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19th annual childhood cancer barbecue in Petersburg raises over \$34,000

Attendees hear from those touched by childhood cancer



Melanie Austin speaks to the crowd at the 19th annual childhood cancer barbecue in Petersburg on Thursday, July 13.

By Veronica Reiner

The 19th Annual Childhood Cancer Barbecue in Petersburg was a success this year, raising more than \$34,000, and drawing in about 500 people. The funds are split between Scotland's Yard (Grand River Hospital), Children's Health Foundation (London's Children's Hospital) and Walk to Conquer Cancer (Princess Margaret Hospital).

The event took place at Bechthold Home Improvements at 1239 Notre Dame

Drive from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 13.

"It was a terrific day all the way around," said organizer Warren Bechthold. "When you can help somebody - whether you know them or don't know them - that's what we've got to do when we have the resources and ability.

"I can't stress enough - thank you to the volunteers that help do the barbecue and to the community and businesses that support us. If it wasn't for them, we

wouldn't be."

Food available at the barbecue included hamburgers (six ounce beef from Stemmler's Meats in Heidelberg) for \$7, a cheeseburger for \$8, sausages from Krug's Meat Market in Tavistock for \$6, a jumbo hot dog for \$5, pop for \$2, ice cream treats for \$2, as well as water and juice for \$1.

There were tents set up to provide some shade, one of which was donated by the

Continued on page 2

New Tavistock spray pad planned for a 2024 opening

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

The Township of East Zorra-Tavistock will open its first spray pad in 2024 in Tavistock's Queen's Park. The township says it will offer a unique and accessible play area for families that expands the community's outdoor recreation options.

EZT Mayor Phil Schaefer said it feels great to add the facility to the recreation options locally. "Our communities are growing, and our citizens have told us that outdoor recreation is an important part of community life." The project will not cost taxpayers a cent thanks to support from local businesses and residents, and a grant. "Through the support of our residents, Saputo as a corporate donor, and the Trillium fund, we are able to take this key step forward in expanding the use and enjoyment of EZT's wonderful outdoor spaces, which is a key goal of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan."

Spray pads are non-slip aquatic play areas with no standing water that instead feature water sprinklers, sprayers, nozzles, and games that are motion-activated or on limited run times. Spray pads are a safe, low-cost, and low-maintenance alternative to outdoor pools while supporting childhood development through socialization, developing motor skills, and learning through play.

The new spray pad was requested by a citizen delegation to council in October 2019. The \$250,000 project budget is supported through a 2022 Ontario Trillium Foundation grant of \$150,000 and community fundraising efforts of over \$100,000 to date, including a \$35,000 corporate donation by Saputo. The spray pad aligns with the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock's Parks and Recreation

Continued on page 3

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NEWS —

19th annual childhood cancer barbecue in Petersburg



Warren Bechthold speaks at the childhood cancer barbecue in Petersburg. (Photo credit: Veronica Reiner)



Brian Santos delivers a speech during the childhood cancer barbecue, with Warren Bechthold looking on. (Photo credit: Veronica Reiner)

Continued from page 1

Optimist Club of New Hamburg.

Attendees also heard from special guests who have been personally touched by childhood cancer. This included Melanie Austin, a 17-year-old New Hamburg resident who was diagnosed with leukemia; as well as Brian Santos and Joy Stewart, who began Scotland's Yard after their daughter, Scotland (Scottie) was diagnosed with a rare form of blood cancer.

"I've been completely overwhelmed with the amount of support from friends,

family and even strangers," said Melanie during her speech. "You might have seen all of the orange ribbons up around New Hamburg while you were driving around. Well, they are in support of me - to me and my mom, it's like a big hug when you drive around town.

"Cancer is an awful disease that affects so many people and their loved ones. It puts your whole life on hold; it makes you miss out on some really fun experiences."

In his speech, Brian explained his personal experience with childhood cancer

as well as the inspiration behind starting Scotland's Yard. Scotland's Yard aims to raise \$50-million to improve pediatric care in the Waterloo Region.

Brian's and Joy's daughter, Scottie, is three-and-a-half years old now, and has been fighting cancer for most of her life. Scottie is doing well now, but for two years, it was "very difficult" for the family.

"As it stands now, families that have a child that's fighting cancer in Waterloo Region - they have to travel for most of the lifesaving treatment that they need,"

said Brian. "They have to go to London, Hamilton or Toronto to get the chemotherapy or radiation that they need. And that burden of travel is a lot."

Brian said that throughout the family's experience with childhood cancer, they made over 200 trips to Hamilton - which amounted to over 25,000 kilometres.

"The dream with this initiative is to bring pediatric cancer care to Waterloo Region so families don't have to travel."

Bechthold said this event will continue to be held until there is a cure for cancer.



The crowd looked on from the tents during speeches at the childhood cancer barbecue in Petersburg. (Photo credit: Veronica Reiner)



The childhood cancer barbecue drew in about 500 people on Thursday, July 13. (Photo credit: Veronica Reiner)

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COMMUNITY —

New Tavistock spray pad planned for a 2024 opening



Local businesses who donated are pictured on the sign located at the site of the soon to be Spray Pad at Queen's Park in Tavistock.

Continued from page 1

Master Plan, which shows a need to increase access to outdoor aquatic facilities to meet its target service level for its population.

The Township of East Zorra-Tavistock Council awarded the contract to construct the new spray pad to Openspace Solutions Inc. at a July 5 council meeting. Construction is scheduled to take place in the fall of 2023.

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COMMUNITY —

Successful start for Cruizin' on the Pond Baden

By Veronica Reiner

Cruizin' on the Pond in Baden, a local classic car show that draws in hundreds of visitors from across Ontario, is having a successful run so far this year.

Last year, out of 14 scheduled Wednesdays, the event was only able to go on seven times due to rain, according to organizer Helen Rempel. This year, they haven't missed a night.

The event takes place every Wednesday throughout the summer months, starting on the first Wednesday of June and ending on the last Wednesday in August. This year, those days fall on June 7 and August 30. Those dates are often the busiest nights of the whole summer, with about 370 cars attending those nights. On average, there are about 150 to 200 cars.

Helen took over running the event from Ron and Marlene Weber about two years ago. "We have cars from Exeter, Owen Sound, Hamilton, Burlington - it seems like every week, there's somebody new," said Helen. She added that visitors also come from all over, including Wilmot Township, Wellesley, Tavistock and Kitchener.

The event has grown since its inception more than 15 years ago. It was originally located in the Baden plaza, before moving to the Castle Kilbride, then taking place at the corner of Mill Street and Foundry Street.

Ron and Marlene ran the event for years, while Helen did DJ'ing at the event for about three years. After the COVID-19 pandemic hit, the event was cancelled in 2020 and 2021. "It got easy for him to say



The latest Cruizin at the Pond event on July 12. (Photo credit: Helen Rempel)

he didn't want to do it anymore, because for two years, he didn't, and I guess that felt good," explained Helen with a laugh.

Helen added that Ron had asked whether she would like to run the event. "It was a big decision. It's your whole summer - but we couldn't let it go, because it was so big and we've got so many nice comments."

A woman from Paris approached Helen about two weeks ago, and told her that she started coming to the event last year, and has never missed a night since.

"She told me it's the best show. I asked her why, and she told me that the people are number one - the people are so friendly," said Helen. "The location - people love it by the pond. And the different styles of cars - there are unique cars every single week that nobody has ever seen before."

The event is a big community effort. The previous owners of Baden Feed - Tim Scheerer and Roger Scheerer - rent out the field to Helen field for free. "Every week, they have it mowed and cleaned up,"

she said. "It's awesome."

M & G Portables Inc. based in New Hamburg, provides portapotties for those attending the event. "George Milligan and his son, Ron - they bring them every Wednesday morning, whether it's rain or shine," said Helen.

Donations are accepted at some events, which are then split between the land owner and M & G Portables Inc. "People are very generous - car people are awesome," said Helen.

There are door prizes given out every Wednesday, along with a 50/50 draw, with all the proceeds of the draw given to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The Make-A-Wish Foundation is a not-for-profit that helps to fulfill the wishes of kids with critical illnesses.

The Petersburg Optimist Club provides food for the event, including burgers, fries, hot dogs and cold drinks. Lots of local groups stop by, including the New Hamburg Optimist Club, and the North Easthope Tractor Club. Christine Ramseyer also attends with her ice cream truck every week.

"I could not accomplish this without the help of my crew," said Helen. "Setting up, tearing down, garbage and recycle helpers, car park guys are the greatest managing to get all those cars organized, registration and much more. I have the right people in the right places."

Cruizin at the Pond Baden events take place every Wednesday at the corner of Mill Street and Foundry Street from 4 p.m. until dusk.



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The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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FEATURE —

The Gurtovyis, a Ukrainian family of four, celebrate their one year anniversary of coming to Wellesley



The Gurtovyi family with Lisa, Richard and Barb and Joe Nowak. (Photo contributed)



Lisa and Richard and their new Ukrainian friends. (Photo contributed)

By Veronica Reiner

The Gurtovyi family have recently celebrated their one year anniversary of moving to Wellesley, Canada, to escape from the war in Ukraine.

