as a button off an old uniform, and everything in between - from turnout gear, to uniforms, to fire-fighting equipment.

There are about seven or eight people who typically attend meetings regularly. Most come from Wilmot Township. "We've got members that were never involved with the fire service - some had family members that were, and that's perhaps how they got their interest," said Peter.

The Wilmot Fire Brigades are always welcoming new members who are interested in preserving history. Fire department experience is not necessary. Call 519-572-2811 for a personal tour or visit one of the meetings at 10 Bell Drive in Wilmot Township.

The Brigades are a not-for-profit museum and a registered charitable organization that have been operating a museum in Baden since 1995.

2023 Large Item Collection

UPCOMING DATES IN OXFORD COUNTY	APRIL 24 TOWNSHIP OF ZORRA	MAY 8 EAST ZORRA- TAVISTOCK	MAY 15 TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH	MAY 29 BLANDFORD- BLENHEIM	JUNE 12 SOUTH-WEST OXFORD
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THIS PROGRAM IS FOR LARGE ITEMS ONLY

It is NOT a spring clean-up
Non-program material will be left behind, and the homeowner will be responsible for removing it.

Note: automotive parts, glass, mirrors and items piled on trailers/wagons or loose in boxes will not be collected.

If you miss large item collection
Visit the Waste Management Facility
384060 Salford Rd., Salford, ON
M-F: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Sat: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Note: Tipping fees may apply

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Set out by 7 a.m. the Monday of your collection week. **Late set outs will not be collected.**
- Max weight for any item is 45 kg or 100 lbs.
- Bag tags are not required for large items.
- Place items no more than one metre from the curb.
- Items must be on your property, not across roads/ ditches, and easily visible (clear of tall grass).
- Do not place small items on top of larger items. **Inaccessible material will be left behind.**

DOES YOUR ITEM QUALIFY?

- Does it weigh more than 45 kg (100 lbs)?
- Can it be broken down into a garbage bag?
- Is it eligible for a recycling program?
- Is it small but you have a large quantity?

If you checked "yes" for any question, your item **does NOT** qualify.

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Town of Tillsonburg Transfer Station		✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	
City of Woodstock EnviroDepot	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Note: The City of Woodstock provides large item disposal/collection services on behalf of Oxford County. Please check the City of Woodstock City Services Calendar for large item program information.

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COMMUNITY —

Theatre Wellesley to put on production of Norm Foster's The Ladies Foursome this month

By Russel Evans

Theatre Wellesley has announced their latest production for spring 2023. From Apr. 20-30, the community theatre group will be performing legendary Canadian playwright Norm Foster's *The Ladies Foursome* in their "Studio Theatre" on the upper floor of the Wellesley Public Library.

In describing *The Ladies Foursome*, director Mary Beth Jantzi explains that the play centres around the story of a group of four women who have played golf together once a week for over a decade.

"One of the friends, Catherine, dies suddenly, and the other three are left bereft and grieving," says Jantzi.

"But at Catherine's funeral, they meet a woman named Dory, who turns out to have been friends with Catherine – although they had never met her – so they invite her to join them for a round of golf in Catherine's memory."

Jantzi goes on to say that Dory's presence really "stirs the pot" as the other three find out things about their friend Catherine, Dory, and even themselves that they didn't know prior.

"In a way, the play is a little bit like eavesdropping on a group of women as they're out on the golf course," says Jantzi. "They talk candidly about anything and everything in their lives – their relationships, their hopes, their dreams, their disappointments, their fears – and because of that, I think the play will resonate very strongly with any community."

Producer Rhonda Caldwell says the production background setting – a group of friends on a golf course – is ideal, given the season.

"It's kind of the right time of year to do it, because people



The Cast of *The Ladies Foursome* – from left to right: Lori Hoelscher as Connie, Jackie Sharkey as Tate, Ingrid Fast as Dory, and Jamie Russell as Margot. (Photo credit: Theatre Wellesley)

are thinking about going on a golf course," says Caldwell.

"Even if people don't golf, they can still relate to the fact that people do get together, friends do get together, to spend time on a golf course and might even imagine 'hey what kinds of conversations do people have on the golf

course?'"

The Ladies Foursome also represents Theatre Wellesley's first-ever all-female production. Jantzi describes what it has been like to be a part of that experience, telling the Gazette, "I love it. It's been fantastic."

"I think there is kind of an intimacy that comes up when you have a group of women working together, especially in a creative project," says Jantzi. "We're willing to be vulnerable with each other, and we're willing to help each other and trust each other, and to me, that creates a very supportive and nurturing creative environment."

Theatre Wellesley will be staging eight showings of *The Ladies Foursome* between Apr. 20-30 in their studio space on the upper floor of the Wellesley Public Library, located at 1157 Henry St. in Wellesley. Further details on the showings are listed below. Viewers should be aware that there is no elevator at the Wellesley Public Library, so accessing the upper floor requires the use of stairs. Additionally, the play contains adult themes and frank discussions that some viewers may find offensive.

Show times:

April 20, 2023 - 8 p.m.

April 21, 2023 - 8 p.m.

April 22, 2023 - 2 p.m.

April 23, 2023 - 2 p.m.

April 27, 2023 - 8 p.m.

April 28, 2023 - 8 p.m.

April 29, 2023 - 2 p.m.

April 30, 2023 - 2 p.m.

Wilmot Township accepting committee applications

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

The Township of Wilmot is currently accepting applications to sit on their advisory and quasi-judicial committees.

These include the committee of adjustment, dangerous dog designation appeals committee, heritage Wilmot and Castle Kilbride advisory committee and property

standards advisory committee.

The term of service for three of these committees is from the start date of council appointment until December 31, 2026, with the exception of the heritage Wilmot and Castle Kilbride advisory committee. The term for that committee lasts until December 31, 2024.

Applications are available online as well as in person at the Township office. The applications ask for basic information, such as first name, last name, location and contact information, as well as availability. There is one single application form used for every committee, which asks applicants which committee they would like to join in order of preference.

These committees provide recommendations, advice and information to council, as well as carry out assigned responsibilities. Potential members must live or own property, or be the spouse of someone who owns property in Wilmot Township and be at least 18-years-old.

Applications are being accepted until Monday, May 1.

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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COMMUNITY —

Tavistock's Scotiabank raising funds for the Shakespeare Optimist Club's new walking path



The bakers of goodies from Tavistock's Scotiabank bank include front left to right, Ellen Hurlley (banking advisor), Nichelle Horst (customer experience advisor). At back left to right, Margaret Herlick (customer experience lead), Vicki Eckhardt (senior banking advisor) and Paul Mathieson (Optimist Club of Shakespeare fundraising chair) accepting the donated funds.

By Gary West

The Scotiabank personnel in Tavistock are continually willing to help raise funds for organizations in the area who always appreciate the organizations help.

Recently, they were glad to help the Shakespeare Optimist Club in raising funds for their paved walking path being constructed next to the Optimist Hall in the village.

The idea came from retired Scotiabank employee, Frank Meconi, who is a long-time Optimist member, and the

fundraising bake sale was thought to be the way to proceed.

At the end of the day, \$268.50 was raised, and those who donated \$20 had their name in a draw for the licence plate, donated by Jeremy Witzel of One Off Shakespeare and Kim Brenneman had her winning ticket drawn.

The good news was made even better when Scotiabank agreed to match funds raised and another \$268.50 is going to add to the total from the bake sale.

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Easter Bunny makes an appearance in Tavistock



The Easter Bunny paid a visit to students walking to and from Tavistock Public School on Thursday, April 6 to get the kids geared up for the Easter long weekend. Crossing guard extraordinaire Lea Wittig is in the suit and entertains students and parents on a daily basis. (Photo credit: Lee Griffi)

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COMMUNITY —

New Hamburg Community Players Ready to get Up Close and Personal

By Lee Griffi

The theatre group is just a few weeks away from the first presentation of *Up Close and Personal*, a cabaret-style event that showcases song, dance, and narrative performances.

The New Hamburg Community Players have been around for 44 years, and artistic director Danielle Guistini-Crouse has participated for 22 of those years. She is directing the show and is looking forward to seeing the crowds take their seats. "It's a selection of material we have curated from other musical theatre productions and popular music, there are monologues, dramatic content, and dance. We sort of themed the entire show so that every piece selected is inspiring in a way that is hopefully for the future. It is really meant to inspire to bring joy as we come into spring."

Guistini-Crouse adds she came up with the idea for the cabaret after suffering through the pandemic. "To be quite blunt, any sort of musical theatre, especially community theatre, we struggled through COVID. How do you keep moving forward when you can't have a large cast?" She says they are used to having a 60-person musical every spring but have been tentative in how they go about doing that. "Some people still aren't comfortable with a large group, so we did a play last year with 12 people then we had an outbreak with the cast the week before the show and had to put people in as understudies. We have been through the worst case scenario, so we thought let's go back to our core and get a musical on the ground, but we aren't quite ready yet for a 60-person show." *Up Close and Personal* has 25 cast members, and each one has one or two numbers. Guistini-Crouse says it is put together in a way that if one person is not able to perform, the show will still go on.

The pandemic not only affected the group's operations over the last few years, but it also shaped the actual cabaret itself. "The world we lived in in 2020 is not the world we live in now, and it addresses that. The scripting is



Tristan Pilcher, Jill Prince and Robert Grundy.

around the changes that have happened because of what we have been through together as a society," she adds. Despite the heartache COVID-19 caused so many of us, Guistini-Crouse says there is a positive message coming from the performance. "It is very joyful and uplifting. Not only that, it is a very talented cast. Every person performing is doing something that is in their wheelhouse. It will blow people away." She adds the show is being set up in a very intimate way that will maximize the experience for those in attendance. "We are doing it by candlelight with a thrust stage surrounded by tables in the Trinity Theatre at the New Hamburg Community Centre. We have a live band on stage with us, so everything feels very intimate

and close. It will be a cool experience for the audience."

One of the performers is Tavistock resident Krysta (Clark) Hajovic, who is making a return to the stage after a long absence. "This will be my first time in 13 years. I started at the age of 12 and performed at events like the Norfolk County Fair and Waterford Pumpkinfest, then with Simcoe Little Theatre and Port Dover Lighthouse Theatre." She adds as she grew older real life took over, and she went away from singing other than the odd karaoke night. "But now I'm super excited to be back and can't wait to perform again!"

Hajovic feels *Up Close and Personal* is a truly special performance that will take the audience on an emotional journey as the cast reflects on the past few years and how the world has changed. "The story is narrated beautifully with songs that everyone knows and loves. For my solo, I am really being taken out of my comfort zone but could not be more excited about it. I am used to singing ballads, but my role is really to provide some comic relief through my song. No pressure! I am thrilled to be a part of it and work with the incredibly talented cast."

Guistini-Crouse describes community theatre as a group of like-minded individuals who don't perform as their full-time job, but they are inspired to create or be involved in something in the arts. "It's really a family of people who have the same goal in mind; to create a beautiful product that at the end, they can be proud of. No one is paid. It's strictly volunteer."

Ticket information is available on the New Hamburg Community Players website at <https://thecommunityplayers.com> and Guistini-Crouse says they have sold around 50 percent to date. She adds for the first time ever an accessible show is being offered. "It will be on Wednesday, May 10 at 8 p.m., and it will have increased lighting, and we will be encouraging the wearing of masks. We will also have someone doing sign language, and the sound won't be quite as loud."

Performances run from May 4 to May 13.

Wilmot Township approved condominium application for Astor Crescent property

By Veronica Reiner

The Township of Wilmot approved a condominium application for a multi-residential property at 166 Astor Crescent in New Hamburg.

This will allow all 12 residential units within the building, currently under construction, to be divided into separate ownership along with exclusive use areas (parking spaces) and common areas within the development. The applicant is Evanstone Homes Incorporated.

The decision was approved during a hybrid meeting on Monday, April 17.

Councillor Stewart Cressman asked, "When something changes from a rental to a condominium, what impact does that have on the market?"

