

# The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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FREE

## Wynette family holding a fourth annual fundraiser



From left to right: Nash, Julie, Reid and Kyle, on their Make-a-Wish-Foundation trip to Disney in Florida.

By Lee Griffi

There is something to be said for 'paying it back', and for the Wynette family, it is something they have done to celebrate the life of their son. The family has held a fundraiser for the last three years, and this year's version is set for this coming Saturday and Sunday at the Tavistock Hop Farm.

Kyle and Julie Wynette's 10-year-old son Nash was diagnosed with leukemia in 2018 and finished treatment in July of 2020. "Every July, we celebrate another

year, and three years is a milestone because he has just recently moved to the aftercare program, which means he goes to London once a year for bloodwork and a checkup. So that was a big deal," said Julie.

The family's celebration of life will again be at the Tavistock Hop Company at 2509 Perth Road 26. This time around, it is called the 'Beer and Bouquets Open House', where anyone attending can enjoy the scenery of the Hopps and sunflower field while sipping on craft beers

made with Hopps from the farm.

Wynette said Nash was an inpatient often during his two years of treatment when they met another farming family. That family's son passed away from leukemia but did something on their farm to remember him. "They planted a sunflower field, and it's known as Miracle Max's Minions (near Forest, Ontario), and a lot of people would recognize that name. We went to visit the first year they had it, and it was pretty breathtaking."

*Continued on page 2*

## Wilmot township updates municipal flag policy

By Veronica Reiner

The Township of Wilmot council adopted a new flag policy, as well as directed staff to explore the possibility of building three more flagpoles.

The matter was discussed during a hybrid meeting on Monday, July 24.

"We're trying to update and modernize our policies - one of the things we noticed was our flag policy. There have been some things that have happened over the past year, whether it be a death, or a community event, the current policy we have doesn't really speak to these things that have been coming up," explained Deputy Clerk Chad Curtis.

"So the new policy adopts some best practices that have been adopted by municipal, provincial and federal counterparts."

The new flagpole policy offers the opportunity for local groups to raise community flags on the designated community flagpole at the Administration Complex in Baden. Flags are required to be in good condition to be flown on the community flagpole.

Other updates include updated flag protocols at fire halls, updating half masting procedures to reflect best practices, including council chambers in the policy, assigned clear roles on the administration of the policy, and hyperlinking federal and provincial flag best practices to ensure the policy remains current.

Councillor Steve Martin put forward a motion, suggesting that Wilmot township build three additional flagpoles - one at the Wilmot Recreation Centre, one at the St. Agatha Community Centre, and one at the New Dundee Community Centre. Further, he suggested that the flagpole located at Canada Post in New Hamburg be designated as a community flagpole between January and October each year.

Wilmot Mayor Natasha Salonen asked why  
*Continued on page 2*

# The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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## NEWS —

# Demtool in Petersburg raises \$2501 and 161 lbs for the food bank

By Veronica Reiner

Demtool, a metal fabricator in Petersburg, raised 161 pounds of food and \$2,501.59 for the The Food Bank of Waterloo Region. This resulted in a total of 5,148 meals that will feed the hungry across Waterloo Region.

The effort ran for about one month, from June 18 to July 18. All 55 employees participated. Items donated included about 25 pounds of Kraft dinner, pastas, canned goods, soups, canned fruit, cans of ham, dried beans, cereal, jams, peanut butter, rice and granola bars.

Demtool spokesperson Amber Martin said that the idea for a food bank drive started from an employee, Melissa, who experienced a heart attack while at work.

"She was rushed to emergency, and they had to do open heart surgery on her, and she wasn't sure if she was going to make it," explained Amber. "She

survived, and she's living the best life she can and adjusting to everything. She wanted to put together a food bank drive to help other people how they helped her."

Melissa is very involved in the community, always helping out when she can, added Amber. "Melissa knows that they're short on food, so that's part of the reason she chose this charity," said Amber.

Representatives from the food bank came out to pick up the donations on Tuesday afternoon, July 18.

"Please share our appreciation with everyone who participated and thank you again for all the work you have done and continue to do on our behalf," said the Food Bank of Waterloo Region in an email. "It is because of the strong community leadership that we can help the 1 in 14 families in our community in need of food assistance!"



Demtool employees include Richard, Ryan, Nick, Sam, Melissa, Matt (one of the owners of Demtool), Emiel, Amber, Paul, Brent, Stephen, Kristina, Brian. Front row beside the food bin is James.