Over the past year, the family of four has accomplished plenty. Tetiana, Eugene, and their two daughters, Liza and Angelina, first came to Canada when they moved into a home on Nithbank Road on June 8. The property is owned by couple Lisa Weiler Haskins and Rich Hamming.

“They lived with us for four months and in that time accomplished so much,” said Lisa and Richard. “They were great house guests. Easy to get along with, always pitching in to help, and, lucky for us, Tetiana is an amazing cook and often shared meals and treats with us.”

In October, a three-bedroom rental unit owned by the couple became available on Crab Apple Court. Lisa and Richard offered it to the family, and they officially moved on October 2, 2022.

There were several Wellesley residents - including Lisa and Richard, as well as

Wellesley Mayor Joe Nowak and his wife Barb - that helped them out with the move, such as moving furniture and household items.

“We are very grateful to the residents of Wellesley who helped us with things and household items,” said the Gurtovyi family.

Tetiana and Eugene now work at Toyota Boshoku in Elmira. After graduating from Waterloo Oxford District Secondary School, Liza plans to get a full-time job. Angelina will attend Wellesley PS in the eighth grade.

On April 19, Tetiana’s parents’ house was damaged by shelling from the Russian army. They were safe at that time, and did not live in their house. The parents’ house is located in a 10-kilometre zone from the border with Russia.

“It is very dangerous to live there! There are shellings there every day,” said the Gurtovyi family. “The situation in Ukraine is very difficult and we do not yet see the end of this situation. Every day we talk to our parents and they talk about the terrible situation there! There is shelling every

day. Russia is destroying entire cities and villages of Ukraine.”

The Gurtovyi family said they do not see the possibility of returning to Ukraine, and that they are grateful for their life in Canada.

“We were well received by the Wellesley community,” they said. “Wellesley is home to incredibly kind and positive people. Our family loves communication, getting to know each other and we like to attend various events and holidays.”

They have relatives left in Ukraine - Eugene’s parents and Tetiana’s parents live there. Tetiana’s brother also stayed there - he is visually impaired and lives with his parents.

“The war in Ukraine is terrible because the Russian army behaves like a terrorist army and destroys entire cities and villages,” said the Gurtovyi family. “A lot of peaceful children, women and pensioners are dying. Now we are very worried about the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant. Russian terrorists have mined it and can detonate it at any moment. This is very

dangerous.”

They said that all Ukrainians, regardless of where they are in Ukraine or abroad, want an early peace and victory.

Ukrainians are arriving on Canada-Ukraine authorization for emergency travel (CUAET) visas, which provide them with an opportunity to work and study in Canada. This means they are not entitled to housing and other financial support offered through traditional refugee channels.

“With the support of friends, family and the Wellesley community, we have been able to provide housing for three additional Ukrainian families,” said Lisa and Rich. “We are thankful to be in a position to provide a safe place to land while they get their paperwork in order, find jobs and secure permanent housing.”

If anyone is interested in learning more about hosting or renting to Ukrainians fleeing war or can provide employment, please reach out to Waterloo Region Grassroots Response to the Ukrainian Crisis.

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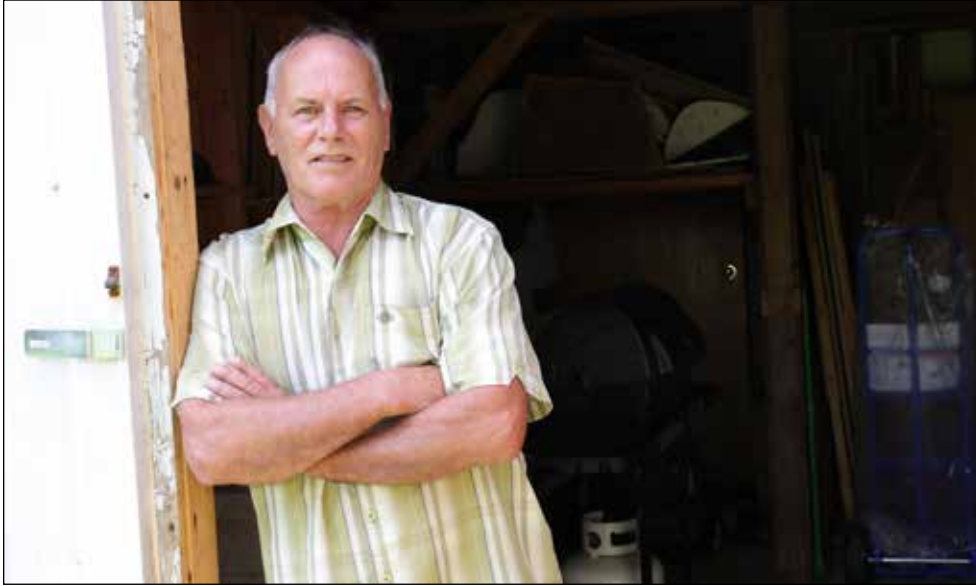
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COMMUNITY —

WRPS investigating break in at Zion Philipsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church and other rural cemeteries



Murray Ziegler, Chair for the Zion Philipsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church, was not impressed after equipment was stolen from the church tool shed this past weekend. (Photo credit: Veronica Reiner)



A view of the cemetery at Zion Philipsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church at 3357 Erbs Road. (Photo credit: Veronica Reiner)

By Veronica Reiner

A police investigation is underway after a tool shed at the Zion Philipsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church in Philipsburg was broken into over this past weekend.

Chairman of the church, Murray Ziegler, said that weed eaters, gas, gas cans and other garden equipment were all stolen. The unknown person(s) used bolt cutters to force open the lock on the tool shed.

The incident occurred sometime between 9 p.m. on July 14 and 12 p.m. on July 15.

It was the church groundskeeper who noticed that the shed had been broken into; then the Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) were notified. The groundskeeper cuts the lawn around the church and cemetery about once or twice a week.

"The biggest concern was who broke in and stole from a cemetery. That's the biggest disappointment. The material things - we can replace all that," said Ziegler.

He added that there has been plenty of community support following the incident. "The community here is wonderful. I already have a lawn mower donated by a

local business. We have lots of good people in our local area that are helping out."

"It's good news to know that the community is there for you."

There have since been security measures installed at the toolshed, including solar lights.

In a news release issued on Sunday, July 16, the WRPS said they had received three reports of break ins over the course of two days at cemeteries in Wilmot and Woolwich townships.

In all incidents, outdoor power equipment

such as grass trimmers, push mowers and lawn tractors were targeted. Property owners and property keepers are encouraged to ensure all storage buildings are locked and that valuable property is further secured.

Anyone with information about this incident or who may have witnessed suspicious activity is encouraged to contact police at 519-570-9777. Anonymous information can be provided to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or www.waterloocrimestoppers.com

Schnurr's Grocery celebrates 165 years



Schnurr's Grocery in Linwood recently celebrated its 165th anniversary. Wellesley Mayor Joe Nowak and Councillor Lori Sebben presented owners Don and Julie Schnurr with a certificate recognizing 165 years in the business. Schnurr's Grocery is Canada's oldest family run grocery store and has been serving Linwood since 1858. Schnurr's Grocery is participating in Doors Open Waterloo Region on Saturday, September 16, if visitors are interested in checking out the history of the store. (Photo credit: Township of Wellesley)

COMMUNITY —

Pfenning's Organic Farm represented in California



Markus Pfenning and his father Ekk Pfenning at the Organic Produce Summit in California. (Photo credit: Pfenning's Organic Farm)

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff
Last week, Wilmot Township was represented more than 4,000 kilometres away in Monterey, California.

Father and son Ekk and Markus Pfenning of Pfenning's Organic Farm in New Hamburg attended the Organic Produce Summit, which took place from July 12 to

July 13. There were many topics discussed throughout those days, including changes to the organic industry, the power of plants, the importance of sustainability, the value of food in all stages and its life cycle, and what the future may hold.

The event has taken place annually since 2015.

WRPS lay eight traffic charges on Haysville Road



A vehicle being impounded on Haysville Road, in between New Hamburg and Haysville, after WRPS enforcement. (Photo credit: Waterloo Regional Police Service)

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff
The Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) conducted two hours of enforcement on Haysville Road in Wilmot Township on July 12. This resulted in eight charges, including two stunt driving

charges for alleged speeds of 95 kilometres an hour (km/h) and 100 km/h in a 50 km/h limit zone.

Both vehicles were impounded for 14 days and the drivers' licences were suspended for 30 days.

2023 Wilmot Township Citizen of the Year Awards Nominations Now Open

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff
Each year the Wilmot Township Citizen of the Year Awards recognize local volunteers for their exceptional contributions to our community. Award nominations can be submitted online by any township resident between July 18 and August 1 by visiting www.wilmot.ca/citizenoftheyear.

Awards are presented to community builders who have made outstanding community contributions in the following

categories:

- Athletics
- Community Service
- Culture
- Seniors, and
- Youth

"Volunteers are the heartbeat of our community. The Citizen of the Year Awards are a special opportunity to celebrate the important community contributions

that make Wilmot Township such a cohesive, vibrant, and welcoming countryside community," said Mayor Natasha Salonen. "I know there are many deserving residents in our township. I can't wait to see the nominations and look forward to the opportunity to formally recognize and thank the winners for their dedication and service."