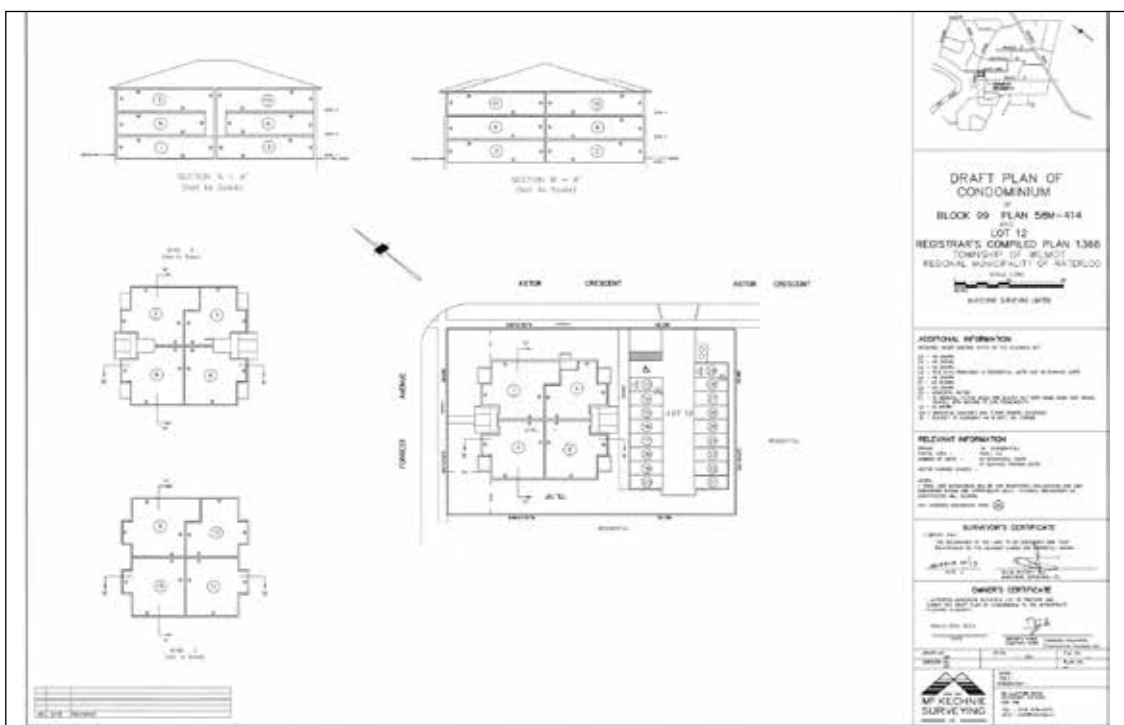
Manager of Planning and Economic Development Andrew Martin responded, "Certainly there's a desire for rental incomes

but there's also a range of affordability in housing types that is required too in the community. So simply by registering a condominium, it doesn't mean that those units can't be rented out. It just means that they have the opportunity to be sold and owned independently.

"Long story short, what I'm getting at is there's still opportunities for both ownership and rental in this form of condominium."

The development is substantially constructed, with the completion of all remaining site works approved through the site plan process and secured through a line of credit. The property has already been subject to a public review through the zoning process.

The owner will pay a parkland dedication fee of \$24,000 to the Township of Wilmot, as per the township fees and charges bylaw.



The proposed condominium plan prepared by McKechnie Surveying Ltd.



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COMMUNITY —

Wilmot Township accepts 14.1 acre land donation

By Veronica Reiner

The Township of Wilmot accepted 14.1 acres of naturalized land on Brubacher Street in Baden from Mike Ulmer and Louis Veenstra.

The decision was approved during a hybrid council meeting on Monday, April 17.

"The property owners approached the township a number of years ago regarding potential interest in this land," said Community Services Director Sandy Jackson during the meeting. "The property is quite beautiful, naturally wooded wetland area that is ideal for future trail development for Baden and area residents, and it would be a really nice addition to the trail system throughout the township."

Tax receipts are to be provided to the donors for:

- the land donation, in an amount determined by an independently certified appraisal secured by the township (at the cost of Mike Ulmer),

- the cost of engineering review and reporting, and permit fees and construction costs, undertaken in relation to the removal of the dam.

"Staff first brought this information forward to council in December 2021, and received approval for acceptance of the



A map of the donation lands.

donation, provided a number of conditions were met prior to the land transfer," said Jackson. "The report verifies that all the conditions have now been met."

The conditions included:

Configuration of the lands: preliminary survey work was completed and confirmed final boundaries of the donation lands incorporate a 5.3 metre corridor between the lands retained by Ulmer and the property

to the south, to provide the chance for future trail access to the donation lands.

Repairs and removal: Ulmer and Veenstra explored options to repair the dam. A professional engineer hired by the two provided plans for repairs, as well as obtained GRCA approval to complete restoration and partial removal of the structure. During the work's completion, irreparable damage was done to the structure. The

GRCA required them to amend their existing permit to remove remaining debris from the water.

Final inspection: The original conditions of acceptance involved hiring a professional engineer to undertake a final inspection of the dam at the donors' cost. Since the structure was completely removed, there was no need to hire an engineer.

Councillor Stewart Cressman said, "As I understood, one of the conditions was repairs of the dam, which they attempted and was unable to accomplish. What are the results of that?"

Jackson responded, "I believe it was more of a cattle transport bridge overtop of the waterways. But it was removed completely."

Final work on the dam included the removal of all concrete, placement of gabion stone below the water level, modifications to side slopes and further stabilization by gabion stone and straw bales as required.

There are no immediate plans to provide public access to the donation lands. The township plans to explore the idea of public access as part of an update to the Trails Master Plan in 2024. Any future costs of trail construction would be included in this plan, and updated in the 10-year capital forecast.

WRPS arrested two men in connection with 16 break and enters

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) arrested two men in connection to multiple commercial break and enters.

Between December 3, 2022, and February 10, unknown suspects were involved in 16 commercial break and enters at businesses across the Waterloo Region. The suspects stole approximately \$50,000 in merchandise from the businesses.

The investigations has been ongoing by WRPS' Break, Enter and Vehicle Theft Team.

On February 10, at about 6:40 a.m., police received a report of a possible impaired driver in the area of Fountain Street South and Shantz Hill Road in Cambridge.

Members of WRPS' Neighbourhood Policing South Division located the suspect vehicle and arrested the driver for impaired operation of a motor vehicle and possession of a stolen vehicle. The passenger was also arrested for possession of a stolen vehicle.

Officers seized suspected methamphetamine and heroin. Several pieces of stolen property were also seized in addition to the stolen vehicle.

The driver, a 33-year-old Toronto man was arrested and charged with "operation while impaired by drug," "possession of suspected methamphetamine," and possession of suspected heroin."

The driver and the passenger, a 34-year-old Brampton man was also arrested and charged with "breach of release order," "theft of motor vehicle" (three counts), "break and enter commit theft" (15 counts) and "possession of stolen property over \$5,000" (15 counts).

The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information is encouraged to call police at 519-570-9777.

To provide anonymous information, please call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or submit online at www.waterloocrimestoppers.com.



The stolen vehicle, a black Jeep Wrangler.

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COMMUNITY —

East Zorra-Tavistock Recreation Advisory Committee Holds Inaugural Meeting

By Lee Griffi

It wasn't open to the public, but the new committee held its first meeting virtually in March. Details were released by the township in its April 5 regular meeting of council package.

The first meeting is being described as an orientation session, not unlike what council goes through when first elected, said township Chief Administrative Officer Karen DePrest. "The session was intended to be a meet and greet amongst the members in order to refine the terms of reference for the committee members and choose a chair and vice-chair, so there was

nothing for the public to engage on."

The township's website has no information yet on the committee other than the inaugural meeting minutes. "The meetings will be advertised there as well as in our social media feeds. I think we were going to advertise the meeting two weeks prior in the Gazette as well. This board will be treated just like Police Services in that sense where their agendas, minutes, etc. will have their own space on our website," added DePrest.

What is known is that councillor Scott Rudy has been named as chairperson of the committee, and community member

Kristen Cook is vice-chair. Rudy said the Parks and Master Recreation Master Plan will be the guiding force. "I have no expectations of what will be on the agenda for the May meeting, but members of the public are invited to attend all meetings. If they have an idea that they want to bring forward, they either need to take it to one of the committee members or if they would prefer to present the idea themselves, then they would need to be on the agenda and would need to contact the office and speak to a member of staff for that to happen."

When asked if he had any ideas to bring forward or if any residents had approached

him, Rudy said the intent of the (committee) is not a platform for him to get ideas out since his voice is already heard at council. "But rather to create a platform to get recreation ideas from the public, sort and filter those ideas to be able to get the most important or most feasible, in front of council for further discussion."

Others on the committee include councillors Steven Van Wyk and Matthew Gillespie, along with community members Neil Butler, Meagan Lichti, Holly Powell, and Kyle Smith. The first open to the public meeting is scheduled for May 10 at the Tavistock Arena.

The annual meeting of Tavistock Community Health Inc

By Gary West

The Tavistock Community Health Inc. (TCHI) board, held its annual meeting last week. According to board chair Bob Zehr, they have overcome many challenges they have faced over the last year.

He said with the advent of COVID, TCHI was forced to make changes, which wasn't always easy, but it wasn't always a bad thing either. In his words, they adopted to things they may not have considered before, but did find out that changes could work out quite effectively.

Another change came about in 2021 when the board was approached by the physicians with the request to separate the business end of the partnership. In November 2021, an agreement was reached between the TCHI (the board) and TCH (Tavistock Physicians) which separated all financial

and banking transactions..

The separation was completed with the transfer from the board to the physicians along with the ownership of the computer system on January 1, 2023.

According to the chairman, moving forward, TCHI will continue with the ownership and maintenance of the facilities, including buildings, grounds, and parking lot. The board's desire would be to create an attractive and welcoming facility for both physicians and patients.

As such TCHI (the board) will serve as the landlord, and TCH (the physicians) and the Star Family Health Team, are the tenants.

With cooperation, the board chair trusts that the board and physicians can move forward with a good productive relationship.



The Tavistock Community Health Inc. 2023 board of directors. At back from left, Janet Kurt, Russ Huber, Keith Wagler, Doug Green, Bob Zehr, Bob Galloway. Front left, Julie Kimpel, Darlene Zehr, Linda Schumm, Frank Meconi, Bruce Swartzentruber. Absent is Carolyn Kropf.

Shakespeare's Optimist club members hold open house

By Gary West

The Shakespeare Optimist Club held an open house and information session on Saturday, April 15, at the Optimist Hall in Shakespeare. Details were presented to the public in attendance about the proposed paved walking/jogging path, its location, construction details, costs, and future potential projects relating to the walking path, which could include lighting.

The path ribbon cutting will be part of the August 12th - the 50th anniversary celebration ceremonies for the club.

Local businesses that were in attendance on Saturday included Linton Windows and Door, Orchard Wellness and Treatment Center, South Easthope Mutual Insurance, Tri-County Brick, and Perth East township, who all had representatives at the site.

The path budget is for \$152,000, fundraising to date includes township donation of \$50,000, Shakespeare Optimist Club donation of \$50,000, and local businesses and community members have now donated \$35,000. The day featured feedback from residents that were present and that feedback proved to be very positive.

Donations collected from that day on the weekend included \$5,000. Exercise equipment is ready to be used and most people have tried some of the machines already.

More info is available at rjmselski@gmail.com or huberruss@gmail.com.



A group photo from Saturday at the exercise area of those residents and businesses interested in donating to the Shakespeare Optimist walking path and exercise area, to be completed this summer.

COMMUNITY —

Perth County 4-H membership is increasing



From left, Grace Oesch, Treasurer, Perth County 4-H association, newly elected President Jessie Nyland, and immediate Past President Carolyn vander Heiden.



Above from left, President Carolyn vander Heiden presented gifts to contestants at the annual meeting's public speaking contest. They were Hailey Royce, Hannah Johnston, Trinity Skinner, and the first place winner, Greta DeWettering.

By Gary West

The Perth County 4-H Association recently held their volunteer and sponsor recognition banquet along with their annual general meeting at the Listowel Agriculture Hall.