# Wynette family holding a fourth annual fundraiser

Continued from page 1

When Nash finished his treatment, the Wynette's thought it would be a good opportunity to open up their farm for people to come and in doing so raise money for the same charities that helped them out in their time of need. "We gave away sunflowers and asked for a small donation and people were super generous the first year. There were so many organizations that helped Nash and our family so every year we have picked a different charity and passed that fundraising money on to them."

After the first three years, they have raised about \$8000 for Miracle Max Minions, Childcan and Campfire Circle (a camp for cancer survivors) and POGO (Pediatric Oncology of Ontario Group). This year's proceeds will be donated to the Make-a-Wish Foundation. "Nash chose to go to Disney as his wish, which was awesome.

I can't even put into words what the trip was. Sure, he has been three years post-treatment, but it brought everything back to the surface again. We were treated like royalty down there, and we told the boys not to get used to it because it would never happen again," she laughed. "They made him feel special and incredible. That is why we have chosen Make-a-Wish Canada to donate funds to this year."

"Don't take for granted the love this life gives you. When you get where you're going, don't forget. Turn back around and help the next one in line. Always stay humble and kind." (Quote from Tim McGraw's song, Humble and Kind)

The Tavistock and area community has long been known to step up to help when a family is in need, something Wynette said is no surprise. "In a small community like this, everybody knows somebody who knows, so we knew the whole community

was impacted when Nash was sick. Just knowing people were leaning in to lift up our family was incredible. You can't put a price on that. We want to be able to pay that generosity forward to other families." She added it is not easy to decide which organization they will donate to because everyone who helped them had such an impact on making their lives a little bit easier. "That's the stuff the kids remember, and it rewards them for getting through the trenches."

Wynette said their Hopps crop is at full potential right now, which along with the sunflowers, will create a beautiful scene for the beer garden. They were able to get a liquor license for last year's event, which added to the experience. "That went over really well because people could come, hang out, and spend some time in the fields and take it all in."

The beer garden will feature area

breweries that use Hopps from the Wynette farm, including Rural Roots in Elmira, Broken Rail from St. Marys, and Woodstock's Upper Thames Brewery. "We picked up two kegs from each brewery. Upper Thames has been a huge supporter of our Hopps farm since opening in 2014 since we started. Broken Rail is a great brewery that opened up during the pandemic but is doing really well. Awesome brewer who makes really good beer. I just picked up from Rural Roots, which has a sour beer with citrus notes and local honey in it. We have six beers with two on tap at a time," said Julie.

Beer will cost just five dollars a glass to cover the costs, but any donation will go straight to charity. The event runs from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. this Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Everyone will receive a fresh-cut sunflower bouquet for donating to Make-a-Wish Foundation.

# Wilmot township updates municipal flag policy

Continued from page 1

there was a month restriction suggested at the Canada Post location. Curtis said that the flagpole at the New Hamburg Canada Post is turned into an illuminated Christmas tree during the holiday season.

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Sharon Chambers said that the flagpole at Canada Post may not be municipal property, and that should be investigated by staff. "I

would recommend that staff look into the feasibility and costs, and we would bring that forward through the budget process for consideration."

Part of the new flag policy states that the number of days a community flag will be flown is based on the request - if multiple requests are received for the same time period, the mayor decides the time period that each flag is flown. Councillor Stewart Cressman suggested that there

could possibly be a month-long limit of flags being flown.

Curtis said that "The policy does have it written in that the mayor or CAO does have some authority on what goes up there."

CAO Chambers added that in her past experience in Kincardine, there was a week-long limit, and later extended to a one month limit for Pride in June. "That being

said, I didn't have any requests in my time for beyond a month, and I think it would be very unique circumstances where there would be a request beyond a month."

Councillor Cressman said that he accepted the response.

Curtis said, "As part of our process to ensure that we're still being moderate and always having best practices - we'll be reviewing these policies from time to time."



COMMUNITY —

# Lions Daze in Hickson - another successful weekend of activities



Sue Butt was one of over 300 who enjoyed the fish fry during the Lions Daze weekend recently in the Lion's park in Hickson.

By Gary West

It was the middle of July, and many activities were happening in the village of Hickson. The Hickson Lions Club, who put on their "Lion's Daze" fundraiser every year, were more than pleased with the community, whose support was greatly appreciated again this year.