Following the nomination period, Wilmot residents will vote to select winners in each category. Mayor Salonen will present

the awards during a ceremony at the New Hamburg Fall Fair on September 15th.

More information about the awards can be found at www.wilmot.ca/citizenoftheyear. Anyone who may not have online access is welcome to submit a nomination form and vote at the Township of Wilmot Administration Complex or at Wilmot Recreation Complex where paper copies of all nomination and voting forms are available.

OPP cadet program is hiring

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff
If you are seeking a job to better discover a career in policing, why not consider becoming a cadet? The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is hiring cadets across the province.

The OPP Cadet Program focuses the career development and experience of future

OPP police constable candidates. Cadets help frontline officers with administrative duties and through engagement with their communities by supporting crime prevention and public safety initiatives.

Cadet positions are a one-year contract with the possibility of an extension for one additional year. Cadets undergo a two

week paid training course; no previous experience in law or security is required.

To be eligible to become a cadet you must be between the ages of 18 to 25 at the date of application. The position is full-time with flexibility to work part-time, subject to the applicant being enrolled in and attending school.

Applications for the Cadet Program will be accepted, as of Monday, July 17 through and until Friday, August 11. After a careful review, successful applicants will be identified for the first scheduled intake class taking place fall 2023.

Candidates who are interested are encouraged to visit www.opp.ca/cadet

COMMUNITY —

Former K9 owner shares thoughts on losing a dog in the line of duty

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Tavistock resident Mike McKay may not have lost his police dog while doing his job, but he can certainly empathize with the Woodstock officer who did.

Police service dog Taz, a K9 with the Woodstock Police Service, responded to a call to help the Stratford Police Service with a drug-related investigation on July 3. While conducting a search, Taz and another dog, PSD Striker, both appeared to ingest drugs. Narcan was administered to both, and they were rushed to a veterinarian clinic. Taz did not survive while Striker was released and went home shortly after.

McKay was a member of the K9 unit with the Waterloo Regional Police from 2006 to 2014. He said during his time with a police dog fentanyl was just emerging as an issue among drug users. "We were just really careful. There were actually searches we wouldn't do if there was fentanyl involved. At that time there wasn't Narcan, but we did have an injectable just in case the dog ingested something."

McKay had the same canine partner for all of the eight years he was in the K9 unit, something that is very rare by today's standards. "Storm was a Hungarian Shepherd, a working line of dogs. He became part of the family. What people don't understand is a K9 is an attack dog. Shepherds are the closest animal to a wild dog or a wolf. They are very pack oriented and very loyal to their pack." He added Storm would see McKay's family as his pack. "He became very close with us, and he would do anything asked of him. That's why they are such good police dogs,



their loyalty. They are also energetic and extremely brave. That's what makes them train well too. Try getting a dog to climb a ladder or run through tubes where they can't see the end. They just trust you." He added that during his time in the unit, he probably spent more time with Storm than he did with his own family. "That's the commitment it requires. People think it's all fun and games, but when you think about it you are relegated to that K9 for the rest of its life, 24 hours a day and seven days a week. So when I was off duty I would have to do something with Storm."

Storm retired because of age, and he ended up with some disc and other health issues, but McKay said he lived to the age of 13, quite old for a Shepherd. "He lived with us until the day he died. The problem is they are trained to bite people. Either the handler has to keep them, or they need to go to another experienced handler who knows

what they are getting. You can't just give them to anyone. They are professional biters is what they are." He said he doesn't know of any handlers who haven't kept their dog after leaving a police service. McKay also left the unit once Storm retired. "It's a young person's thing. If they go over fences, you have to go over fences. If they go through water, you go through water. It's very physical and that is actually what ends many K-9's careers. Workplace injuries."

Woodstock Police have not released the name of the K9 officer who was Taz's handler, but McKay said he can appreciate what a devastating loss it would be. "It would be similar to losing your partner. It will be tough on him for sure. He lost his partner, and he was counting on the dog being around for a while. They usually start training when they are a year old, so it was likely right in its prime. They don't get really good until they are in their third or fourth year."

Taz joined the Woodstock Police Service K9 Unit and began his training in 2021 and was officially deployed in 2022, allowing Striker to begin transitioning into more of a community service-oriented role. A statement from Woodstock Police said "Taz was young but respected throughout the K9 community, as he had developed into an outstanding detection dog. In his short but successful career, Taz assisted with a number of arrests, drug and weapons investigations, missing persons investigations, and community service engagements. Taz was well-loved and cared for and will be greatly missed by his family, the entire Woodstock Police Service, his K9 friends, and all of the groomers, vets, and therapists who worked closely with him."

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COMMUNITY —

Rescue Junction performs at Castle Kilbride

By Veronica Reiner

The Castle Kilbride summer concert is back, now into its second week with Rescue Junction performing on Thursday, July 13.

“The castle grounds were packed. The most I’ve ever seen for the series,” noted attendee Darryl Gingerich, adding the band did a great job, and played for about an hour and a half. “It was a beautiful night.”

Rescue Junction is an award winning Canadian bluegrass band based that has been travelling and singing together since 2009. Originally comprised of brother and sister, Kyle and Kaitlyn Gerber on mandolin and guitar respectively, the band has grown to include Roger Martin on banjo, Dallas Roth on upright bass and Nick Huber on dobro.

The series will continue throughout the summer every Thursday evening from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. The schedule includes Unleashed (classic rock) playing tonight (July 20), Onion Honey (old-time folk) playing July 27, Folklore Junction (country/ folk) playing on August 3, the Kitchener Musical Society (classical) playing August 10, York Street Thought Process (indie/ folk) playing on August 17, Festival City Big Band (jazz/swing) playing August 24, and Smile ‘n’ Wave (80s dance party) playing on August 31.



Rescue Junction performing at Castle Kilbride - the band is made up of brother-sister duo Kyle and Kaitlyn Gerber, Roger Martin, Dallas Roth and Nick Huber. (Photo credit: Darryl Gingerich)

IT'S WORTH THE DRIVE TO STRATFORD KIA!

<p>2022 Hyundai Sonata Preferred</p>  <p>\$33,995 + HST & lic LOW KMS 28,426 km</p> <p>Front-Wheel Drive</p>	<p>2022 Cadillac CT5 Sport</p>  <p>\$56,995 + HST & lic LOW KMS 24,271 km</p> <p>Rear-Wheel Drive</p>	<p>2019 Audi Q5 Komfort</p>  <p>\$36,995 + HST & lic LOW KMS 44,400 km</p> <p>All-Wheel Drive</p>	<p>2021 Kia Soul EV Premium</p>  <p>\$42,995 + HST & lic LOW KMS 46,710 km</p> <p>Front-Wheel Drive</p>	<p>2021 Mazda CX-9 Signature</p>  <p>\$47,995 + HST & lic LOW KMS 24,383 km</p> <p>All-Wheel Drive</p>		
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*While every effort is made to ensure accuracy, we are not responsible for any errors and omissions. Please see your dealer for current pricing. Plus tax and licensing. Some terms and conditions may apply.



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COMMUNITY —

Local 4-H members join in Perth County judging competition



Members of the top 4-H judging team from the Perth South-East dairy club. Left to right: Jacob Meadows, Lexi Wilhelm, Hailey Peters, Deanna Halls, Elliott Peters, Courtney Pearce, Meghan Weitzel, Jade Dill of Shakespeare, Nash Zacher, Janessa Weber, Gracie Weitzel, Brooklyn Hyatt, Jaime Carson, Addison Hyatt, Emily Danen of New Hamburg, Joyce Fox (4-H Ontario Ambassador), Melinda Scott-4-H Ontario Coordinator (volunteer support for Regions 5 and 6).

By Gary West

Many local participants, including those from Shakespeare and New Hamburg, joined in the Perth County 4-H judging competition, which was recently held at the Kirkton fairgrounds on the western edge of Perth County.

The annual competition included six classes - dairy heifers, crocheting - granny squares, beef carcasses, haylage,

safety boots, bird houses, and also a general knowledge quiz.

The Perth County South-East Dairy Club took home the top team award. That team consisted of highest placing Novice, Junior, Intermediate, and Senior 4-H members.

Awards in the various classes went to Landon Willhelm, Nash Zacher, Deanna Halls, Addison Hyatt and Jade Dill of Shakespeare.



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Hours: Tues - Fri: 7am - 3pm | Sat: 8am - 1pm

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS MEET EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT AT 7PM (FOLLOWING JESUS)

NEWS BRIEFS

Shattered window in Baden

There was property damage done to a home in Baden on July 17.

The Waterloo Regional Police Service received the report at about 10:30 p.m. An unknown person(s) threw a brick at a window of a residence in the area of Charles Street and Foundry Street, shattering the window. The involved parties were gone upon police arrival at about 10:45 p.m.

Anyone with information is asked to call police, and anonymous information can be provided to Crime Stoppers.