President Carolyn vander Heiden reported on a very successful year for 4-H clubs in Perth County.

Membership continued to grow over the

last year, with 34 new members, and a total membership of 277. There was also a total of 54 volunteer 4-H leaders.

She said it was obvious that the members wanted to follow the 4-H motto of "learn to do by doing" by meeting in person for the first time in three years, and Zoom meetings were also available for the vast array of clubs that were being offered.

Throughout the year, Brian Anderson was

presented with the Keith McLagen award for his outstanding leadership in 4-H clubs in Perth County, while also receiving the 2023 Arbor Award from 4-H Ontario, for many years of his solid leadership.

Three long term 4-H members, including Abby Debus, Brianna Marshall and Spenser Dunsmore, were also congratulated and recognized for their commitments over the years, and have now aged

out of the 4-H program.

Delaney Bauerman, in abstentia, was also presented with the Ralph White memorial trophy, recognizing her as the outstanding Perth County 4H member for 2022.

There were 19 clubs offered in the county last year, including clover buds, livestock clubs, conservation, seed art, chocolate, home for the holidays, cooking through the milk calendar and many more.

NEWS BRIEFS

Waterloo man charged after domestic incident in Perth East

The Perth County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) charged a Waterloo resident after a domestic incident in Perth East Township.

On April 12, 2023, at about 12:01 a.m., officers responded to a domestic disturbance in Perth East. Police determined one person involved in the disturbance assaulted the other. The victim sustained minor injuries. The accused also broke the victim's cell phone and damaged a wall.

As a result, a 43-year-old man from Waterloo has been arrested and charged with "assault - spousal," and "mischievous - domestic (two counts)."

The man was released from custody and is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Stratford on May 8.

Victims of sexual assault/domestic violence are not alone. If you, or someone you know, needs support, there are local resources available to help. One organization

you can contact is Victim Services Bruce Grey Perth at 1-866-376-9852.

If you are in an immediate crisis, dial 911.

New Hamburg man charged after Wilmot collision

The Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) charged a New Hamburg man after a two vehicle collision in Wilmot Township.

On April 12 at about 7:05 a.m., police received a report of a two vehicle collision in Wilmot township. A black Hyundai was travelling west on Huron Road when a grey Chevrolet heading south on Sandhills Road failed to stop for a stop sign. The Hyundai struck the Chevrolet in the intersection.

The driver of the Hyundai sustained minimal physical injuries as a result of the collision. The driver of the Chevrolet, a New Hamburg man, was charged with "disobey stop sign - fail to stop."

Stunt drivers charged over Easter weekend

Two people were charged with stunt driving in Perth County over the weekend.

On April 7, 2023, at about 7:32, a Perth County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officer stopped a driver travelling on Perth Line 44 in the Perth East Township, after it

was found to be driving 134 kilometres an hour (km/h) in an 80 km/h limit zone.

As a result, a 52-year-old resident of Stouffville was charged with "drive motor vehicle - perform stunt - excessive speed."

In another instance on April 7, 2023, at about 5:39 p.m., a Perth County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officer stopped a driver travelling on Line 34 in the West Perth, after it was found to be travelling 156 km/h in an 80 km/h limit zone.

An 18-year-old resident of Tavistock was charged with "drive motor vehicle - perform stunt - excessive speed," "operate a motor vehicle without insurance," "fail to surrender permit for motor vehicle."

In both cases, police initiated a 30-day driving suspension and 14-day vehicle impoundment. The accused drivers are scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Stratford at a later date to answer to the charges.

Anyone with information about these incidents should contact Perth County OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Those who wish to remain anonymous, you can call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or leave an anonymous online message at www.p3tips.com.

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COMMUNITY —

Progress on regional-managed outdoor shelter



Here is progress on the Region of Waterloo managed outdoor shelter on the Wilmot-Waterloo border at 1,001 Erb's Road as of Wednesday, April 12. It is expected to open in late April. The shelter will include 50 individual cabins to provide private, safe accommodation for people experiencing homelessness. Each 107 square-foot-cabin will be furnished and equipped with electricity, heating and cooling. A main cabin complex will provide amenities, including running water, common space, washrooms and laundry service. (Photo credit: Veronica Reiner)

Future Oxford Legacy Fund Accepting Applications

By Lee Griffi

Applications for loans and grants under the Future Oxford Legacy Fund are now being accepted to support local projects and businesses that help sustain Oxford's community, economy and environment.

The Future Oxford Legacy Fund has been helping local businesses, entrepreneurs, and not-for-profit organizations with access to capital loans and grants since 2016. A total of \$898,613 in loans and \$39,163 in grants have been dispersed, helping to create and maintain 203 local jobs.

The Community Development Support grants offers non-repayable loans to not-for-profit initiatives that align with sustainable actions in the Future Oxford Community Sustainability Plan. Applications are accepted in two intakes, once in the spring and again in the fall. The application deadline for the spring intake is May 15.

Lindsay Wilson is the Community Economic Development Coordinator at Community Futures Oxford and says even schools can apply for a grant. "Anything that supports the community, the economy, or the environment is a project we would look at. For example, Huron Park Secondary School (in Woodstock) had a sustainability challenge where students were tasked with coming up with a project that would support sustainability within the school. We were able to contribute to that, and we can look at these things under the grant component." The school project had over 150 grade nine science and geography students working together to find ways to improve the school and community using United Nations Sustainability Goals.



Another grant was provided to Oxford Rural Entrepreneurs, a partnership between Rural Oxford Economic Development Corporation, Community Futures Oxford, Oxford County Library, and volunteer businesses. "It was a collaboration between a number of organizations that wanted to be able to get rural entrepreneurs back together. They met at locations throughout Oxford County once a month outdoors to learn about the businesses that are in the rural communities but also networked with other entrepreneurs who might be experiencing some of the same things." She adds the events supported the community and economy pillars which is why the grant was issued. Quehl's Restaurant of Tavistock was one such location for a networking event in 2022, and they are continuing this year, with the first being scheduled for Terra Nova Spa on Tuesday, April 25.

One local project supported in the form of a grant followed an application from the condo board at The Renaissance in Tavistock. They were awarded funds to help with the installation of organic waste digesters and are working

with Zero Waste Oxford to encourage organic waste diversion. "There are such a wide variety of projects we can consider, and I think what is important about these grants is it is really about the community identifying a need for something that would improve their community. The Legacy Fund was able to give that project a go."

Wilson says there is broad eligibility for the grants, and Community Futures is there to help. "Anyone in Oxford County is eligible, and as long as they are a non-profit organization, they can apply. We think it is a great idea to connect with someone from our office to talk about their project first. All applications are reviewed by our board of directors so we can help applicants get their paperwork ready for that review." With the grant deadline of May 15 quickly approaching, she adds they typically receive a number of applications this time of year. "Sometimes, if there is funding available, we will open it again, but the best thing to do is work towards the deadline."

Wilson says the criteria for the Access to Capital loans have different criteria than the grant stream. "There is normally about \$10 thousand in grants available on a yearly basis, and as for the loan stream, those applications are accepted year-round, so if someone was working on a project that would make their business more sustainable, they can access financing up to \$100,000 any time of year."

The loans offer funding for entrepreneurial activities with an emphasis on youth opportunities, arts and culture, tourism, high-tech manufacturing, and green technology. Successful applicants, including private businesses, can receive financing through a repayable loan with flexible repayment terms. In 2022, Ingersoll Products Incorporated received \$100,000, which helped them maintain 31 new jobs at the private label manufacturer.

To apply now, visit the Community Futures Oxford website at <https://cxford.ca/>.

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FAMILY MILESTONES —

OBITUARY

KAUFMAN, William Lee - "Willie"



February 9th, 1970-April 8th, 2023

It is with great sadness and heavy hearts the Kaufman family announces the sudden and unexpected passing of Willie in his 54th year.

Willie was a proud, loving, and one of a kind father to his son Josh Hurst, who

was also his best friend.

He was a wonderful son and leaves behind his mother and father, Gail (Bach) and Bill Kaufman. Willie was a loyal brother to Sue Kaufman (Randy), and his step siblings Glenda (Tim), Laura (William) and Randy (Vaness). Dedicated uncle of Hendrix, Kendra, Jodi, Liam and Amanda. He will be lovingly remembered by all his aunts and cousins.

Willie was a caring, compassionate and generous soul who will be greatly missed by friends, and by all that knew him.

After proudly and successfully completing his rehabilitation program and achieving the health, happiness, and peace that he strived for, Willie was taken far too soon. He left us fulfilled, knowing he accomplished the recent goals that he set forth for himself, and for those that knew and loved him.

Cremation has taken place and all are welcome to join the family to celebrate Willie's life on Sunday, April 30th, 2023 at the New Hamburg Royal Canadian Legion from 2:00-4:00PM

As expressions of sympathy and in lieu of flowers, the family asks that you do a good deed and pay it forward as Willie would have wanted.

If you knew Willie, we ask that you fearlessly treat persons with challenging addictions in a way that lets them know they are respected, valued, and loved.

Personal condolences and donation information available at <http://www.markjutzifuneralhomes.ca> (Heart and Stroke and the Wilmot Family Resource Centre) Funeral arrangements entrusted to the Mark Jutzi Funeral Home, New Hamburg



Happy 60th Anniversary!

Ken & Jeanette McIntosh are celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary on April 20th.

Congratulations on your special day and reaching this amazing milestone - truly an inspiration to all!
With love from your family

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OBITUARY

GREEN; BOB



Adam Robert Green (Bob) born Jan 11, 1956, passed away April 14, 2023, with family by his side, after a courageous and lengthy battle with illness. Born and raised in Oxford County, son of the late William and Margaret (Fleming) Green. Bob dairy farmed on the 35th

line Zorra township for 40+ yrs. From a young age Bob developed a competitive edge and passion for sports and while many were played, pitching baseball was his glory. Later, he regained a passion for down-hill skiing and renewed his love for motorcycles, while both allowed for many amazing trips, it was the spirit of friendships he treasured the most. His zest for a challenge, quick witt, warm-hearted and down to earth charm will be deeply missed. Bob is survived by his wife of 35yrs, Karen (Kieswetter), children Tara, Ryan (Jayne), Brett, Tyler and 5 grandchildren Maggie, Ava, Macy, Remi and Leo whom he adored. Brother to Gord (Laura), son-in-law to Jan Kieswetter Ellah, brother-in-law to Carla (Mike) McKay. Predeceased by one sister Anne Marie Green (2013) and her partner, Joel Hopkins (2021). A special thanks to the staff at the Woodstock Transitional Care Unit, an all around special group of people and Bob was always appreciative of their care for him.

A private family service is to be held. Celebration of Life gathering on Sunday April 30, 2023, from 1-5p.m. at the Tavistock Memorial Hall. Donations in honour of Bob can be made to

Operation Sharing (food bank+) at operationsharing.ca or by mail to 22 Wilson St Woodstock Ontario N4S 3P2 or the Local Community Food Centre at thelocalcfc.org or by mail to 612 Erie St Stratford Ontario N5A 2P1.

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COMMUNITY —

The Wilmot-Tavistock
Gazette Weekly Quiz

- 1) Which Canadian astronaut, raised in Ailsa Craig and Ingersoll, was recently named to the Artemis crew that will orbit the moon next year?
- 2) Paul Newman ate fifty eggs in which film?
- 3) Who sang about being an eggman and a walrus?
- 4) What is manzanilla? .
- 5) Which Russian town suffered an infamous nuclear disaster in 1986?
- 6) Which planet shares its name with a dog?
- 7) In which city was the Titanic launched?
- 8) What are the names of the two old men Muppets in the balcony?
- 9) Who was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize (1903)?
- 10) Name Disney's first film?

Answers found on page 26

BIRTHDAYS &
ANNIVERSARIES

April 20: Happy birthday to Ava Cook (8) and anniversary for Jesse and Laura Harold (10th).

April 21: Happy birthday to Westyn Ropp (3), Cullen McCarten (12), Blake Bender (22), and Ruth Rosenberg (99).