Lion's club member Colleen Shrigley said the weekend got off to a busy start Friday night, with the co-ed three-pitch tournament that ran into Saturday night, and eight teams participating. The Hickson Firefighters were the eventual winners.

There was also a live and silent auction on Friday night with items donated by community members and businesses from Tavistock, Hickson, Woodstock, Embro, and the surrounding areas.

Everything from baked goods, gift certificates, gift baskets, Toronto Bluejay tickets, and more, and the top selling item was a generator that brought \$800 at the live auction. There were 120 area supporters in attendance with 49 registered bidders, with total funds raised at \$4,900.

The John Tipping humanitarian award was presented at the end of the auction. John was the first president and founding member of the Hickson Lions Club in 1974. The award went posthumously to Sherman Kropf in recognition of his dedicated community service.

Sherman was a fireman and fire chief in Hickson, and later deputy chief of the

township of East Zorra-Tavistock. He also sat on the Tavistock Arena fundraising committee and was a coach of both minor ball and minor hockey.

The award was received by his family, and the Hickson firefighters were there in full uniform in recognition as well.

Saturday morning began with an Egg on a bun breakfast, sponsored by local egg farmers in the area.

There were children's activities throughout the day run by a community volunteer group that included Candace Smith, Brian Kennedy and Nicole Olivieri. There were also bouncy castles, a batting machine and a radar gun, face painting, crafts and a scavenger hunt with many local youth getting involved.

The sold out fish fry included over 300 enjoying the Lion's Club hospitality in the Park's Pavillion before the thunderstorm and a deluge of rain arrived.

Past President Jim Butt and members of the Hickson Lions Club are very proud of the fact that they will be celebrating 50 years as a charter club next year in 2024.

They are an active service club that sponsors many ongoing activities in the community and they are always looking for new members to continue the good work they do in the Hickson and surrounding areas, including Tavistock and Embro.

For more info about the club, call President Brad Smith at 519-462-2786.

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# COMMUNITY —

## Four Perth County organizations awarded \$2,500



The donation to the Humane Society of Kitchener Waterloo & Stratford Perth.

**By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff**  
Four organizations in Perth County were awarded with \$2,500 by Perth County council through the Cultivating Opportunity Grant Program. These organizations include: Perth County Transition Home for Women, the Perth County 4H Association, North Perth

Seniors Centre, and the Humane Society of Kitchener Waterloo and Stratford Perth. The final decision to award this money was made at the February 16 meeting of county council. Earlier in the summer, Warden Rhonda Ehgoetz travelling around Perth County to present the cheques in person and congratulate the successful recipients.



A donation to the Perth County Transition Home for Women.

The maximum grant amount was awarded to each organization for their respective projects. "Perth County Council is pleased to support our community," said Warden Ehgoetz. "Each of the successful applicants will use the funding towards important programming that provides valuable community

services to people across Perth County." The Cultivating Opportunity Grant Program accepts new applications annually. The application period will open on September 1st, 2023. The 2023 information package is now available online and organizations are encouraged to review in advance of applying.



A donation to the North Perth Seniors Centre.



A donation to the Perth County 4H Association.

# The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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COMMUNITY —

# Melina's Grill put up for sale

By Veronica Reiner

Melina's Grill, a traditional Greek and Latin food restaurant in Baden, has officially been put up for sale. The restaurant will remain open for the time being, and updates will be posted through their social media pages.

Nathalia Zuniga and her husband quit their corporate jobs about seven years ago to start running Melina's restaurant out of 55 Snyder's Road West in Baden.

The business is listed for \$150,000. It features new equipment (2016), a commercial space, kitchen, halls and washrooms.

Nathalia said that while she loved running Melina's, it was time to move on.

"We want to relocate because the catering for us is growing, and we want to pick a location where we can expand," said Nathalia.

They are looking to get out of Baden and have faced several challenges over the years - including the COVID-19 pandemic, support from the community, and ongoing construction of Snyder's Road, which started in 2021.

"The truth is - running a small business here is very difficult. It's a very small town - New Hamburg has so many restaurants for such a small community," said Nathalia.

The building was put up for sale by the owner, Craig McNally, in January for \$1,450,000. According to HouseSigma, that listing was terminated as of June.