Tire blowout in New Hamburg

The Waterloo Regional Police Service received a report of a single vehicle collision in Wilmot Township of July 18 at about 9:45 a.m.

A vehicle travelling north on Wilmot Easthope Road experienced a tire blowout, causing the vehicle to skid into a ditch. No physical injuries were reported, and the vehicle was towed

from the scene.

OPP lays more than 7,000 charges during campaign

There were 7,084 charges laid across the province during a week-long traffic safety initiative.

Drivers of passenger (and other non-commercial) vehicles racked up 6,180 of the charges, while commercial vehicle drivers were issued 904 of the offence notices. Speeding, distracted, careless and impaired driving, following too closely, and other unsafe/illegal moving violations were among the offences on the part of both non-commercial and commercial drivers.

Among other commercial driver charges were those related to speed limiters, defective equipment, unsecured load, unsafe lane changes and improper documents.

Operation Safe driver is an annual, national campaign founded by the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance, which ran from July 9 to July 15.

PUBLIC AUCTION

Saturday, July 22, 2023

10 A.M. MARK YOUR CALENDERS!

Shop Machinery, Tools, Guns, Household, Antiques, Steam Boiler And Parts For John And Catherine Stutzman And Southern Machinery (Moving)

Tug 40 Engine Lathe Model 2200, 17"X78", Metric & Imperial Threading, C/W Two Chucks, (Reasonable Reserve Bid), Monarch 14"X56" Threading Lathe, Lincoln 200 Amp Welder Portable On Tires. Lincoln 200 Amp Shop Welder On Casters, Partly Dismantled. Reciprocating Metal Hack Saw, Clark 4000 Lb. Forklift, Electric Chainsaw Sharpener, H.d. Cast Iron Table Saw, Buzz Saw, Saw Makers' Anvil, General Model 350 T.a. Saw, General 15" Drill Press, General 15" Band Saw, General 4" Jointer, Small Jig Saw. All Lineshaft Drive, Non Electric. Small Electric Table Saw And Drill Press. 6" Bullet Vise, 115 Volt Ac/Dc Oxy/Acetylene Flame Cutting Machine. Top-Saw For Sawmill, Several Large Sawmill Blades, Cement Mixer, Small Rubber Tired Wagon, Hay Feeder, Steel Wheel Running Gears (Geo. White), 11ft High A-Frame, New 3 Ton Trolley. 3 Ton Chain Falls, Spool Of New 3/4" Cable, For Hoisting, 2 Cycl. Wisconsin Motors, Some Honda Parts Motors, Volkswagen Rabbit Diesel Not Running, Some Sawmill And Steam Related Parts, New Sand Blasting Unit, Air Support Helmet, Arc Welding Helmet, 2 Powder Torches, Welding Rods, Gear Boxes, Up To Several Hundred H.p.2 Harvester Gear Boxes, H.d. Winch, Pump Jack, Litter Carrier, Bucket & Track, Mascot 3 Gang Horse Mower, 5'X6' Greenhouse, 8x10' Mini Barn, Push Mowers, Air Receiver, 4 H.d. Steel Stacking Bins, Parts Rack, Tarp Shed, Scaffolding, Lots Of Pullies, V & Flat Belts, Acetylene Gas Generator, Hydraulic Components, Log Tongs, Small Portable Chicken House, Chicken Crates, Cross-Cut Saw & Sharpening Tools, Pile Of 1" Lumber, Goodison Steam Boiler & Engine, Wheels Etc. Household & Antiques: Press Back Chairs W/Table, Buffet W/Fancy Mirror, Rope Bed, Adz, Broad-Axe, Machette, Wooden Nail Kegs, Tonka Trucks, Wool Winder, Wood Cigar Boxes, Misc Furniture & Household Goods, Lots Of Books, Technical Books & Manuals, Office & Tool Room Goods, Gauges, Leveling Table, Antique Taylor Forbes Lawn Mower, Old Sleigh, 35 Remington Cal. Browning Semi-Auto Rifle (Old). Also 12 Ga. Shotgun (Buyer Needs Fac.), Wagon Load Of Small Items Too Many To List, List Subject To Additions And Deletions, Goodison Engine Reserve Bid. Come See The Case 110 H.p. Steam Engine Before It Goes To Michigan! (Not Fired Up)

Selling For John & Catherine Stutzman, 962945 Rd. 96, R.R.1 Lakeside, On Located: 1st Place West Of Uniondale, 1 Road S. Of Hwy 7, 1 St Place W. Or Approx 12 Miles N. Of Thamesford To Rd 96.

We Expect Someone To Cater With Food.

Selling Smalls 1st, Guns & Antiques About 1 p.m., Larger Items Last

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Phone July 20 & 21 Only, Ph. 519-349-2937

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ROYAL CLIPPER | 7 NIGHTS | WINDWARD ISLANDS
DEPARTURE DATE: DEC 8-16, 2023

Bonus \$200
On Board Credit and Free Pre-Paid Gratuities. Expires Aug 31, 2023

Group rate starting from **\$3,855** per person, double occupancy.

SAVE \$200 per couple if booked by Aug 15, 2023



Attend our **WEBINAR PRESENTATION** on July 26 at 7:30 p.m. (contact Jen for a virtual link to the webinar)

To reserve your spot contact **Jen Mezenberg**
210 Mill Street, New Hamburg, ON N3A 1P9
jen@stonetowntravel.com
226-333-9939
TICO #50025796

STONETOWN TRAVEL

ZEHR INSURANCE BROKERS PRESENTS:

5th Annual Tavistock Community Car Show & Cruise

JULY 25, 2023 AT 4:00 PM
FREE ENTRY • PRIZES/GIVEAWAY • FOOD

LOCATION: TAVISTOCK MENNONITE CHURCH: 131 WETTLAUER ST, TAVISTOCK
DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED, ALL PROCEEDS TO TAVISTOCK ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

CRUISE IN AND ENJOY THE SHOW!

OPEN HOUSE:
SATURDAY, JULY 22 - 10:30-12:00 NOON
HOSTED BY SANDRA EBY, SALES REPRESENTATIVE



328 FORMAN AVENUE, STRATFORD
ATTENTIONS FAMILIES WITH HIGH SCHOOL CHILDREN - If you are a family with children that go to Stratford high school and would like to be within walking distance to the school, then this is one home you do not want to miss viewing. This 4 level back spilt semi-detached home located with in walking distance to the school (actually a few minute walk), is larger then it looks from the street and offers 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, finished family room, fully fenced rear yard. Whether you are looking for your first home, or are a family looking for more bedrooms, this home might be just what you have been looking for. A quick closing date is available. Call today to view this great family home or view at the open house. **MLS#40451168 \$549,900**

OPEN HOUSE:
SATURDAY, JULY 22 - 1:30-3:00 PM
HOSTED BY SANDRA EBY, SALES REPRESENTATIVE



117 HOPE STREET EAST, TAVISTOCK
This house is definitely now a drive by and must be viewed from the inside to see just how much it has to offer. Located within walking distance to down town, the public school, and the park and arena, this home is ideal for your growing family. With approximately 2,943 square feet of living space, this lovely home offers, 3 or 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, 4 season sun room to enjoy your morning coffee, games room/family room, a spacious kitchen with an island with a breakfast bar, living and dining room area with a gas fireplace. Another added bonus for this great home, the triple car driveway is on Elizabeth Street. Within commuting distance to Kitchener Waterloo area, Stratford, Woodstock and London. Call today to view this great home or view at the open house, it might be just what you have been looking for. **MLS#40446572 \$699,900**



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: 519-273-2821, Cell: 519-272-7676 or Res: 519-655-2548** or email **mseby@rogers.com**

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For pricing call 519-580-5418 or email ads@wilmotpost.ca.

FAMILY MILESTONES —

OBITUARY

BENDER, Ralph Joseph



Passed away peacefully surrounded by his loved ones on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at Nithview Community, New Hamburg. Ralph was a long-time member of both the Oxford County and Wilmot Township Community's. Ralph was born 81 years ago in East Zorra, a son of the late Milfrid and Edna

(Roth) Bender.

Cherished and loving husband of Marjorie (Steinmann) Bender. Devoted father of Dawn Bender. Ralph will be missed by his siblings; Luanna (John Gravelle), Bruce Bender (Marlene), Glen Bender (Dorothy), Ruth (Jim Gingerich) by his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; Harold Steinmann (Reta), Earl Steinmann (Eileen) Ervin Steinmann (Irla), Elaine Cressman, Anna Steinmann, Norma Steinmann, Ruth Steinmann and by his aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Predeceased by his 3 daughters Anne Marie Bender (1970), Donna Bender (2000), Debbie Bender (2011), by sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law; Rita (Leonard Cressman), Ray Steinmann, Wayne Steinmann, Bruce Steinmann, and Marilyn Steinmann.

Ralph was a longtime and active member of Cassel Mennonite Church. He farmed for many years south of Punkey Doodles corners where his dairy cows and daily farm chores kept him busy. After retiring off the farm and moving into New Hamburg, Ralph spent his time tending to his flower beds, sharing the beauty of them for all to see.