April 22: Happy birthday to Charlie Van Nes (5), Jensen Gruber (13), Carson Neumeister (14), Hanna Edmonstone (21), and Julie Bergsma, and anniversary for Adam and Meghan Bender (6th).

April 23: Happy birthday to Lia Paige Van Nes (4), Lyla Hallman (15), and Peyton Duguay (16).

April 24: Happy birthday to Bridget Trachsel (9) and Blake Weicker (15).

April 26: Happy birthday to Augustus Spylo (5)

Does someone in your family have a special day coming up? Let us know at tavistockgazette@rogers.com or wilmotpost@gmail.com to appear in our Birthdays and Anniversaries listing or to arrange for a special announcement ad.

The Old Gazettes

By Stewart 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 11-18, 2018 Edition (5 years ago)

Six charter members of the Optimist Club of Tavistock were honoured with the 2018 Ontario Volunteer Service Award for 40 years of community service. The recipients included Charter President Bruce Swartzentruber (1976-77), his brother Brian Swartzentruber, Lyle Bender, Brian Wilhelm, Steve Yantzi, and Ken "Tooke" Zehr.

Students at Tavistock Public School joined with everyone across Canada for Jersey Day on Thursday, April 12, 2008 to honour the victims of the Humboldt Broncos bus disaster. Many residents also put a hockey stick out on their front porch as a tribute to the 16 victims of the accident on April 6th.

"I can't believe we've been in Tavistock for 10 years," said Kathryn Ritsma, law partner with Monteith Ritsma Phillips, Professional Corporation, who opened their satellite office at 18 Hope Street East in the village in April of 2008.

April 9-16, 2008 Edition (15 years ago)

The Tavistock Royals are once again WOAA Senior AA Men's Hockey League champi-

ons. On Saturday, April 5, they played host to the Elora Rocks in game 5 of the championship final series, scoring 5 powerplay goals to win 6-1 and win their first title in 13 years. Members of the championship team include captain Jason Walsh, Tyler Heimpel, Mike Woodley, Mike Albrecht, Ryan Coté, Reid Yantzi, Mark Gillies, James Dupej, Sean McLaren, Tyler Roth, Shawn Roth, Mike Saunders, Mark Jennings, Wes Kropf, Chris McLaren, Jamie Rader, Sean Donaghy, Ben Gingerich, Andrew Oesch, Ben Snell, Ben Ruthig, Brent Lange, Trevor Hirschberger, Scott Howells, and Shaun Geerts.

The Oxford County Federation of Agriculture held their 2008 Agricultural Awards of Excellence on Wednesday evening, April 2 at the Oxford Auditorium in Woodstock. The Large Agri-Business Award went to the Tavistock Veterinarians, with the other nomination for New Life Mills, Tavistock.

The Tavistock Braves season came to an end on Thursday night when the Thamesford Trojans completed a 4-game sweep of the Southern Ontario Junior Hockey League final series.

April 15-22, 1998 Edition (25 years ago)

Grade 4 students of Tavistock Public School managed to get professional help in finishing their 150th anniversary quilt last

week in the activity room. Six of the students' grandmothers and a retired teacher set up a quilting bee on Tuesday, April 7th to complete a beautiful "Tree of Learning" quilt to mark Tavistock's 150th Anniversary and the school reunion to be held on Saturday, August 1, 1998.

The Tavistock Royals held their 16th annual banquet and awards night at the Tavistock Memorial Hall on Friday evening, April 17. Shane Johnson was the big winner this season taking home three awards (including MVP) while Mark Germann collected two.

April 11-18, 1973 Edition (50 years ago)

A rather vague indication of just where Highway 7 and 8 will be relocated from New Hamburg westward, was studied by the North Easthope Township council. Maps and other materials from the ministry of transportation and communications had been received relative to the proposed rebuilding of the stretch of highway from New Hamburg westward to serve the Stratford and St. Marys areas, but there was no concrete indication just where the proposed stretch would be located – either north or south of the present highway.

Are you planning a family celebration?

We accept all announcements - weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, new baby, etc.

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COMMUNITY —

Dennis Nuhn - Perth County's latest inductee onto the Stratford-Perth Agriculture Wall of Fame



Dennis Nuhn with his son Ian (fourth generation) standing in front of one of their liquid manure tanks in their yard, ready for delivery.



Dennis Nuhn is shown at the front entrance to their offices, showing some of the tools used in their first blacksmith shop in Wartburg. The large anvil to his left, was originally used in 1902 by his grandfather, Simon Nuhn.

By Gary West

When readers read about pioneers, you might automatically think of someone who was written in history books and studied by students in schools throughout the years.

This is a story of a Perth County agriculturalist, who, through his work, was recently recognized and inducted onto the Stratford-Perth Museum Agriculture "Wall of Fame" for his innovation, hard work, and forward thinking. The award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Agriculture in Perth County.

Dennis Nuhn may not think of himself as a true pioneer, but those in farming that have purchased and used the bright red manure handling equipment that Nuhn Industries is now famous for, would tend to think otherwise.

The youthful Nuhn, is now the President of Nuhn Industries, a fourth generation company, and can trace its roots to Simon Nuhn, who started a blacksmith shop in Wartburg, in Perth county, a few miles north of Sebringville and northwest of Stratford in 1902.

Simon's son, Wilfred, took over the business just after the second World War. In 1962, his son Dennis, who was just 17 at the time and in high school, began working within the company.

The Wartburg facility, after moving to west of Sebringville, is now closing in on 133,000 square feet of manufacturing and office space. The company would see five expansions over the years and found a very successful niche market in the area of liquid manure management equipment.

It was in 1965 when Dennis Nuhn, always the innovator, recalls making his first liquid manure spreader that was fabricated from an old gas tank with airplane tires, and his first manure pump used the rear-end power train of a car.

He felt if the company was going to grow, they had to move to a larger site and did so in 1984 on the western edge of Sebringville.

In 1998 the first addition was built to their original shop, increasing the size to 25,000 ft.². In 2002 Nuhn Industries celebrated their 100th anniversary, and were proud to have survived, two world wars, and the Great Depression and also expanded with addition number two at that time.

Further additions to their welding and manufacturing shops occurred in 2010, and again in 2011 and 2015.

The company was also an Export Award Finalist in Manufacturing for Ontario in 2015.

All this time, they were no longer selling manure handling equipment just to Ontario and farmers in Canada, but to North America and worldwide to countries including China, Ukraine, Jordan, Egypt, Qatar, Japan, Australia and the U.K., to name just a few.

In a recent interview, Dennis Nuhn said in public school, he remembers trying to learn memory work, but he could never achieve a passing grade because his mind was always thinking in four or five different directions, and concentrating on just one task was not in his DNA!

His son, Ian, remembers working at the shop when he was 10 years old. He said his dad would teach him how to weld, run the saws and sweep the floors, and when he turned 12, the elder Nuhn bought a CNC plasma cutter, which was the first computer operated piece of machinery in the shop, but no one was able to run it.

Because of his age and growing up with a computer at home, Ian took on the new cutter very quickly and was cutting parts to be used in building manure tanks. He said there were times when he was in elementary school when he would be called down to the school office, and

his dad was there to pick him up early because he needed parts cut. His dad would say, "don't tell your mom, but we need some plates cut at the shop sooner than later."

Ian will say, "his dad has spent countless hours sitting beside me at the computer, teaching me design tips, and tricks that he had learned the hard way over his career. From the age of 12 to 18, I was basically his interface with the computer. He would tell me what to draw and how to draw it, and why we were drawing it that way. It was a great way of passing on a wealth of information to the next generation."

Dennis Nuhn's impact on the Agriculture Industry is evident just by taking a drive along the rural roads anywhere in numerous counties around Ontario and beyond. Many livestock farmers in the area have become accustomed to using the bright red manure tanks and the company's service that goes along with them.

Whether they are making sure that family farms in the area have the most up-to-date, environmentally friendly manure handling equipment, or in need of pumps or Lagoon Crawlers, be assured that Nuhn Industries will continue to be a leader in their field for generations to come.



Aerial view of the present day Nuhn Industries outside of Sebringville in Perth County.

COMMUNITY —

Region conducts service review on water and wastewater systems in Baden, New Hamburg and Foxboro Green

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

The Region of Waterloo conducted a servicing review to assess the current water and wastewater systems in the communities of Baden, New Hamburg and Foxboro Green. Regional staff have recommended the following improvements:

- Upgrade the Baden Pump Station and construct a new forcemain connecting directly to the New Hamburg Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Connect Foxboro Green to the Baden sewer and water supply system.

A project file report was prepared as part of the study, which summarizes the study process and recommendations and is available for public review until Tuesday, May 9. The report is available for review online at www.regionofwaterloo.ca/CurrentWaterProjects.

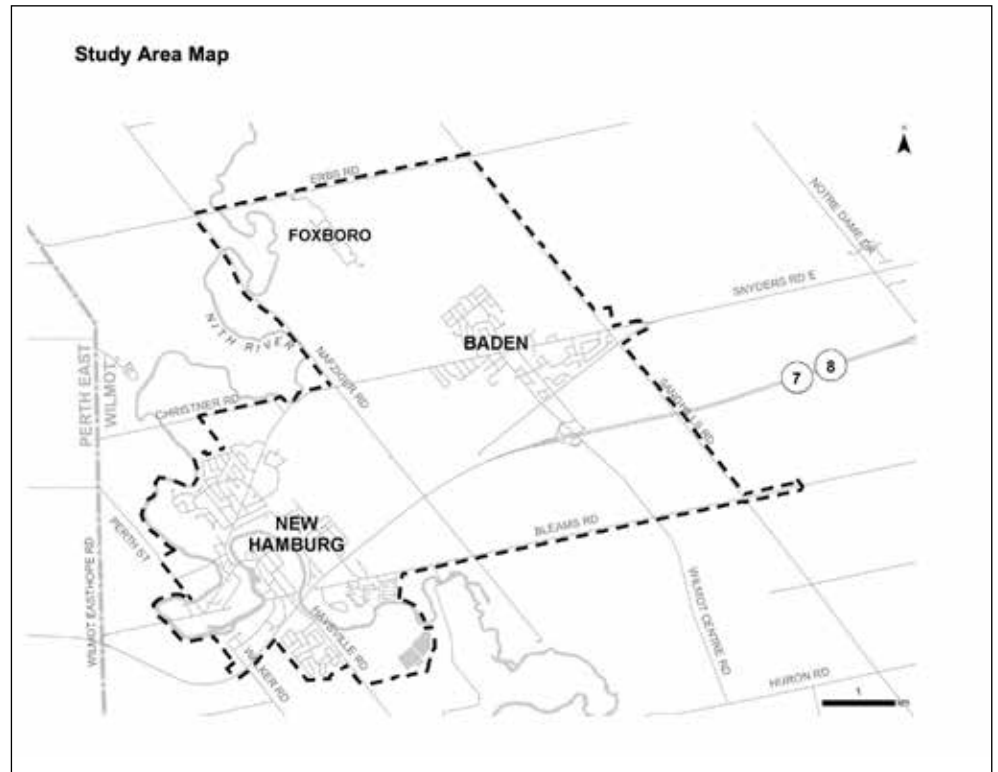
Those who are interested can provide written comments to the project team by Tuesday, May 9. All comments and concerns should be emailed directly to the Region Project Manager, Kaoru Yajima (kyajima@regionofwaterloo.ca) or discussed via telephone at 519-575-4757 extension 3349.

A request can also be made to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for an order requiring a higher level of study, or that conditions be imposed, only on the grounds that the requested order may prevent, mitigate or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights.

Requests should specify what kind of order is being requested, and how that order may prevent, mitigate or remedy those potential adverse effects, and any information in support of the statements made in the request. The request should be sent in writing or by email to the Region of Waterloo and to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks as well as the Director of Environmental Assessment branch.

The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks address is 777 Bay Street 5th Floor in Toronto, ON M7A 2J3. Alternatively they can be contacted by email at minister.mecp@ontario.ca.