Melina's Grill serves authentic Greek and Latino food - their menu features sandwiches, burgers, salads, wraps and dinner plates to give their guests a taste of Greece and Latin America in small town Ontario. They also serve up classic Canadian favourites, such as poutine, along with delicious desserts, such as Baklava or Kataifi.

Nathalia said that Melina's features plenty of fresh food, rather than frozen. Some of the popular items include chicken souvlaki, pork souvlaki, and the Euro dinner. Wraps at lunchtime are very popular, along with pitas.

"We also do a lot of gluten-free as well

- our menu has extended to the point where we do a lot of gluten-free orders," said Nathalia. "That's another reason why I think our catering has gone well, because a lot of people have celiac, so I can cater to them."

There are six tables available for dine-in at the restaurant, and of course, takeout is always an option. She said that there are many supporters that come in weekly, and that Melina's put a huge emphasis on customer service. Nathalia wore many hats as a business owner - she has done serving, cooking, dishwashing, whatever needs to be done.

The business went from six employees down to two employees after the COVID-19 pandemic. Melina's also faced challenges with finding employees, due to a lack of adequate transportation and a lack of affordable and available housing.

The Grand River Transit (GRT) Route 77 does connect to the Baden area, but Nathalia often found herself driving employees home after work was done after closing and cleanup at about 10 p.m.

Nathalia moved to Baden about 12 years ago and has a background in business marketing. She has worked at various locations, including Manulife, Sunlife, and Scotiabank, and was a branch manager-operator at the Royal Bank of Canada.

"I did have experience running a business, plus with my background - I grew up in a home where my parents were business owners. My father had a nice factory, and my mom has a boutique," said Nathalia, adding that she helped her father out with his factory at a very young age.

"I love business - I think it's great. My husband is great with numbers; I'm good with marketing and customer service."

Nathalia said that her message to the town is that if they really want businesses here, they have to support them. "Otherwise, people will come and go," she said. "We also employ local people. I don't just live here and pay my taxes here - I also provide employment for people who are here in town. It's a big chain when you do that."



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COMMUNITY —

# New Hamburg Art Tour back in September

By Veronica Reiner

The sixth annual New Hamburg Art Tour is set to take place in September over two days (September 23 and September 24) at the New Hamburg Community Centre on Jacob Street.

There will be 22 local artisans showcasing their talents in painting (oil, acrylic, etc.), sculpture, photography, illustration, textiles and stained glass. These artists welcome all visitors and are happy to chat about their work.

"We have seven brand new artists - new to us, and we have 15 that are returning," said New Hamburg Art Tour Chair Nancy Taves.

This year's lineup of artists includes Earla Boyd, Michele Brenneman, Linda Chamberland, Jan Cressman-Weiss, Josephine Czech, Kathleen Freeman, Nicholas Fuller, Mary Garet, Judy Gascho-Jutzi, Greg Kimmett, Cornelia Leroux, Dixi Leroux, Amanda Lundrigan, Tami Martin, Barbara McLeod, Linda Sanderson, Donna Schyff, Nancy Taves, Teresa Walker, Morag Webster, Joyce Young and Simona Zac.

An added feature to the tour will include emerging and inspirational art students from Waterloo-Oxford & District Secondary School, who will have their own table to display their art during the event.

"It's a great inspiration for young artists, and who knows? Maybe some of them will be our artists in years to come," said Nancy.

In the past, the art tour has taken place at



various locations across Wilmot Township, with local artists showcasing their work at Riverside Flowers, My Place restaurant and Kathie Jordan Design. However, last year, the tour was hosted with all artists in one central location of the New Hamburg Community Centre.

"It was a wonderful location last year, and

we had so much positive feedback," said Nancy. "Patrons like that much better than having to walk the streets going to different areas. They like to have it all in one location."

The organizers are so grateful to have the support of our local businesses. Door prizes are to be won by lucky visitors

to the tour, which includes gift cards to Chef Adam Brenner, Scran & Dram, Quilting by Design, New Hamburg Office Pro, Cloverleaf Farms, Sobeys and New Hamburg Home Hardware. There has also been support from Josslin Insurance and Heritage Pets and Garden.

"We've got lots of wonderful door prizes," said Nancy. "When visitors arrive, they can fill out a card with their name and address. It goes into a barrel. At the end of the second day, the door prizes are drawn."

The Art Tour organizers received a community grant from the Township of Wilmot and from the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund, which helped them to organize and promote an amazing art tour.