Relatives and friends were invited to the Mark Jutzi Funeral Home, 291 Huron Street, New Hamburg, on Saturday, July 15, 2023, from 2 – 4 & 6 – 8 p.m. A funeral service was held at 16th Line East Zorra Mennonite Church, 677044 16 Line, Tavistock, on Sunday, July 16, 2023, at 2:30 p.m. Interment will take place prior to the service at 2:00 p.m. at the adjoining church cemetery.

As expressions of sympathy, donations would be accepted to the Mennonite Central Committee or Cassel Mennonite Church and can be done through the funeral home.

Personal condolences and donation information available at www.markjutzifuneralhomes.ca

OBITUARY

FRASER, Bernice



With love in our hearts, we set you free. Peacefully, at her home in Parkhill with her daughter by her side, Bernice Barbara Bender Fraser joined the Lord on July 15, 2023 at the age of 87.

Bernice was the loving and devoted wife of the late George Fraser (2022) for 58 blissful years. Loving and cherished mother to Barbara Christine (William Nutt). Doting and proud grandmother to Graeme and Geordie. Bonus grandma to Dylan and Cohen. Bernice has now been heavenly reunited with her so missed parents Simon and Ida Bender. Siblings Inez, Ruth (Arnel), Gerald and Harold. She will be greatly missed by her Tavistock cousins, her nieces, nephews and coffee shop friends, the Fraser and Nutt Families and her close friends Debbie, Lorelei and Lola.

Thanks being given to Tamara, Tonya, Jordan, Tiffany, Nurse Ryan, Dr. Olmstead and his staff Kim and Jessica for all their help and support.

A visitation will take place at The Nairn Mennonite Church on July 19th, 2023 from 11:00am until time of funeral service at 1:00pm. Cremation to follow. As an expression of sympathy, donations may be made to Second Blessings, Parkhill or The Church at Nairn. Online condolences may be made at www.ailsacraigfuneral-home.com

CELEBRATION



Happy 80th Birthday, Don Myers! July 23, 2023

Friends and family are invited to join us to celebrate this milestone birthday. There will be an Open House on Sunday, July 23rd at the New Hamburg Legion 65 Boullee Street from 1:00 – 4:00

CELEBRATION

Look Who Turns 80 Years Old on July 20th?



It's Ronald Bender
Your Family Loves You
xoxoxo

CELEBRATION

Congratulations to David Williams and Karina Gummerson on their upcoming wedding this Saturday

God bless you both on this journey together and lots of love, laughter and happiness.

Love from your greatest aunt and uncle

WORSHIP IN WILMOT TOWNSHIP

St George's Anglican Church

Corner Waterloo St. and Byron St., New Hamburg
In-person service and online worship Sundays at 10:15 a.m.

Programs each Sunday for children during service.

St James Chapel of Ease

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Special guest preacher is Canon Christopher Pratt.

All Welcome

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sgacnewhamburg@gmail.com

Current health and safety protocols are followed.

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Pastor Nancy Mann

Worship service 10am followed by coffee hour and sermon discussion. All are welcome

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COMMUNITY —

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Weekly Quiz

- 1) In the CFL, who won the first Grey Cup?
- 2) Who recognized Ulysses first when he came home after twenty years?
- 3) What is an earl's wife's title?
- 4) How many siblings did Napoleon Bonaparte have?
- 5) Who is Edson Arantes do Nascimento more famously known as?
- 6) Who used 'Sebastian Melmoth' as a pseudonym?
- 7) What is lycanthropy?
- 8) Who starred in the movie 'Gentlemen Prefer Blondes'?
- 9) True or false - more bacteria and germs can be transmitted through shaking hands than through kissing.
- 10) When elected for parliament, Sir Isaac Newton spoke on how many occasions?

Answers found on page 22

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

July 20: Happy birthday to Nyah Puklicz (9), Grace Kalbfleisch (11), Mark Kalbfleisch (11), Elizabeth Fenton (22), Jon Wood (22), and Brad Wettlaufer.

July 21: Happy birthday to Madison Zehr (12) and anniversary for Mark and Amanda Brenneman (23rd).

July 22: Happy birthday to Jacob Bergsma (19) and anniversaries for Mike and Andrea Gilroy (6th), and Brent and Heather Gingerich.

July 23: Happy birthday to Jayde Kalbfleisch (12), Landon Miller (13), Ethan Spenser (23), Cheryl Murray and Seth Leis, and anniversaries for Dave and Gwen King (40th), and Jeffrey and Dustie Allen (12th).

July 24: Happy Birthday to Kirsten Schultz and Shirley Ramseyer

July 25: Happy Birthday to Bennet Brady (4), Reid Kalbfleisch (8), and anniversary for Jeff and Andrea Van Nes (8th)

July 26: Happy Birthday to Abigail McIntosh (16), Thomas Stolk (21), Camryn Berg (22), Shayne Steinacker (23), and Gary Snider and anniversaries for Elliot and Amy Fung (20th), Rodney and Erin Ramseyer (9th), and Wayne and Nancy Weicker.

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

The Old Gazettes

By Jake Grant

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

July 4-23, 2013 Edition (10 years ago)

The Best Little Pork Shoppe in Shakespeare has new owners. As of March 1, 2013, Bruce and Linda Wettlaufer have taken over the day-to-day operations of the business, purchasing equipment and inventory. The business has been a landmark on Highway 7&8 for more than twenty-five years.

From July 5-7 the Ramseyer Earthworks Tavistock Bantam Boys competed in the OASA elimination tournament in New Dundee. Due to their excellent pitching, strong defense, and some timely hitting, the team earned themselves a trip to Ste. Perpetue, Quebec where they will represent Ontario along with Grand Valley at the Eastern Canadians. The Tavistock Bantam Boys include: Coaches Tim Hergott, Jamie Boyd, Dave Wiffen and Howie Brown. Players are Jackson Hergott, Tristan Wilhelm, Dylan Brown,

Jensen van Boekel, Derek Hyde, Trent Jones, Justin Wagler, Jamieson Hergott, Mikey Johnson, Jake Beauman, Bryce Yantzi, and Jake Wiffen.

County Council approved a service agreement recently between Oxford County and TecVana Corporation, developers of the new Geo-adventuring mobile app that helps rural and small market communities engage with new digital markets to drive a new economy for their community and businesses.

July 7-July 13, 1983 Edition (40 years ago)

All were pleased with the outcome of last Wednesday's fish fry sponsored by the Tavistock and Hickson Volunteer Firefighters. Over 330 satisfied patrons of Tavistock enjoyed the meal served smorgasbord style and in the all-you-can-eat fashion.

Some local residents were honoured this week as "Resident of the Month" went to Mr. Arthur Saarl for his planting and maintaining of the flowers and vegetables on the balconies at peopleCare. The Bingo winner for the month of June

was Mrs. Nina Sharpe.

July 10-July 17, 1963 Edition (60 years ago)

With summer vacation underway, thousands of Canadian children may suffer damage to their good sight if they do not take precautions when viewing the eclipse on July 20. In a warning on the dangers of eclipse blindness, The Canadian National Institute for the Blind reminds parents that if children watch the eclipse with the naked eye, they may suffer damage to their vision for the rest of their lives.

Dial telephone and direct distance dialing service will be introduced at Shakespeare in the spring of 1964, and at the same time there will be toll free calling with New Hamburg, Stratford and Tavistock. This was announced last week by R. J. Munro, the Bell Telephone manager for the area.

This week's grocery specials include Lee's 20 oz Crushed and Sliced Pineapple tins, 4 for 83 cents. 15 oz Heinz Spaghetti tins, 3 for 49 cents and Cheez Whiz 16 oz for 55 cents.

WORSHIP WITH US!

GRACE UNITED CHURCH

116 Woodstock St Tavistock

Office: 519-655-2151

Rev. Marg Smith

www.graceunitedtavistock.com

graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com

Online worship available on our website

10:30 am in person worship service

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEBASTOPOL-TAVISTOCK

Interim Rev. Hans Borch / 519-655-2372

Masks welcomed but not required

www.trinitytavistock.com

TAVISTOCK MENNONITE

Pastor Jim Brown

131 Wettlaufer St., Tavistock 655-2581

Sunday Worship services begin at 9:45am, with coffee and fellowship to follow at 11am.

Masks welcomed but not required.

All Ages JRSS will follow after the worship service.

Stream services online at www.tavistockmennonitechurch.ca

TAVISTOCK BIBLE CHAPEL

(corner William & Oxford Streets)

www.tavistockbc.org

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN LCC

Church Phone 519-276-0701

Wellington Street, Tavistock

stpaulstavistock@gmail.com

Pastor Rev. Michael Mayer

EAST ZORRA MENNONITE

677044 16th Line Road, East Zorra

Pastors Ray Martin & Mike Williamson

www.ezmennonite.ca

Service audio recordings available at:

<https://ezmennonite.ca/worship/>

TAVISTOCK MISSIONARY

77 Mogk St., Box 220, Tavistock NOB 2R0

Pastor Hugh Rutledge 655-3611

Email: office@tavistock.church

www.tavistock.church

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Or are you looking to hire local people, or wanting to sell something or buy something? We will publish your classified ad.