The Director's address is 125 St. Clair Ave. West, 1st Floor, Toronto ON, M4V 1P5. Alternatively, they can be contacted through email at EABDirector@ontario.ca.



The study areas in Baden and New Hamburg.

Our Heritage Our Home

VOL. 6 NO. 1

Our Heritage Our Home
Vol. 5 No. 1 June 2022

Fun & Games THROUGH THE DECADES

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COMMUNITY —

Wilmot Township updates animal control bylaw

By Veronica Reiner

The Township of Wilmot updated its animal control bylaw to add a definition of “at large” animals, as well as the addition of an owners’ requirement to keep all livestock from running “at large” in the township.

The decision was approved during a council meeting on Monday, April 17.

“Periodically, bylaws are updated to reflect changes in the community,” wrote Erin Merritt, Manager of Municipal Law Enforcement, in her report. She added that there had been an increase in the number of residents raising small quantities of

livestock on agricultural properties.

“Most property owners adhere to good farming practices; however, the township has been experiencing an increase in the number of calls regarding livestock that have escaped fencing/enclosures and breached roadways or neighbouring properties. This is not only dangerous for the animal’s welfare but could cause accidents and property damage.”

“At large” is now defined in the bylaw as when an animal is found in any place other than the premises at which they are habitually kept, and not under the control of

any person. An animal would not be considered at large if they are to be accompanied by an attendant who is exercising control over the animals at all times. No person is allowed to let livestock run at large within the township.

Other municipalities have implemented the same change as this bylaw (prohibiting livestock from running at large), including Waterloo, Toronto, Kingston, Brant County and Ottawa.

In November 2011, council passed an exotic pet bylaw that regulated prohibited and restricted animals in Wilmot Township. In

2020, council passed amendments to that bylaw, allowing for backyard laying hens if a property complies with the Wilmot Township zoning bylaw. The name of the bylaw was also changed to “animal control bylaw excluding dogs.”

“It should also be noted that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is also focusing attention on livestock roaming at large and is working towards decreasing the spread of ‘wild pigs,’” wrote Merritt. “As such, the proposed amendments to the bylaw would also support these efforts.”

Results from OPP Easter long weekend traffic safety initiative

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

The results are in from the Ontario Provincial Police Easter long weekend traffic safety campaign, including local Perth County branch results.

From April 7 to April 10, Perth County OPP officers were highly visible on area roads, with all available members of the branch taking part. There were a total of 102 charges laid locally.

Out of these 102 charges, six motorists were charged for failing to wear a seatbelt. Other charges laid this past weekend include: 76 charges for speeding, one charge for impaired driving, and three charges for stunt driving.

Local officers also responded to three motor vehicle collisions over the holiday weekend. There were no injuries reported at any of the scenes.

Across the province, three people lost their lives in vehicle collisions over the weekend and one person was killed in a snowmobile incident.

In Ontario, officers laid a total of 10,323 charges. There were 1,507 seatbelt charges against drivers and passengers who placed themselves and all other occupants in their vehicle at risk.

There were also 5,186 speeding charges

and 129 stunt/racing charges laid. The OPP also laid 141 impaired driving and 137 distracted driving charges.

The OPP thanked all drivers and other road users who contributed to safe highways and roads over the busy long weekend.

EZT April 5 meeting highlights

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

Catch up with what happened at the East Zorra-Tavistock council meeting that took place on April 5, with a quick read of the meeting highlights below.

- Council supported a resolution from the City of Woodstock about concerns with cost increases to municipal insurance coverage.

- As covered in last week’s edition of the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette, a delegation

was presented by Shirley McCall-Hanlon for Council to consider a memorial forest. Council voted to have staff investigate options for this request, and return back to council at a later date.

- Minutes of the March 15 Police Services Board, and of the March 22 Recreation Advisory Committee were received and reviewed.

S- taff monthly reports were presented and discussed.

Planning Matters

Council supported the consent applications for severance below and forwarded them to Oxford County with no objections:

- A consent application to create a vacant lot comprising approximately 1.1 hectares, or 2.7 ac, for a new single detached dwelling. Municipality known as 844944 Braemar Sideroad and located within the Braemar Sideroad Rural Cluster.
- A consent application proposes to

create one new institutional lot that will have frontage on William Street South. Municipally known as 28 William Street South.

The next regularly scheduled East Zorra-Tavistock Council Meeting is set for May 5 at 7 p.m. It will take place at 695566 17th Line in Innerkip. For more details about any of these items, view the minutes on the East Zorra Tavistock website or contact municipal clerk Will Jaques at 519-462-2697 extension 7825.



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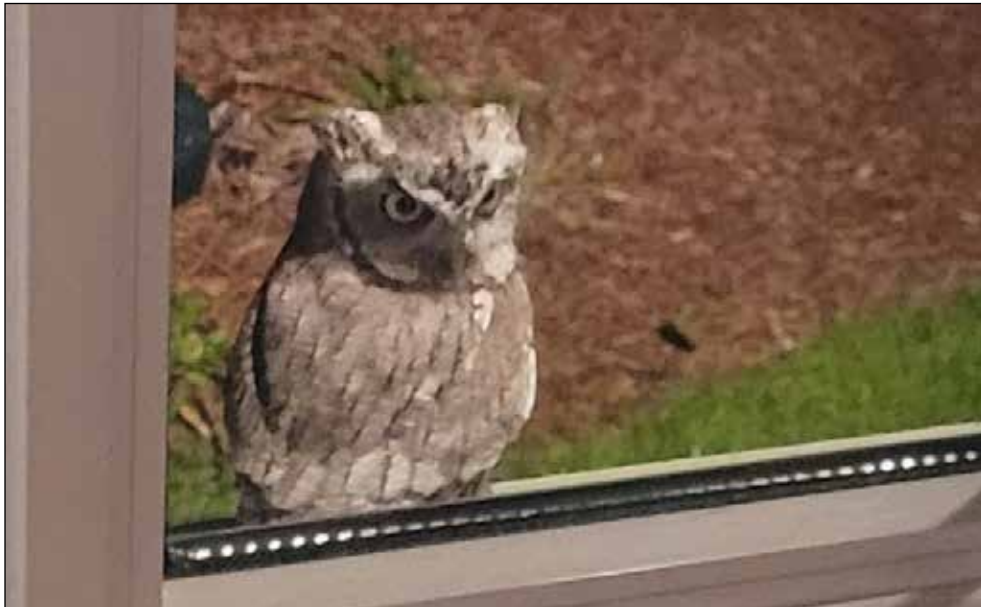
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COMMUNITY —

Show Us Your Wilmot



Each week, the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette will publish interesting photos from around the community. The inspiration for this came from the Show Us Your Wilmot Facebook group. This photo shows an owl looking through a screen door in New Dundee. (Photo credit: Paul Dyck)

Planting season underway



Herrle's Country Farm Market has started to plant as of Wednesday, April 12. They began with peas that day, then planted some sweet corn later in the afternoon. (Photo credit: Herrle's Country Farm Market)

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22,471 km
All-Wheel Drive

2021 Ford Edge Titanium



\$44,995 + HST & lic
LOW KMS
44,870 km
All-Wheel Drive

2020 Nissan Rogue



\$34,995 + HST & lic
LOW KMS
7,651 km
All-Wheel Drive

2022 Nissan Pathfinder SL



\$52,995 + HST & lic
LOW KMS
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COMMUNITY —

Tomorrow is a PD Day for WRDSB students

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff
 Tomorrow (Friday, April 21) will be a professional development (PD) day for elementary and secondary school staff under the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB). Students will not attend school in person or virtually.
 All board-operated Extended Day and Youth Development programs will be closed.

Elementary teachers will participate in a full day of professional development, planned by the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO), while professional development for secondary teachers is being planned by the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF/FEESO). Teachers will attend off-site sessions offered by both organizations. All educational assistants and child

and youth workers will participate in the union-provided PD hosted by the Educational Assistants Association. Designated early childhood educators (DECE) have signed up to participate in a full day of learning sessions facilitated by school board staff. DECEs will attend these learning opportunities off-site. Elementary occasional teachers in long term occasional will be participating in a

half day of professional development off site, the other half of the day is for self-directed planning time at their school site. WRDSB-operated before and after-school programs will be closed so that their staff can participate in these learning and training opportunities. For community-operated before and after-school programs, please verify closure dates with your provider.

WRSP seeking host families for international students

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff
 The Waterloo Region Student Placement (WRSP) is currently seeking host families to accommodate international secondary students attending school in the Waterloo Region.

Host families provide students with:
 - The chance to participate in the family's events and daily lives.
 - The care, support and comfort of a family member.

- A bedroom that includes a desk, chair, lamp, dress and a bed, not convertible or inflatable in nature.
 - Three quality meals a day.
 - Unlimited internet access.

Families are remunerated \$1,000/four weeks, plus bonuses. Contact a Homestay Coordinator if you are interested in hosting a student:
 Heather McComb, 226-341-2092 or hostingastudent@gmail.com.

GRCA installing warning booms/buoys upstream of dams

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff
 The Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) will be installing warning booms or buoys upstream of their dams to alert paddlers, anglers and boaters to stay away from the dams.
 "Dams can pose serious hazards that can result in injuries or even fatalities if warning signs are ignored," wrote the GRCA in a release. "Water surges through gates and

valves or over the dams, creating strong undertows and currents around the structures, which can be extremely dangerous." To help mitigate these risks, the GRCA will be installing plastic floats joined together by a chain to create booms that will serve as public safety devices. The installation will take place between April 17 and April 27, subject to change depending on weather conditions.

Per Transport Canada regulations, which oversee navigable waterways, the GRCA is gradually replacing the current orange booms with yellow ones.
 "It is important to remember that while the water around dams may appear peaceful, the areas upstream and downstream are much more dangerous," wrote the GRCA.
 "The GRCA urges all water enthusiasts to heed the warning buoys and booms, and

stay away from the dams for their own safety. These safety measures will be in place throughout the spring and summer months, and will be removed in the fall before winter freeze-up." For more information about safety around GRCA dams, please visit www.grandriver.ca and educate yourself about the possible hazards and necessary precautions to ensure a safe experience on the water.

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Friday May 5th and Saturday May 6th

For R.J. Construction Ltd and the Graber Brothers

Held at: 156681 15th Line RR#1 Lakeside ON N0M 2G0 | Starts at 9am

Farm Equipment, Buggies, Household etc. on Friday May 5th, 2023

Construction Tools, Trailers, Hunting Supplies etc. on Saturday May 6th 2023

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Auctioneers: Graber Brothers and Calvin Kuepfer | For questions call 519-349-2937

Day 1 – Friday May 5th

FARM EQUIPMENT

Wooden Favorite thrashing machine, McCormick 7' grain binder, McCormick 6' grain binder with new knives and guards, 3 binder trucks, 2 Int. 13 run seed drills with grass seeder, Int. corn binder, JD 290 2-row corn planter, JD 3-row corn planter, 2 1-row corn scufflers, Int. #9 hay mower with 6' bar, 2 Int. #7 hay mowers with 5 bars, I&J hay mower with 7' bar (like new with extra set of knives), 2 New Holland 268 balers with motors, 5 Massey Harris side rakes, 3 bale stokers

2 50' Allied bale elevators (with undercarriage), 2 50' Forage King bale elevators (with undercarriage),

1 25' bale elevator, 1 Master 9' hay tedder (ground drive like new), 3 kicker hay tedders, 3 flat-rack wagons,

JD grain wagon on rubber, 5 section diamond harrows, 3 Int. 6' field cultivators, JD 8' cultivator with Power lift, 8' field cultivator, 8' sprocket packer, 3 6' one-way discs, 2 8' 32-plate disc,

1 Pioneer fore-cart (heavy duty), 2 fore-carts on steel,

1-furrow Pioneer foot-lift plow (with KV bottom)

1-furrow Pioneer Sulky plow (with KV bottom)

New Idea manure spreader, Int. 4-wheeled manure spreader, gravity wagon on steel,

JD ground drive L&M manure spreader, potato plow, multiple garden scufflers, harrow cart, Int. W6 tractor, pull-type lane grade

BUGGIES

Multiple top buggies, democrat, pony cart, quick-hitch jog cart with buggy wheels, 3 horse drawn cutters,

Mascott pony cart, 4 Mascott tri-wheel lawn mower, Mascott pony lawn mower (brand new),

Multiple reel push mowers, neck yokes, whipple-trees, horse harnesses and collars, small wagon Gear on rubber,

MISCELLANEOUS

Large selection of T-posts (like new), chicken crates, 3 – goat milk stand, 2 6-goat stands,

Marweld creep feeder for sheep (new), Roll over hoof-trimming crate for sheep, 2 small feed mixers, Champion oat roller, bale chopper with motor, selection of gates and panels, selection of sheep and goat feeders, 800-gal. ss milk tank, Toledo 500kg platform scale, F.W. water pump, belt lacers, sap supplies, 2 smaller sap pans, selection of steel wheels, new v-belts.