The Art Tour is a fabulous way to connect with the artisans, learn how they create their work, enjoy the community and all it has to offer. Round out your day exploring our remarkable restaurants and shops, and get to know our beautiful, historic New Hamburg at its finest.

The Art Tour will also hold a sneak peek show, hosted by Riverside Flowers (Huron Street in New Hamburg) during their business hours in September.

Last year, there were about 500 people who attended the New Hamburg Art Tour, and organizers are looking forward to another well attended event. For more information, visit social media pages at [www.facebook.com/NHarttour](http://www.facebook.com/NHarttour) or on Instagram @NHarttour. To contact organizers directly, call 519-577-8523 or email [newham-burgarttour@gmail.com](mailto:newham-burgarttour@gmail.com).

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COMMUNITY —

# Wilmot Township awards hot mix asphalt program for \$212,005

By Veronica Reiner

The Township of Wilmot council awarded a hot mix asphalt program to Steed and Evans Limited Ontario of Cambridge for \$212,005 plus harmonized sales tax (HST).

The decision was made during a council meeting on Monday, July 24. The hot mix asphalt program is an annual program to repair, replace or reconstruct road surfaces with hot mix asphalt paving to maintain the road surfaces.

On June 14, the tender for the bid was made available online through the township's e-bidding website. There were a total of 13 plan takers, including suppliers, with four bids received at the time of close on July 6.

Including the Steed and Evans Limited submission, there were bids from 5 Star Paving Inc in Cambridge for \$221,502.64; GIP Paving Inc. of Petersburg for \$229,105; and Capital Paving of Guelph for \$233,073.50. These figures do not include HST but do include a stipulated \$20,000 contingency.

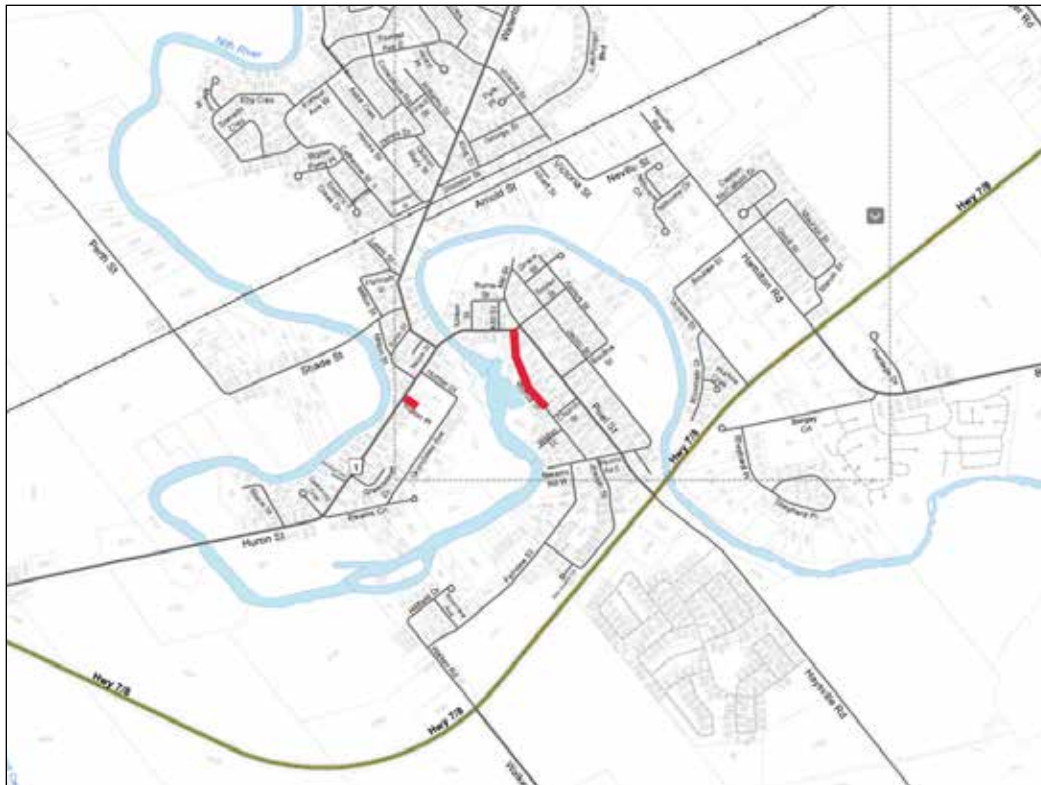
"Staff have reviewed the proposals

and find that the prices provided are reasonable and recommend this project be awarded to the low bidder from Steed and Evans Limited of St. Jacobs Ontario," wrote Director of Infrastructure Services Jeff Molenhuis in his report.