For pricing call 519-580-5418 or email ads@wilmotpost.ca.



COMMUNITY —

The Optimist Club of Shakespeare donates \$2,000 to the historic Fryfogel Inn



Volunteer Rachel Bedic explains the features of the Fryfogel Inn to members of the local Optimist Club. Travellers from the 1800's would often stay at the inn for the night while travelling west towards Goderich.



A \$2,000 donation was presented to the board of the Fryfogel Inn from the Shakespeare Optimist members last week. From left, board members: Richard Smelski, Jim Hazlewood, Jim McKenzie, Rachel Bedic and Optimist Club President, Mike McNeil, making the presentation.

By Gary West

The Optimist Club of Shakespeare held their annual Steak Out at the Fryfogel Inn & Tavern on Highway 7 & 8, east of Shakespeare, last week.

The local service club members toured the historic inn, learned of the buildings history and walked the lush green and tree arboretum, on the grounds of the property. On the grounds were a number of trees

planted to honour area residents who have supported the inn in the past.

Optimist club members, who are celebrating their 50th anniversary this year, also made a substantial donation to the

volunteers of the Fryfogel board, in order to help in the continuation of the work done by those board volunteers on the historic site.

Township of Wilmot council hold three hour closed meeting for diversity training

By Veronica Reiner

The Township of Wilmot council held a closed council meeting for inclusion training that lasted for more than three hours on Monday, July 17.

According to the council agenda, the meeting was "council training (equity, diversity and inclusion)," and the purpose was for educating or training the members in these matters. Starting at 5:30 p.m., the meeting was live-streamed on the Township of Wilmot YouTube page.

During the closed session, there was a photo displayed of the council chambers, no audio, along with the time

and a notification that the council is in closed.

After about three hours and 19 minutes into the video, council resumed in open session. Councillor Kris Wilkinson was not present.

Mayor Natasha Salonen thanked Councillor Stewart Cressman for "stepping in while [she] was slightly detained making it to the meeting on time."

She went on to state the territorial land acknowledgement, and note that there were no further items on the agenda, other than the confirmatory bylaw. The meeting then adjourned.



Councillors, including Councillor Stewart Cressman, Councillor Harvir Sidhu, Councillor Lillianne Dunstall and Councillor Steve Martin raise their hand to show that they are in favour of accepting the confirmatory bylaw.

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COMMUNITY —

Oxford 4-H will be sending two teams to Region 6 Go for the Gold competition

By Laura Green

The 4-H Go for the Gold season has started with county associations from across the province hosting their competitions. Oxford 4-H Association held a competition on Monday evening July 10, at the Salford Community Centre. Four teams enjoyed the round robin tournament that tested their knowledge. Go for the Gold (GFTG) is a trivia game with 50 questions (multiple choice, short answer, a who or what am I question, a timed group discussion, and six snappers (true or false) to end the game. The “top secret” questions & answers, which are developed by the provincial office are sourced from 4-H projects taken by members across the province the previous year. To add variety, questions are also sourced from 4-H publications, farm related media, current events and the local county.

Two teams from Oxford will be competing at the Region 6 competition on August 2 in Glencoe. The Hickson team consists of Jacob Bergsma, Jade Dill, Grace McKinlay and Erin Shrigley. The coaches are Shonna Ward and Kirsten Dill. The Brooksdale team consists of Lauren Ball, Megan Ball, Nathan Bean and Sarah Bean. The coaches are Elizabeth Bruce and Kaitlin McKay.

A special thank you to Ontario Mutuals for their financial support at all levels of the Go for the Gold competition

Thank you to Officials from the community who acted as Judges, Adjudicators and Scorekeepers. They were Cliff Barlett, director with the North Blenheim Mutual Insurance, Rev Joyce DeGier VanderSpek from the Harrington Presbyterian church, Nancy John, Oxford District Women’s Institute vice president, Barb McIntosh, Oxford 4-H association volunteer, June Nussey, Oxford 4-H association volunteer and Lili Smith, 2022-2023 Embro Fair Ambassador.



After playing three games in the round robin tournament of the Oxford’s 4-H “Go for the Gold” competition on July 10 at the Salford Community Centre, Hickson 4-H club capture the Gold and Brooksdale 4-H club placed silver. Both teams are competing at the regionals on August 2 in Glencoe. Team photo: 4-Hers are Megan Ball, Lauren Ball, Sarah Bean, Nathan Bean, Jade Dill, Jacob Bergsma and Grace McKinlay. 4th Hickson team member will be Erin Shrigley.

LOCAL MATTERS.

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The Township of Wellesley will be accepting applications for the position of **Accounts Payable/Payroll** for a One (1) year contract (maternity leave)

The Municipality of the Township of Wellesley is seeking qualified applicants for a One Year (1) maternity leave contract in the Finance Department for the Accounts Payable/Payroll position.

Reporting to the Treasurer, the Accounts Payable/Payroll position is responsible for bookkeeping services necessary for the ongoing operation of the township's accounting system. Processes Payroll for all employees, councillors, and volunteer firefighters. Responsible for accounts payable and associated month-end and yearend processes and reports.

This is a full-time position (1-year maturity leave contract). For a complete job description and how to apply, visit www.wellesley.ca

Deadline to submit resumes: Friday August 11, 2023

COMMUNITY —

Perth East firefighters honoured with smoked pork chop barbecue



Representatives of Perth East fire departments along with Pork Producers. Left to right, Paul Leis (Milverton Fire), Henry Groenstage (President - Perth Pork Producers), Steve Jantzi (Milverton Fire), Amanda Brodhagen (Perth East Councillor), Rob Brett (Milverton Fire), John Timmermans (Sebringville Fire), Vince Hulsoff (Perth Pork), Doug Ahrens (Perth Pork), Dan Gerber (Milverton Fire).

By Gary West

The Perth County Pork Producers wanted to honour a group of volunteers in Perth East - they sometimes don't get the recognition they deserve, but are very important to the community in case of a fire emergency or when a first responder is required.

The Perth East fire department members and their families were treated to a smoked pork chop barbecue dinner in the pavilion at Rostock, as a way the local pork producers could say "thanks" to the

emergency services and first responders for all they do during the year for the community.

Fire Departments in Perth East include members from three stations - Milverton, Sebringville and Shakespeare.

The Perth County Pork Farmers are seen in many areas of the county, bringing their pork chops and barbecue to a number of events, to provide that hometown local flavour that area residents have come to enjoy.

Cruise night is back in Shakespeare for the summer



One of many convertibles who came to Shakespeare's cruise night on Thursday, July 13. The owners are Garry and Phyllis Barlow, with a unique Porsche Boxter with a flat six mid engine, with two trunks and a Triptronic shifter. The Waterloo couple are celebrating 58 years together and said "they love coming to this area to support a young brewing couple," who invite all cruisers to their location every Thursday evening during July and August.

By Gary West

Cruise nights are back for the summer in Shakespeare at the local Shakespeare Brewing Company. They take place every Thursday night in July and August from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Everyone is invited to bring out their vehicle (car, truck, tractor, bike, etc.) to the main highway in

Shakespeare to show it off.

Brew owners Katie and Ayden Gautreau, along with their family, are now in their seventh year in the village, brewing nine different craft beers from light to dark and many in between. Many of the beers are named after various area landmarks.

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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 of a great blue heron was snapped by Viktoriya Buchanan, who is new to Wilmot Township. (Photo credit: Viktoriya Buchanan)

Work on the railroad to keep trains moving



CN workers replacing a railway track between Shakespeare and New Hamburg. (Photo credit: Gary West)

By Gary West

Workers from Canadian National Railway (CN) were busy replacing railway track between Shakespeare and New Hamburg on a hot day last week off Road 106, just south of 7&8 Highway.

Some of the workers on this job were

contract welders, who own their own welding companies and contract for CN.

Interesting to note that the foreman on the job was a "forewoman" - Trista. According to the workers on the job, she was the best and most organized they had ever worked with.

Gazette Puzzles

A Day at the Beach

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SPORTS —

Tavistock's Justin Wagler goes pro as a Certified Athletic Trainer



Justin Wagler in the MLB team's Detroit Tigers photo. (Photo contributed)



Justin Wagler, making sure one of the Triple A Toledo Mud Hens players is okay after being hit by a pitch. (Photo contributed)

By Gary West

Local sports players and enthusiasts from the Tavistock and New Hamburg area get educated in many ways - not only at school but also at area arenas, soccer fields, and baseball diamonds, to name a few.

This is a story about a 25-year-old area athlete named Justin Wagler (son of Brian and Heidi Wagler), who has broken into professional baseball in a trainer's capacity.

There have been many area athletes with the Wagler family name that have all done well in many sports, but Justin has been working hard at everything he set out to do and more.

After many years of hard work and dedication, Justin recently has been working with Major League Baseball's Detroit Tigers organization at the Triple-A level, just one step below the Major League level.

Justin grew up in Tavistock and attended Tavistock Public School, and at the same time, played hockey and baseball in the Tavistock minor hockey, and Tavistock minor ball associations.