** Approximately 6 wagon loads of miscellaneous items too numerous to mention**

HOUSEHOLD

Sausage stuffers, Victoria strainers, weight-lifting set, beds, dressers, singer treadle sewing machine, 3 3-burner kerosene stoves, portable bake oven, small China cabinet.

Day 2 – Saturday May 6

TRAILERS

20' Steel car hauler with loading ramps and beavertail with electric winch,

18' aluminum landscaping trailer with aluminum sides and tool box, with ramp (like new),

12' aluminum trailer excellent condition,

18' enclosed aluminum tool trailer with ramp and side door with shelving inside 2 years old,

8' enclosed aluminum cargo trailer 2 years old,

8' steel landscaping trailers with ramps in excellent condition,

Gooseneck Before Silver star 4-horse aluminum slant load trailer with ramp, good condition,

Bumper hitch 2-horse trailer

** All trailers have been safetied on a regular basis**

CONSTRUCTION TOOLS

Several sections of scaffolding with braces and wheels and aluminum platforms, Bakers scaffolding,

Numerous aluminum extension ladders at various lengths,

Aluminum and fibreglass step ladders, selection of aluminum sawhorses, aluminum ladder horns,

2 Tapco pro19 aluminum 10' brakes with coil holder and cutters in excellent condition,

2 DeWalt sliding dual compound mitre saws with stand (1 electric only and 1 with battery or electric),

12" Rigid electric mitre saw with stand, DeWalt laser level and stand, Stihl concrete chain saw (like new),

Quantity of DeWalt battery drills, impacts, saws-all, skill saws.

Quantity of Max and Bostich air-roofing nailers.

Air hoses, shingle strippers, electric air compressors, roof jacks, Battery DeWalt, Metabo, Milwaukee Framing nailers, Battery DeWalt trim nailers. DeWalt battery tool, Battery caulking guns.

Selection of Makita battery drills & impacts. Milwaukee drills & impacts. 2 DeWalt SDS concrete drills.

DeWalt jigsaw & plainer. DeWalt grinder. Large selection of batteries & chargers. Bostich flooring nailer.

Rigid shop vac. 2500watt Ducar gen. 3500watt Powertech gen. 7500watt Generac gen. like new.

Walk behind battery forklift, electric fans & heaters, propane heater, air pegs, Bosch 10" table saw.

DeWalt blowers and fans. Echo back pack leaf blower, 2 Stihl leaf blowers. Safety harness etc.

Flack-Hill mechanical wood splitter, Selection of hand tools & shelving, DeWalt laser level, Brush mower with gas engine, DeWalt 60 volt battery powered table saw (like new), DeWalt table saw with wheeled stand, electric (like new),

2 DeWalt 20Volt 5000 Lumen work lights (new), DeWalt 1800 watt portable power station (new), DeWalt cordless roofing nailer,

2-DeWalt battery aircompressors (new), 2 Paslode cordless framing nailers (like new).

MISCELLANEOUS

Jaco-Lite 7'x9' allum. Green house (nice)

S.S. Dog kennel 8' x 10', 2-DS circulator coal stoves, DS Anthra Max XV16 coal stove, S.S. Ashland water kettle.

3 S.S. Kettles, S.S. Water heater, Allum. Ice-saw with 13HP Honda, Apple chopper and cider press,

2 A Frame chain hoists, Trash Pump, 6" edger, power hacksaw, 26 school desks, 2 office desks,

Filing cabinets

HUNTING

Selection of rifles, and shot guns, crossbows, hunt blinds, decoys, tree stands, 12' aluminum boat,

Wood gun cabinets, many items not mentioned.

ANTIQUES

No. 6 J. Fleurys & Sons two furrow walking plows, Maytag wringer & washer

Sausage stuffers, old cash register,

Hit & Miss Int. 1 ½ - 2 ½ HP (not running), Railroad lantern.

HORSES

Approximately 6-8 well Broke Standard Bred Buggy Horses. From Local consignments, 5 year old Shetland pony stallion, A few more Local pony consignments expected.

** Approximately 2 wagon loads of miscellaneous construction items**

SPORTS —

Figure Skaters from across Ontario attend the three-day Championship in Stratford

By Amanda Modaragamage

The Skate Ontario Provincial Championships was held at the Stratford Rotary Complex from March 24th through 26th, where competitors across Ontario competed against others in 50+ categories.

Skate Ontario Provincial Championship is a highly competitive event with skaters vying for top positions and a chance to move onto the national level. The competition is a qualifier for the national competition.

Mason Clemmer from the New Hamburg Skating Club competed this year in the Star 5 over 13 competition. "I started to skate in preschool," he states. Clemmer hopes to continue to skate and is even interested in becoming a coach one day. "It's fun, and you get to do something different and not very well known." Clemmer has worked hard to make it to the provincial championship and wants younger kids interested in skating to know it's "important to have fun and keep trying to improve daily."

The Provincial Championship competition brings together the best figure skaters in the province and features skaters from numerous categories, including singles, pairs and synchro. Each skater or team



Mason Clemmer competed in the Star U14 competition at the Ontario Provincial Championships.

had the opportunity to perform their routines in front of a panel of expert judges.

The Skate Ontario Provincial Championship is an important event for

Stratford. It brings in nearly 900+ competitors, their families and coaching staff to the city over the course of the weekend. "We have skaters from across Ontario, including Toronto and Sarnia," states Kevin

Winter, Skate coach and event organizer.

All competitors qualified to perform for the event throughout the season at several Provincial series events held throughout the province since November 2022. "There were many events before this, and depending on your score, you get to move into Provincials," Clemmer said.

The event was open to the public and saw a wide range of attendees throughout the weekend. The event and its organizers were happy to bring the competition to Stratford and hope to have the opportunity to do so again in the future. "This is the first time Stratford hosted the event, and we hope to host again," states Winter.

The competition is important for those competing as the winners will now move on to compete at a national level and represent Ontario later in the year. The highly anticipated event brought together skaters, coaching staff and figure skating enthusiasts from across the province and is an important event of which Stratford was privileged to be a part.

For more information and all of the stats from the event, please visit <https://skate-ontario.org/>

New Hamburg Skating Club update



Olivia Clemmer received Silver in the STAR 1 Freeskate category in Durham, ON. (Photo contributed)



Mason Clemmer placed 2nd in the STAR 5 Mens O13 category in LaSalle, ON. (Photo contributed)

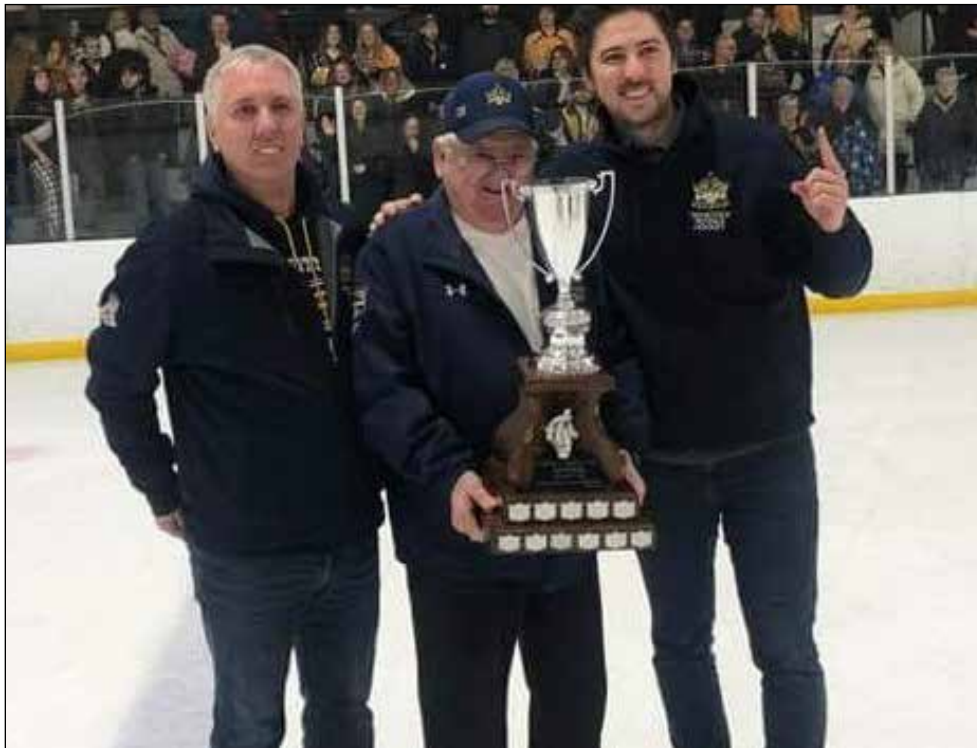


Joyanna Nagel placed 3rd in the STAR 4 Girls O13 category in Norwich, ON. (Photo contributed)

The New Hamburg Skating Club had more than 19 skaters compete in various competitions across the province this season.

SPORTS —

Tavistock Royals recently scored the most sought after trophy in Senior Hockey



Three generations of Tavistock's "Tooke" Zehr's, enjoying the moment following the Tavistock Royals championship game - from left, Kevin, Ken and Tyson Zehr.

By Gary West

As with any great team, there are enthusiasts behind the team that sticks with them through their ups and downs.

The Royals began to play in Tavistock 40 years ago, and the man behind helping get the team started was Ken "Tooke" Zehr. You'd see him at every game, and he was always promoting the talented players the team iced. Whether it was selling advertising, BBQ tickets, or making pickled eggs, Tooke was always there.

Through it all, he also brought along his son Kevin, who did the timekeeping job in the Royals first year and who also helped his dad promote the team. He continues to

do so to this day.

Skip ahead a few years, and the next generation, Tyson Zehr, is following in his father and grandfather's footsteps and joined the coaching staff with the team.

The last time the team won the championship was in 2008, and grandfather Tooke stated, "the stars seemed to align all at the same time this year, to bring the championship back to Tavistock."

He said he was "proud to have turned 80 years' young' this year and still live to celebrate the teams' victory and proud to have his son and grandson involved in a way he himself has always been proud to have been."



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 HOSTED BY SANDRA EBY, SALES REPRESENTATIVE



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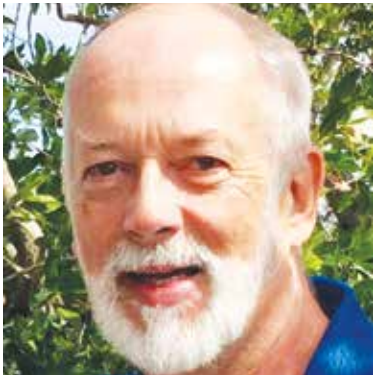
PROPERTIES NEEDED! - Inventory is low and properties in all price ranges are needed in Tavistock and surrounding areas. If you have been considering selling and would like to know what your house is worth in today's active real estate market, or if you would like more information on any property listed "FOR SALE", please call Sandra Eby, Sales Representative at either **Bus: 519-273-4400, Cell 519-272-7676 or Res: 519-655-2548 or email mseyby@rogers.com**

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TRAVEL —

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Fort Myers: "surprised at how far we have come"



By Paul Knowles

We have just returned from an ambitious, 34-day road trip through much of the south-eastern United States. We visited a lot of fascinating places, but when I tell folks about our itinerary, the first question is usually about the Fort Myers area – how bad was it, and what's happening now?