There was a 2018 road condition assessment and road needs study, as completed by GHD. This showed the township has a road network consisting of 610 road sections with a total length of 277 kilometres. Out of these 277 kilometres, about 124 kilometres in length (277 sections) are categorized as hot mix asphalt. There are about 124 kilometres (92 sections) of surface treated, and the remaining 30 kilometres (31 sections) consisting of gravel.

The overall pavement condition rating was 66 in 2018. A rating of 41 to 60 is considered fair, and a 61 to 80 is considered good. "In 2018, the report recommended a significant increase in pavement rehabilitation funding to maintain a road network in fair condition," wrote Molenhuis.

There was about \$270,000 set aside for this project in the budget this year.



The hot mix locations include Wilmot Street and Huron Place.



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# COMMUNITY —

## Tavistock Men's Club treated over 50 members of the NEAT Club to a fundraising breakfast



Fourteen members of the Tavistock Men's Club, who served a full breakfast to the North Easthope Antique Tractor club last week, for the annual fundraiser put on by club members.

By Gary West

Over 30 antique tractors of every colour and size, along with their owners, were welcomed by the Tavistock Men's Club last week, and served a full breakfast at the club's hall on Woodstock St. North.

The Men's Club hosts this annual fundraiser that provides funding for their budget. The money is then used for various community programs.

There were many passing onlookers including kids heading to camp, that were interested in seeing the tractors on display on the parking lot, across from the hall.

Men's club President Ken Kropf, was pleased with the large turnout of tractors. He spoke to over 50 tractor club members following the breakfast, explaining how their funds are used in Tavistock and surrounding areas.



Keith Brenneman, Ned Cundall and Duane Kropf, serve Raymond Ruby the first antique tractor owner in line for the hearty Men's Club breakfast.

He said "there were many folks who stood on sidewalks to watch the tractors as they began their journey home, while the day's

work for these antique machines and their owners was nearly over."

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COMMUNITY —

## TNT are here for the picking near Shakespeare



Welcoming visitors last week to TNT Blueberry farm near Shakespeare is left to right, Claire Schyff, Maggie Walch, Tristan Dredge, and Justin Milne.

By Gary West

Members of the Walch blueberry farm, known as TNT Berries near Shakespeare, are busy welcoming those who crave the blueberry fruit for the 2023 season.

Family member, Maggie Walch, was busy last week welcoming those who like to pick their own, along with those who just like to drop by their location at 1904, Line 34 (Highway 7&8), east of Shakespeare, and purchase berries already picked.

She says the crop of berries is the best they've seen for a number of years, with the right weather combination of sunshine and moisture.

With their raspberries season just ended, the blueberries are just getting started. They should last for three to four weeks.

At the Walch home farm, north of Shakespeare (#4163, Road 107) they also sell sea buckthorn berries, where you are invited to also pick your own, or buy already picked.

They are known for multiple health benefits, and at the same time offer skin care benefits, along with antioxidants, 18 amino acids, and beta carotene.

More information is available at [www.facebook.com/TNTBerries](http://www.facebook.com/TNTBerries), or by calling Nadia Walch at 519-625-1468.

## Wilmot Horticultural Society wins awards from OHA Convention



Katelynn Cressman rocking her garden world.

By Janice Wagler

"Rock Your Garden World" was the theme of the of the 115th Garden Ontario OHA Convention held in Kanata, Ottawa this past weekend from July 20 to July 23.

Ten youth from Wilmot Horticultural Society Junior Gardeners placed winning entries in the OHA Youth Competition.

Katelynn Cressman rocked her garden

world winning first prize & the Judge's Favourite rosette for her photo of "Field Stone," first prize for her Pot/Planter of Edibles and Rocky Road Ahead. She was the recipient of the Ruby Lobban High Points Award!

Hailey Thompson won Judge's Choice rosette for her "Firm Footsteps" and Ezekiel Baer won Best In Show rosette for his "Crop Circle."

## Public meeting to receive comments about New Dundee property amendment

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

The Region of Waterloo is holding a public meeting to receive community comments about proposed amendments for a New Dundee property.