He said he was fortunate to be a part of a lot of great teams, and played with lots of great teammates, many of whom are still good friends of his.

Some accomplishments of the teams he was involved with, include a gold medal in softball at the Ontario summer games

hosted in Toronto in 2012. A gold medal at the U-16 men's eastern Canadian softball championship in Sainte-Perpetue, Quebec, in 2013, where he was also named the tournament MVP.

In 2016, Tavistock hosted the U21 men's Canadian Fast-Pitch championships, and Wagler was named the tournament all star utility player. In 2019, the team earned a silver medal at the U21 men's Canadian Fast-Pitch championships in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

The young sports enthusiast went to Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School in Baden and played various high school sports, including volleyball, basketball, football, and slow pitch.

Justin's education following high school included going to the University of Waterloo to study kinesiology. He chose that because of its broad discipline, and he was looking for something to combine his love of sports and science. He says, in some ways, he's "not sure why it took so long to realize that athletic training was such a great combination of his two passions" - baseball and hockey.

After Waterloo, he had the opportunity to go to the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, for his master of science in athletic training degree. During his time there, he got to work with the women's softball and men's ice hockey teams, as well as a rotation at Ann Arbor Pioneer high school.

He had the opportunity to do an immersive,

clinical rotation with the Detroit Tigers, and spent some time with their AAA affiliate - the Toledo Mud Hens. That same summer, he also completed an internship with the MLB - Arizona Diamondbacks organization.

When Wagler graduated from the University of Michigan last December, he ended up passing his board of certification exam to become a "certified athletic trainer" and says it was great timing because he was then able to start his current job as a seasonal assistant, athletic trainer with the Detroit Tigers organization in AAA Toledo, Ohio.

Just last month, he wrote his Canadian Athletic Therapist Association (CATA), national certification exam, and is currently awaiting the results so that he can become a certified athletic therapist in Canada, as well as a certified athletic trainer in the United States.

In a recent interview from his parents' home near New Hamburg, Wagler says "that working with the Detroit Tigers organization at the Triple-A level is unique, because as you're just one step below the major leagues, at any one time, one of the players may be called up to the "Tiger" organization."

He says, "it's a unique chance to work with major league players on rehab assignments, veteran players who have experience playing in the MLB, and younger players and prospects, who are working

their way up through the minor leagues to the major league level."

He goes on to say "that he likes the idea of working in professional baseball, because it provides an opportunity for athletic trainers as well as to learn, grow, and develop skills and experience, to eventually work at higher levels within teams and organizations."

Wagler goes on to say that "he enjoys working in Toledo specifically - because he finds it similar to Tavistock in terms of being rich in both hockey and baseball." Toledo has a minor-league baseball team in the Toledo Mud Hens and a minor-league hockey team in the Toledo Walleye of the ECHL, an affiliate of the Detroit Red Wings.

The very humble young man that Justin Wagler is, can be partially attributed to his Tavistock and New Hamburg roots, along with his strong faith and family ties.

He says he has had the opportunity to meet and work with a lot of different people from various places around the world, but when they ask him where he is from, he still tells them he's from Tavistock, Ontario, Canada - even though he doesn't expect many people to be familiar with his small town in southwestern Ontario.

One can say that Justin Wagler has made his hometown proud, and says he's excited about where opportunities may take him in the future, but he will always be proud of his roots in Tavistock.

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SPORTS —

Tavistock fastball tournament highlights talent from across the area and abroad

By Lee Griffi

Some of the world's top fastball teams descended on Tavistock this past weekend for the annual Cephias Roth Tournament. What fans saw was some incredible fast-ball at the town's two diamonds from Thursday night to Sunday afternoon.

Tournament Chair Jeff Roth said overall, the tournament was a great success. "The weather posed some challenges and certainly lowered our overall attendance and food and refreshment sales compared to last year, but we felt fortunate to get the tournament completed just before more rain arrived on Sunday evening." Rain on Saturday evening delayed play by about an hour, but the live band at Queen's Park went on as scheduled in front of a large crowd.

Holding a tournament of this nature requires extensive volunteer support, something Roth said was present all weekend. "Members of the executive, led by President Dave Nahrgang, really stepped up from a volunteering standpoint. In addition, coaches from each team were notified of their volunteer time slots for various duties like the gate, beer tent, and diamonds, and did a great job of scheduling their players and parents for those particular shifts. Without the volunteer efforts of everyone involved, the tournament wouldn't be possible, so a big thank you to everyone who helped out this year."

The numbers speak for themselves in terms of the quality of teams playing. Six of the eight were ranked in the top 10 of the International Softball Congress world rankings. "The caliber of ball was



Members of the Hill United Chiefs shake hands with the Circle Tap Dukes following the Chiefs' 5-1 win in the Cephias Roth Memorial Tournament final. (Photo credit: Lee Griffi)

exceptional. Most of the top players in the world were here in Tavistock competing."

The Cephias Roth tournament is Tavistock Minor Baseball's only fundraiser as an organization, something Roth said is invaluable for the association. "The support we continue to receive from these teams and fastball fans that come from all over for this event is truly appreciated. This tournament helps keep our registration costs

as low as possible in an effort to make the sport affordable for everyone to play."

This year's tournament included a doubleheader on Thursday night featuring the defending U23 Canadian Champion Tavistock Merchants and local men's teams, the Tavistock Hops and Hickson Astros. "This was well attended and got the weekend off to a great start and is something we plan on doing again next

year," said Roth.

Tavistock and the surrounding area are well-known around the fastball community for producing world-class players, something very evident in this year's tournament. Tavistock brothers Mitch and Mason McKay, along with Derek Hyde, were joined by Isiah Wetstone from Embro and Gregg Hammell and Tyler Randerson of New Hamburg on the roster of the Toronto Batmen. The Waterdown Hammer's roster included Reese Yantzi from Shakespeare, Jon Klingenburg from Hickson, and Stratford native Matt Hatch. "We are very excited to see more and more local players now competing in the tournament. Our executive heard from a lot of fans how great it was to be able to watch local athletes compete, and we look forward to that continuing with next year's tournament," said Roth.

Chiefs take the title

The Hill United Chiefs defeated Bear Creek Express 5-1 in the final on Sunday afternoon. Bear Creek, ranked fourth in the world, downed the number two-ranked Niagara Stompers 9-7 in a semi-final matchup. The Chiefs, the number three team in the world, downed the Circle Tap Dukes from Wisconsin 6-1 to earn a berth in the championship game. Despite being based in Oshweken, Ontario, the Chiefs have just one player from Ontario but are represented by players from Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, the Czech Republic, Mexico, one from Nova Scotia, and the United States.

Wilmot Aces represented in London and Gravenhurst swim meets

By Veronica Reiner

The Wilmot Aces aquatics group has a busy weekend, competing in several swim meets in London and Gravenhurst.

There were nine swimmers from the Wilmot Aces who represented the township at the annual Dr. Paul Hauch Invitational in London from July 15 to July 16.

At this event, Wilmot Aces member Amiera Black broke the Down Syndrome International Swimming Organization (DSISO) Americas (North, South and Central America) Record for the 200 Fly - Senior division.

Macy Larivee came home with two gold and one bronze medal. Claim MacLeod got a silver medal in the 50 Fly. Luka Tomis won gold in the 50 free and added another national qualifying time to his achievements.

Mia Tomis won one gold, one silver and one bronze medal. Isabel Wilson won two gold and a silver medal.

Other Aces members represented the team at the 2023 Open Water Provincial Championships in Gravenhurst, which took place on the same days.

At this event, Wilmot Aces member Silas Campbell placed 11th out of 33 competitors in the five kilometre individual swim with a gun time of 1:08:11.2. This was a pace of about 1:22 minutes per 100 metres.

In the same category, Wilmot Aces member Emma Jane Fowler placed 17th at 1:11:15.6. This was a pace of about 1:26 minutes per 100 metres.

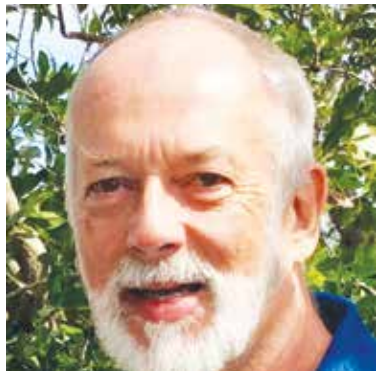
Aces master swimmer Beth Halford won gold in the three kilometre race.



At left, Wilmot Aces member Amiera Black. At right, the start of Amiera's 200 metre Fly race. (Photos contributed)

TRAVEL —

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: The ghostly history of the Mermaid Inn



By Paul Knowles

I have stayed at some very interesting hotels and inns during my years as a travel writer. But I have to admit, this was the first time I booked in at an establishment that boasts that it was rebuilt... in 1420.

We were on the last leg of our 22-person tour of southern England, and I had opted to stay in the ancient town of Rye.

I love Rye, for a number of reasons. It is replete with historic buildings; it has a storied past of smuggling and other sea-side shenanigans; its cobblestone streets are authentic and original; its pubs are the real deal.