It was bad. Everyone seems to know that Fort Myers Beach and Sanibel Island were devastated last September by Hurricane Ian. The disastrous storm hit Fort Myers and area on September 28, lingering over the place, and wreaking death and destruction to this popular tourist area. Buildings were levelled or suffered severe damage; the bridge to Sanibel Island was breached in five places, cutting off all land transportation to the island.

Today, over six months later, it's getting better, in many ways. But there is still a lot of work to be done. Blue tarps are much in evidence, covering damages awaiting repair.

Some of the challenge involves locating the cars and boats – perhaps numbered in the hundreds

– that are still submerged in canals and the Gulf of Mexico, carried there in the 14-foot storm surge.

What people are really asking, though, is "Should we go back as tourists?" My answer is a qualified "Yes". Yes, because there are lots of things to do there, already. Qualified, because if your goal is to stay in a resort hotel on Fort Myers Beach or Sanibel Island, that is unlikely to happen.

But there are many things that you can do.

In one of the most remarkable responses to the horrific storm, the bridge to Sanibel was repaired – albeit with some temporary fixes – in a month. Traffic to the island resumed that quickly.

It is taking longer for the beautiful island to get back to anything close to normal, but that is unfolding. My favourite place on the island – the Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge, home to a huge variety of seabirds and other fascinating fauna and flora – re-opened on April 6, days after our visit. This unique destination is worth a visit, any time.

And speaking of fascinating fauna – we were able to enjoy a dolphin cruise, out of Fort Myers, hosted by Adventures in Paradise. And yes, we saw plenty of playful dolphins.

But what about accommodations? True, Fort Myers Beach is not currently an option – although Jackie Parker, communications manager with Fort Myers Islands, Beaches and Neighbourhoods, says that some resort companies, including Margaritaville, are treating the crisis as

an opportunity, and determined to build back even better. Jackie describes the Margarita project as "our phoenix," rising from the ashes to new life.

But in the meantime, Jackie points out, there are still lots of choices. We stayed at the Trianon Bonita Bay hotel, a fine facility in Bonita Springs. Jackie told me that tourism is probably at 50% compared to pre-hurricane (and pre-Covid) times. But there is room for more visitors. "Here in Lee County," she told me, "we have 68.6% of hotel rooms open." That's 9825 rooms. Plus other options like Bed-and-Breakfast homes. Adds Jackie, "Visitors can stay at an inland property and enjoy all of the amenities."

"The resiliency of this area has been remarkable," she says. Jackie has watched the recovery, moment by moment, and is quick to suggest that Fort Myers and area is now actually past "recovery phase" and getting close to "business as usual.... I'm surprised how far we are in just six months."

We certainly had the chance to visit attractions and restaurants where business is, indeed, back to normal. The dolphin cruise was one such example. And right after spending time with dolphins, we shared lunch with Jackie at the Bimini Bait Shack, an eatery in full working order, with a close-up view of the restored bridge to Sanibel.

Our stay in the area also included a visit to an attraction called the "Wonder Gardens" in Bonita Springs. Here, we found beautiful gardens, and a myriad of rescued animals and birds – from



A friendly Macaw at the Wonder Gardens. (All photos by Paul Knowles)

cheeky Macaws to creepy (my perspective, I admit) alligators, and lots more.

We also visited the Six Mile Cypress Slough, an unexpected natural delight in the middle of Fort Myers that was so special, it gets its own feature article, sometime soon in this space.

Jackie told us that, "the beaches are opening up," and noted an added benefit – lower numbers of tourists has meant that the shell-ing (a very popular Fort Myers and Sanibel pastime) is the best it has ever been!

In the evening, we saw a musical play at the spacious Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre – in this case, a good production of "Jersey

Boys", the musical story of the Four Seasons.

That is a small sampling of the activities now on offer in the Fort Myers area. So while it will be some time before all the resorts have re-opened, or have been replaced, or before all the homes and buildings have lost their blue tarps, it is still a desirable destination for visitors.

And yes, visitors are showing up. Jackie told me, "I see a lot of Canadian license plates."

Paul Knowles is an author and travel writer. To contact Paul about travel, his books, or speaking engagements, email pknowles@gold-en.net.



The Bimini Bait Shack, a friendly waterfront eatery in Fort Myers.



The bridge from Fort Myers to Sanibel Island was breached in five places by Hurricane Ivan. But it was repaired and re-opened within a month.

COMMUNITY —

Farm Machinery is again on the move on area roadways



By Gary West

With area fields drying up quickly, area farmers are getting ready for what is always a busy planting season this time of year.

Area motorists every year are asked by local Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) to drive with caution when approaching

farm machinery moving on area roadways.

Over the years, area farms and farm machinery has increased in size, and area farmers also ask the motoring public to proceed with caution when approaching large equipment on area roadways, as tractors, cultivators and planters move from farm to farm this time of year.

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Pet of the Week



ASHER

Our Pet of the Week this week is an all black female dog named Asher. She is a eight-year-old Whoodle, who is a cross between a Poodle and a Wheaten Terrier. According to her master, Linda Weitzel, who lives west of Tavistock with husband Glen, Asher is very quiet, yet active and loves chasing squirrels. He is also very gentle and playful with everyone that comes to visit.

Nominate your Pet of the Week by emailing info@wilmotpost.ca



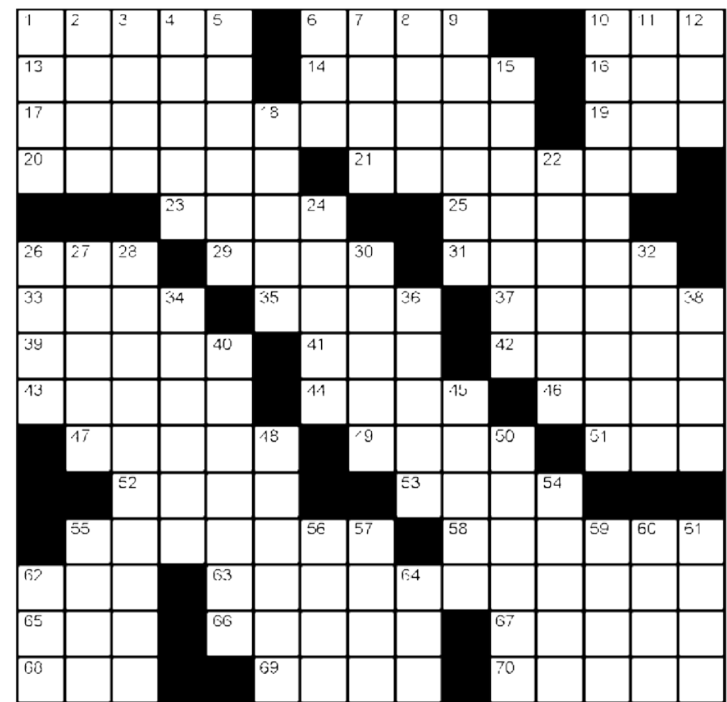
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Gazette Puzzles by Chris Ehrat

Random



Across

1. Open, in a way
6. Word repeated after "Que"
10. Any doctrine
13. Christopher of "Superman"
14. Ticket category
16. Kan. neighbor
17. Not able to be changed, reversed, or recovered
19. Caffeine source
20. French brandy
21. Burma, today
23. Old World duck
25. Chinese dollar
26. Mire
29. Discharged a debt
31. Tunes
33. Nobleman
35. The latest
37. Merger
39. Cook, as clams
41. Fond du __, Wis.
42. Buffalo hockey player
43. Letter before iota
44. Poker variety
46. Boatload
47. Foul moods
49. Hightailed it
51. Toronto clock setting
52. Against
53. Commoner
55. Sweet liqueur
58. Partner
62. Piano piece
63. Accompany in the front seat
65. __ Khan
66. Streamlined
67. Unwavering
68. Shoe part
69. Delhi dress
70. They're usually marked in red

Down

1. Acid related to gout
2. Stepson of Claudius
3. Chef Mary ____
4. Perennial herb
5. Overhaul
6. Small pouch
7. Dutch export
8. Red shade
9. Quiets
10. Not having physical presence
11. Nostradamus, for one
12. Wharton degree
15. Lacking a sound basis
18. Continental divide?
22. Divine foods
24. Brandish
26. Of the most excellent, effective, or desirable type or quality
27. Swearing-in ceremonies
28. Common seaweed
30. Overshadow
32. Tender spots
34. Bodega patron
36. Massage target
38. Colorful salamander
40. Is of importance
45. Cardiff language
48. A painted symbol considered to have magical power
50. Unseat
54. Wrinkle remedy
55. Palm starch
56. Bright thought
57. At no time, poetically
59. Wrinkly fruit
60. Legal action
61. Concludes
62. Fink
64. Hit the slopes

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OPINION —

EXPERT ADVICE: *Open Hand or Closed Fist*



**By Chip Bender
RP(q)**

Twenty years ago this month, my father-in-law died, so he's been

on my mind more recently. One piece of wisdom he passed on to his descendants was the concept of approaching life with an open hand instead of a closed fist. This concept came to mind this morning as the daily news bombarded me with the catastrophes impacting people around the world. The first story was about the violence perpetrated by Palestinians and Israelis towards each other as their centuries-long hatred erupts once again. The second story was about Americans battered by a series of deadly storms, which seem to increase in number and intensity as the climate crisis worsens.

These news items, mixed with

my recollection of my father-in-law's philosophy, left me pondering how these situations could be addressed with an open-hand approach to life as opposed to a closed-fist approach. Although the situation in the Middle East is complex, I do wonder what would happen if enemies were engaged with open hands of welcome as opposed to closed fists of retaliation. How might the earth respond to living in an open-handed relationship of reciprocity instead of a closed-fist attempt at grasping and extracting every ounce of resource out of the earth?

Imagining how our own individual actions will affect global out-

comes can be difficult, but what if we were to imagine an open-handed approach being played out on a local level. What might happen if we interacted with the people with whom we encountered daily with an open hand of generosity instead of a closed fist of greed? Or engaged with those with whom we differed with acceptance rather than accusation?

And what would happen if we took this approach to life even further to think about how it would affect us on a personal level. Try this little experiment right now: 1) Clench both of your fists as hard as you can for 10 seconds and notice how it feels. 2) Now sit for 10 seconds

with your palms facing up and notice how it feels. Our approach to life will affect us on a physical and emotional level.

As you engage with your daily tasks, or think about other people, or reflect on your current situation, notice if your approach is open-handed or closed-fisted. Are your interactions seasoned with a spirit of generosity or greed? Do your thoughts towards the other demonstrate acceptance or accusation? Are you willing to surrender to how life is changing, or do you stubbornly grasp what has been? Continue to practice gently opening your hands.

EXPERT ADVICE: *Tips for first time homebuyers*



By Alison Willsey

If you are now in a position that you feel you have job security and some money, put away and are tired of paying rent or would like to move out of your parent's home, then now may be the time for you to start putting a plan in place to purchase your first home.

To start with, it is important to sit down with your realtor and discuss the steps involved and the planning and preparation that needs to be done in advance of starting your search. If you do not have a realtor, talk to family and close friends about recommendations. Then meet and/or talk with a few so that you can find the realtor that is right for you. You want to be comfortable and have a level of trust, as this is one of the biggest investments you will make. Your realtor will often be able to provide you with a list of various recommendations for the group of professionals you will need to successfully purchase and close a real estate transaction. The list would include but not be limited to:

- Lenders
- Lawyers
- Inspectors

It is important to know how affordable home ownership is for you. Have you received a recent mortgage pre-approval? This is very important. There is no point in getting excited about a home when only to find out you can't afford it. Develop an open and communicative relationship with a mortgage

lender so that you are comfortable working together throughout the process. Be honest and upfront about the state of your finances so that there is no future disappointment. The mortgage lender can help you determine the down payment you will need, and they will advise you on what sources of down payments will be permitted. They will also need you to disclose any existing debt and can advise you on how best to deal with the debt. They may suggest some consolidation and or paying off certain high interest debt. They will explain good versus bad debt. It is important to take their advice seriously. If your credit rating needs improvement, they will give you tips and strategies on how best to address this so that you can qualify for a mortgage if you don't already. They can also help you develop a budget that works for you based on your current income level.