The purpose of the amendment is to establish site specific provisions for the lands at 63 Benjamin Street in New Dundee, within Wilmot Township, to allow the use of an alternative individual wastewater

treatment system on five existing under-sized lots to facilitate residential development. This will be a site specific amendment to the Regional Official Plan.

The meeting will be held on August 15, with the exact time to be determined. It will be streamed on the Region of Waterloo YouTube page.

To view the proposed Regional Official Plan amendment, visit the region's

website at [www.regionofwaterloo.ca](http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca) or contact Matthew Colley, a senior planner with the region, at 519-577-6241 or [mcolley@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:mcolley@regionofwaterloo.ca).

Those who wish to register to speak at the public meeting can submit their request in writing to [regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca) by 4:30 p.m. by August 14. Those who require accessible or technical services to participate in the meeting can

contact [regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca) by August 10.

All comments received about the proposed amendment will be collected to help the region make a decision under the Planning Act. Under the Municipal Act, personal information, including name, address, telephone number and property location that may be included in a submission becomes part of the public record.

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## COMMUNITY —

## New four way stop sign in Wellesley Township



By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

A new four way stop sign was recently installed at the corner of Ament Line and Manser Road in Linwood, in Wellesley Township on Wednesday morning, July 19. "We have received numerous calls, emails and comments about drivers not aware of

the change," said the Township of Wellesley in an online post. "The Region of Waterloo is responsible for this intersection." The Region of Waterloo and Waterloo Regional Police Service have been notified of the concerns. All drivers are responsible to ensure it is safe to proceed before entering the intersection.

## New Dundee Women's Institute enjoys historical outing



Left to right, Lynn Perrin (guest), Linda Stoltz, Eleanor Berry, Nancy Birss, Emily Layng, Joan Good, Pauline Stirling. (Photo contributed)

By Nancy Birss

Members of the New Dundee Women's Institute enjoyed an educational outing to the Chesterfield Museum (just north of Bright) heritage display 'A Look Back at Clubs, Teams and Organizations', for our meeting Tuesday, July 18th.

Our group has visited the Plattsville and District Heritage Society exhibits in the past and have never been disappointed at the wonderful, detailed displays presented every summer. Their displays, presented by volunteers, are often more detailed and informative than some regular museums.

The exhibit features several clubs and

organizations that many of our WI members and local citizens have participated in - including 4-H Clubs, Girl Guides and of course, Women's Institute. We were particularly interested in the WI display which had memorabilia from years gone by including newsletters from the 1950's featuring articles about the national and world wide WI. There were also books about Women's Institute, recipe books, photos and histories of years gone by. The mannequin in the photo on the chair behind us represents our founder (1897) Adelaide Hunter Hoodless.

Following the visit to Chesterfield the group joined Bev Fried at her lovely back deck for refreshments and discussion.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Two stunt drivers charged in Perth East

Two people were charged with stunt driving in Perth East township in just over 24 hours.

On July 14, just before 11 p.m., a Perth County Ontario Provincial Police officer stopped a vehicle travelling on Line 43 in Perth East Township, after it was found to be travelling about 130 kilometres an hour in an 80 kilometres an hour.

A 21-year-old resident of Cambridge has been charged with "drive motor vehicle - perform stunt - excessive speed."

On July 15, just after 11 p.m., a Perth County OPP officer stopped a vehicle travelling on Road 86 in Perth East township, after it was found to be travelling in excess of 155 kilometres per hour in an 80 kilometres an hour.

A 22-year-old resident of Waterloo has been charged with "drive motor vehicle - perform stunt - excessive speed," "fail to surrender insurance card," and "fail to surrender permit for motor vehicle."

In each incident, a 30-day driving suspension and 14-day vehicle impoundment was initiated as per statute. The accused in these matters are scheduled to appear

at the Ontario Court of Justice in Stratford at a later date to answer to the charges.

### Perth East resident facing multiple charges after fleeing a two vehicle collision

A Perth East resident is facing a number of charges after a two vehicle collision on July 16.

At about 1:49 p.m., the Perth County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) received a report of a two vehicle collision on Line 34 in Perth East.

Through the course of the investigation, it was determined that a vehicle collided with the rear of another vehicle and left the scene. The vehicle was later located in Stratford.