I have stayed in Rye a number of times, but always at a bed and breakfast, but with a group of this size, we needed something bigger. I had often walked past the Mermaid Inn, and had even ducked in for a look around, but had never stayed there.

We decided to take the chance on a hotel that brags that it was rebuilt over 600 years ago – although bits were added two hundred years later, making those

parts practically modern.

And our stay at the Mermaid was entirely wonderful, from the unique rooms to the great food to the terrific service.

There was one hitch – our full-sized coach could not get anywhere near the Inn. But the folks at the Mermaid offered to meet us at a parking lot a couple of blocks away, and transport our luggage up the cobblestone streets to the Inn. Turned out, they also offered rides to anyone in the group who opted not to walk. One of the drivers was a friendly woman named Judith.

As we were checking in, Judith called me aside and asked if the group would like an introduction and a bit of a tour of our new – well, very old – home away from home. It soon became apparent why she knew all this stuff – our “driver” was Judith Blincow, who has worked at the Mermaid since she was 18 years old, and who now owns the place.

All the rooms in the Mermaid are unique, all are historic (although with state of the art updates like wifi), and many come with apparently authenticated ghost stories!

According to a “fact” sheet handed out to guests, Mermaid’s Room 16 was the location of duels by sword, resulting in the death of one of the combatants, who was thrown down the stairs to the area that is now the bar. Modern-day guests have reported ghostly duels right in their bedroom. Guests in Room 5 report a “Lady in White” visiting them. In Room 10, a family of three was

seen to walk through a wall. Judith delights in recounting these and many more stories – it seems that many of the hotel’s 31 rooms come with spectral roommates.

Then Judith took us to the basement – a series of vaults with Norman arches, dating back at least as far as the 1100’s, and today used for storage and as a wine cellar. But – Rye being a smugglers’ haven – there is clear evidence of tunnels under the basement floor, and archaeologists continue to study this, the most ancient part of the Inn. Judith says there are rumours of treasure, and she is confident it will be found.

Our group had booked a lounge for a convivial “happy hour”; the walls were decorated with dark wood, including one panel that, on examination, appeared different from the rest. Its decorations turned out to be subtly carved symbols and icons representing the Roman Catholic faith – because Catholics fleeing the ardent Protestants of the Henry VIII era stayed at the Inn, and could worship in this temporary “chapel” – or, as Judith said, a church hidden in plain sight.

I had chosen Rye as our final home base on our visit to the south of England because it is an easy drive from there to wonderful sites including Dover Castle, Sissinghurst Castle Gardens, Winston Churchill’s Chartwell, Canterbury, and more.

But the truth is, our stay in the Mermaid Inn was as interesting as visiting any of those interesting destinations. I don’t believe I saw any ghosts, although we did



Judith Blincow, owner and exuberant host at the Mermaid Inn in Rye, East Sussex, on the south coast of England. (Photos by Paul Knowles)

spot an elderly man dressed in period clothes having a pint in the Giant’s Fireplace Bar. Having never talked to a ghost, in person, I struck up a conversation with him, and I’m pretty sure he was a present day resident of Rye portraying a fictional smuggler known as Dr. Syn. At least, I’m fairly sure he was real. Although he did disappear, eventually.

The Mermaid Inn has had connections with figures like William Shakespeare – a friend of a one-time landlord, and a visitor and performer in Rye in his day – as well as Queen Elizabeth I, and the more modern author, Henry James, whose house – now a National Trust site – is just around the corner.

Rye is full of unique shops and eateries – including Simon the Pieman, a two minute walk from the Mermaid Inn, occasionally frequented by Paul McCartney. Who is definitely not a ghost, despite the “Paul is dead” rumours that abounded – even without social media – in 1969.

I know – that reference dates me. But even I felt young, staying in an Inn renovated as recently as 1420!

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



The Mermaid Inn was rebuilt in 1420, and dates back to the 1100’s.



Half-timbered buildings and cobblestone streets abound in Rye.

COMMUNITY —

Hickson Lions Daze takes place this past weekend



The kids craft table as part of the Hickson Lions Daze event on Saturday, July 15. (Photo credit: Candice Smith)

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

The Hickson Lions Daze event took place on Friday, July 14 and Saturday, July 15.

Friday activities included an adult lounge, co-ed baseball, auction sale, the Minute to Win It game. On Friday, the Hickson & District Lions Club presented Sherman Kropf with the John Tipping Humanitarian Award.

“Our award is presented to a local individual or family that have shown unwavering support and dedication to our community,” said Hickson & District Lions Club

member and East Zorra-Tavistock councillor Brad Smith.

“He supported local sports by coaching, worked hard at his job and moved up through the ranks to become our local Fire Chief for many years. Our only regret is that he could not have been presented with this award personally. The pandemic interrupted so many things.”

Saturday’s activities included a McMuffin breakfast, an adult lounge, children’s activities, co-ed baseball, and a two piece fish and chips dinner catered by Cracklins Best Fish and Chips.

Thank you!

“100 years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the type of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove, but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child.”

- Forest Witcraft

\$34,000 Raised

On behalf of all the families that you will impact with your donation and the youth that will benefit, we would like to say a big THANK YOU. We cannot imagine the challenges these families face, but you have made a huge difference.

We have an incredibly caring and giving community, to date your donations stand at \$34,000.

The money will be divided between 3 organizations that touch the lives of children with cancer: Children’s Health Foundation (London Children’s Hospital); Scotland’s Yard (Grand River Hospital); and Walk to Conquer Cancer (Princess Margaret).

Thank you for your donation this year and we look forward to your support again next year at our BBQ.

Warren, Bernice, Stewart & Stacey

Mark your calendars for July 11, 2024!

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR - JULY/AUGUST 2023

July 21st & July 22nd, August 18th & August 19th	July 24th	tle Kilbride from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Weather permitting. This day, Onion Honey Old-time Folk) will play.	Innerkip starting at 7 p.m.	Blood Drive
Twenties Tea & Tour Step back 100 years to enjoy the sights and delights of a 1920s garden party. It will be the bee’s knees! Tour the Castle by a costumed guide, afterwards enjoy tea and sweets on the front lawn. In the event of inclement weather, the tea will be held indoors. All tours begin at 1:30 p.m. Tickets available on EventBrite.	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.	July 29th & July 30th	August 10th	Taking place at the Shantz Mennonite Church at 2473 Erbs Road in Baden. Booking times are available from around 3 p.m. until about 8 p.m. at www.blood.ca.
July 22nd	July 25th	Beer & Bouquets Open House Hosted by the Tavistock Hop Company. 2509 Perth Road 26 in Tavistock. Come and wander the rows of their 2023 hop crop, grab a \$5 glass of craft beer from their brewing partners and relax in the pop-up beer garden beside the sunflower patch. Everyone receives a fresh cut sunflower bouquet upon leaving and your donation this year will go to Make-A-Wish Canada. Starts at 11 a.m. Free admission.	The Cattlemen’s Association returns with their beef barbecue. Dinner is beef, potato salad, corn-on-the-cob and pie. Drive through is 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. \$25 per ticket, advance tickets only. Tickets available from directors, 519-421-2327 or Zehr Insurance 519-655-2422.	August 19th & August 20th
Breakfast in the Park From 8:30 a.m. to noon at Petersburg Park. The Optimist Club of Petersburg is once again hosting Breakfast in the Park. Enjoy scrambled eggs, pancakes, bacon, homefries, toast, juice and coffee. Adults are \$15; 10 and under is \$10.	Fifth Annual Tavistock Community Car Show & Cruise Taking place at 4 p.m. at the Tavistock Mennonite Church, 131 Wettlaufer Street, Tavistock. Donations are appreciated. All proceeds go to the Tavistock Assistance Program (TAP). Free entry, prizes/giveaway and food.	August 2nd	August 11th	Moparfest Canada’s largest Mopar Car Show, which includes a swap meet, prizes, food, vendors - pre register or pay at the gate. Brings together Mopar enthusiasts from all over the place. More info at www.moparfest.com.
	July 27th	August 2nd	Good Eats & Musical Beats Taking place at Fellowship Bible Church at 150 Hamilton Road in New Hamburg from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., including the fifth annual Pet Talent Contest. Including local food trucks such as the Funnel Cloud, Fo’Cheezy, El Milagro and the Serial Griller.	August 22nd
	Castle Kilbride Summer Concert Series Thursday evenings, bring your lawn chair and enjoy unique music on the front lawn of Cas-	East Zorra-Tavistock Council Meeting In-person council meeting taking place at 695566 17th Line in	August 14th	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.

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Weekly Quiz Answers

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1) The University of Toronto Varsity Blues | Pele |
| 2) His dog | 6) Oscar Wilde |
| 3) Countess | 7) Believing you are a werewolf |
| 4) Seven | 8) Marilyn Monroe |
| 5) Soccer player | 9) True |
| | 10) Once |

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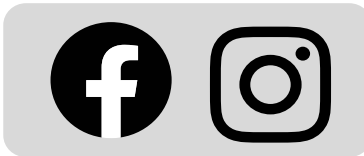
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