There will be other costs that will be involved in the purchase as well. Sometimes, these are forgotten, or people are unaware. There is Land Transfer Tax on purchases. What is land transfer tax, you may ask? Buyers of houses and condos in Ontario pay land transfer tax when they purchase a property – sellers never pay. Your lawyer will arrange for land transfer taxes to be paid when the deed to the new home is transferred in your name (on closing day). The tax depends on the purchase price of the property. Your mortgage lender will help you calculate this tax, and if you want a rough idea in advance, there are Land Transfer Tax Calculators online where you can enter the purchase price, and it will calculate the tax. Keep in mind that Toronto is much higher than our area of Ontario.

There will be legal fees also. A lawyer will need to be retained to complete a real estate purchase transaction and/or a real estate sale transaction. There will be a lawyer fee and any disbursements (it means a payment made on behalf of a client to a third party with regards to the real estate transac-

tion).

There may be adjustments on closing also. Adjustments in a real estate transaction are calculations that are made by the lawyers to determine the exact amount that a buyer should pay to the seller on closing. Examples of such are prepaid fees of condominium (for condominium purchases), title insurance (is an insurance policy that protects residential or commercial property owners and their lenders against losses related to the property's title or ownership). Property taxes prepaid in advance, heating fuel-oil (if there is an oil furnace left on closing and an oil tank), prepaid rent (possibly last month's rent), and rent for the current month when a buyer is purchasing a tenanted property and the tenancies are assumed. If the buyer has purchased a new construction home, then the following adjustments could be possible: Tarion New Home Warranty Enrolment Fee (this is mandatory in most new home purchases, driveway paving or pavement/concrete, gas hot water heater purchases, deposits for grading, tree planting, any mandatory fencing as per municipality standards, and any government, educational, and/or municipal charges/levies. Something else to keep in mind is that property taxes are often not set for new homes at the time of closing. Please be sure that your realtor and lawyer address this. You wouldn't want to unknowingly receive a huge property tax bill after taking possession.

There are a few other costs that you may need to save for also. Will there be appliances included in the sale? Will they be in good working order? Do you need to purchase furniture? There could be deposit fees for utility providers. If you don't wish to keep the rental equipment there could be fees to terminate the contracts and remove the units. These are all things to keep in mind and include in your budgets.

Next, once you know what you can do financially, you need to determine your criteria. Where do you

want to live? What is realistic for you in terms of distance from family, friends, and your workplace? Where do you socialize? Do you want rural or city living? Small town or big town? Do you need to be close to hospitals? Amenities? How much privacy do you want/need? What style of home? What size of home? How many bedrooms? How many bathrooms? Do you need a garage? A workshop? A fenced yard for children and/or pets? Do you want a RESALE home or NEW CONSTRUCTION? The deposits will vary for each of these purchases. These are just a few things to take note of to consider.

If you are working with a realtor they can set you up on a search through their Real Estate Board for you to receive homes and properties that meet your criteria that are MLS® listed. There is also the REALTOR®.ca website that buyers can use to search properties. Both can be accessed through your mobile devices. When working with a realtor they can also notify you of any listings they may be aware of that are NOT MLS® listed. They can negotiate private purchases on your behalf also. If you see homes of interest, contact your realtor to take you on your own private viewing of the home so that they can represent your best interests moving forward. They will have a thorough look at the home and advise you of any concerns or any items that need further investigation and or inspection etc. They can then make recommendations of professionals who can assist so that you are making an educated decision about the property before proceeding to purchase. They can communicate any concerns and/or issues and direct any questions to the Listing Agent in advance and then provide advice and guidance.

Working with a realtor during your home search is so valuable to your success in purchasing a home/property that is right for you. They have the education and experience to help you navigate the ever-changing real estate market. They can also educate on the dif-

ferent strategies that are used by Sellers when they list their properties. As a realtor, I can speak to the fact that the market has been going through constant change since the COVID pandemic. You will need to know what the current strategies are that sellers are using so you can know that what you are looking at is within your reach. In the current market (April 2023), we are seeing some of the following strategies; underpricing and holding offers to an offer date in the future to attract multiple interest in the property and subsequently multiple offers to drive the sale price over the asking price on offer day; pricing the home slightly under market value or at market value and asking to have a longer irrevocable timeframe of which the seller would have to deal with any offers so that people don't feel the pressure of competition and buyers are aware of the sales price the sellers are looking for. Some listings aren't selling, so sellers are re-listing properties at a different price to freshen the listing and attract a new group of potential Buyers. These are just a few of the strategies that are happening in the current marketplace. The interest rate increases since last year changed the affordability for many Buyers, so it is important to ensure that your pre-approval is always current and that you are aware and comfortable with the interest rates at the time of purchase. If your job has changed and/or the industry you are working in is different, your wage or position has changed within an organization, you are expecting a baby, you are self employed or have taken on additional debt... these are all reasons for you to connect with your mortgage professional to ensure that you can still move forward with a purchase.

Happy house hunting!!

Visit the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation link to view a workbook available for buyers.

<https://assets.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/sf/project/cmhc/pdfs/content/en/66687.pdf?rev=379bf634-41f6-40fb-b618-404209c9f597>

COMMUNITY —

Historical plaque to be unveiled on Dewar Bridge in Wellesley Township

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

The Wellesley Heritage and Historical Society (WTHHS) will unveil a plaque marking the rehabilitation of the historic Bridge Number 5, also known as the Dewar Bridge on Saturday, May 6. The community is invited to attend.

This is the first in a series of historical plaque installations planned for this year. The Dewar Bridge, on Chalmers-Forrest Road, north of Kingwood, was the earliest example of a rigid frame bridge in Wellesley Township. While it was similar to other bridges of the same design, it was more elaborate, with the names of politicians and builders involved in the bridge's construction engraved on four of the railings.

These familiar local names have been

reproduced on the plaque:

- P. A. Wagner - Reeve
- W. Freeman - Deputy Reeve
- Councillors: W. Burnett, C. Voll, C. Boehmers
- D. J. Emery - Engineer
- T. C. Lichty - Foreman
- H. D. Doherty - Road Supt.

The bridge construction was a public works project, built with relief labour during the Depression. It was opened on October 25, 1934, and rebuilt in 2022. Plan to attend the unveiling of this historical plaque on beautiful Chalmers-Forrest Road on May 6 at 2 p.m. For more information, contact info@wellesleyhistory.org or visit <https://www.wellesleyhistory.org/>.



The Dewar Bridge.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR - APRIL 2023

April 21st to April 30th	novice scrapbookers. To reserve your space or for more information, contact Carol at carol@masselsmarine.com or 519-502-8648.	favourites. Refreshments and fellowship following hymn sing. Freewill cash donations to the Wellesley Food Cupboard.	refreshments will be available to purchase. Enjoy the hustle and bustle of the neighbourhood and shop for some special treasures. All proceeds from the barbecue go to the Mannheim Optimist Club to support local youth.	p.m. on www.blood.ca .
Theatre Wellesley presents The Ladies Foursome	2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday. Celebration on the bonds that form between these four women. Tickets are \$18 and available at Pym's Village Market and at www.theatrewellesley.com .	May 6th	May 7th	May 13th
April 22nd	April 29th All You Can Eat Taco Night 9th annual All You Can Eat Taco Night at the Shakespeare Community Centre. Meals served from 4 p.m. to 8 a.m. Adults \$25 and \$20 if purchased in advance. Children ages 10 and under eat free with an adult. Build your own tacos - local beef, hard / soft tacos, all the fixings, nachos, chile, salads, hot dogs and desserts. Tickets available at the Shakespeare Brewing Company during business hours.	Tavistock Opti-Mrs Pub Night Featuring Crackerjack Palace band, who cover songs from the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, Steely Dan and the Eagles. Takes place at Tavistock Memorial Hall. Cost is \$20 a ticket. Tickets available at Tavistock IDA and Tavistock Shell gas station, or by emailing tavistockoptimrs@gmail.com .	Catherine Street Park Tree Planting From 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Catherine Street Park. Join Let's Tree Wilmot as they plant trees in the neighbourhood park, then move onto a second location. No experience necessary, but advance registration is requested. Instructions and refreshments will be provided. Register on EventBrite. Rain or shine event.	Baden Hill Regional Forest Tree Planting From 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Baden Hill Regional Forest. This project is Let's Tree Wilmot's biggest to date - adding several acres to the Baden Hills Regional Forest. No experience necessary, but advance registration is requested. Instructions and refreshments will be provided. Register on EventBrite. Rain or shine event.
Earth Day Tree Planting	May 2nd Wellesley Council Meeting Hybrid council meeting taking place at 4805 William Hastings Line in Crosshill at 6:45 p.m. Also streamed on the Township of Wellesley YouTube page.	May 6th Family Event Taking place at Zion United Church, 115 Peel Street in New Hamburg from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Food and bottle drive, contest, lemonade sale, book sale, Beavertrail ice cream truck, games, obstacle course. Everyone welcome.	May 8th Wilmot Council Meeting Hybrid council meeting taking place at 60 Snyder's Road West in Baden at 6:45 p.m. Also streamed on the Township of Wilmot YouTube page.	May 15th
April 22nd	May 4th Community Hymn Sing Taking place at 7 p.m. at St. Mark's Lutheran Church at 1123 Henry Street in Wellesley. With elevator accessibility. Pianist Diane Peters will play familiar	May 6th Mannheim Community Garage Sale and Barbecue Hosted by the Optimist Club of Mannheim from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Optimist food booth will be located at 1506 Mannheim Road. Bacon burgers, sausages and	May 8th Blood Drive Taking place at the Wellesley Community Centre at 1,000 Maple Leaf Street in Wellesley. Booking times are available from about 3 p.m. until about 8	Blood Drive Taking place at the Steinmann Mennonite Church at 1316 Snyder's Road West in New Hamburg. Booking times are available from about 3 p.m. until about 8 p.m. on www.blood.ca .
Spring Scrapbooking Event	Taking place at St. George's Church in New Hamburg from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is \$35, and the first 10 to register receive a gift. Includes access to cutting tools, mini classes (e.g. card making), scrap booking consultant on hand with supplies for sale, beverages, snacks and a delicious lunch, prizes, gifts, raffle, bake sale and assistance for			May 27th
				Stoncroft Community Garage Sale Taking place at 1476 Haysville Road in New Hamburg from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Multiple homes are participating in this year's community garage sale. Lots of great items being offered. Rain or shine event.

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Weekly Quiz Answers

- 1) Jeremy Hansen
- 2) Cool Hand Luke
- 3) The Beatles
- 4) A dry white wine
- 5) Chernobyl
- 6) Pluto
- 7) Belfast
- 8) Statler and Waldorf
- 9) Marie Curie
- 10) Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs



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1	U	N	B	A	R	6	S	E	R	A	10	I	S	M		
13	R	E	E	V	E	14	A	D	U	L	T	15	N	E	B	
17	I	R	R	E	V	18	O	C	A	B	L	E	19	T	E	A
20	C	O	G	N	A	C	21	M	Y	A	N	M	A	R		
26	B	O	G	27	P	A	I	D	30	S	O	N	G	S		
33	E	A	R	L	34	N	E	W	S	36	U	N	I	O	N	
39	S	T	E	A	M	40	L	A	C	42	S	A	B	R	E	
43	T	H	E	T	A	44	D	R	A	45	W	46	S	L	E	W
47	S	N	I	T	S	48	F	L	E	D	50	E	S	T		
55	S	L	O	E	G	I	N	56	S	P	O	U	S	E		
62	R	A	G	63	R	I	D	E	64	S	H	O	T	G	U	N
65	A	G	A	66	S	L	E	E	K	67	S	O	L	I	D	
68	T	O	E	69	S	A	R	I	70	E	X	I	T	S		

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