The driver, a 21-year-old from Perth East has been arrested and charged with: "fail to remain," "fail to report accident," "careless driving," "operate motor vehicle without insurance," "driving motor vehicle with open container of liquor," "driving motor vehicle with liquor readily available," "young driver - B.A.C. above zero," and "drive motor vehicle, no currently validated permit."

The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Stratford on September 12 to answer to the charges.

Anyone with information regarding these incidents can contact Perth County OPP at 1-888-310-1122.

Those who wish to remain anonymous can call Crime

Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or leave an anonymous online message at [www.p3tips.com](http://www.p3tips.com).

### Stunt driver charged

The Perth County OPP has charged a driver after they were allegedly found speeding more than 50 kilometres per hour (km/h) over the posted speed limit in Perth East township.

An OPP officer on patrol on Perth Road 107 on July 23 at around 2:39 p.m., observed a motor vehicle traveling in excess of 135 km/h in a posted 80 km/h zone.

A 40-year-old Stratford resident was charged with: "drive motor vehicle - perform stunt - excessive speed," and "drive motor vehicle or boat with cannabis readily available."

Police initiated a 30-day driving suspension and 14-day vehicle impoundment to the vehicle driver.

The accused driver is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Stratford on September 12 to answer to the charges.

### Disturbance in Wilmot

A disturbance occurred in the area of Erbs Road and Wilmot Line in Wilmot Township on July 23.

At about 12:30 p.m., the Waterloo Regional Police Service responded to a report of the incident. There were no physical injuries as a result and no charges laid.



**COMMUNITY —**

# Perth County Paramedics Expand Distribution of Naloxone Kits

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

Starting this month, Perth County Paramedic Services is expanding the distribution of naloxone kits in the region. A new agreement with Huron Perth Public Health now expands access by allowing all frontline Perth County paramedics to distribute the kits to people at risk and their loved ones.

Paramedics have always been able to administer naloxone as a treatment to temporarily reverse the effects of an opioid overdose and the County's Community Paramedics have also had access to the kits for use and distribution.

"Naloxone has proven to be a valuable life-saving treatment tool for our Paramedics when responding to

potential opioid overdose situations," said Perth County Paramedic Chief Mike Adair. "This expanded access to naloxone allows our frontline paramedics the ability to distribute the kits when on calls, will help increase awareness and save more lives."

Opioid overdoses have risen significantly in recent years across Canada. According to data from Public Health Ontario, in 2021 opioids caused 71 emergency department visits, 22 hospitalizations, and 12 deaths in the Huron-Perth region.

Naloxone kits are easy to administer and come equipped with a set of instructions to guide anyone who may need to administer the product to an opioid overdose victim.

The availability of naloxone kits has expanded significantly in recent years.

If you experience or witness an overdose, call 911 for help. To learn more about Naloxone and how to recognize an opioid overdose, visit: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-naloxone-kits-free>

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# FAMILY MILESTONES —

## OBITUARY

### JUNKER, George



It is with deep sadness that the family of George Allan Junker communicate his passing on Friday, July 21st, peacefully at the Woodstock Hospital in the arms of his wife, Brenda, and two sons, Stephen and David.

George spent his life in the East-Zorra Tavistock

community, having been born and raised in the Tavistock area thereafter settling in Hickson. George had the great honour of serving on the Hickson Volunteer Fire Department for 40 years while also giving back to the community as a hockey and baseball coach.

If George was not meticulously tending the property at 96 Loveys St. in Hickson, he was found piecing together a wonderful creation in his woodshop or tinkering on his 1968 Ford Mustang. He and Brenda found solace at numerous campgrounds in and around Ontario. Many memories were made with family and friends watching magnificent Lake Huron sunsets or around a roaring campfire (which was most surely extinguished by the end of the evening).

George was most proud of his family. His beautiful wife of 48 years, Brenda; his son Stephen and wife Erin; his son David and partner Claudie. Most important of all to George were his grandkids – Myla, Brady and Audrey. If his lap was free he'd be joined by his sons' dogs – Maui and Taco.

George was predeceased by his father Lorne, his mother Ruth (Neeb) and sister-in-law Deborah. George is further survived by his loving sisters Mary Kropf and Dorothy Vollmershausen and favourite brother Don. George is also fondly remembered by the extended Seegmiller family.

The family wishes to invite all who would want to join to gather for a Celebration of Life at 1:30 PM on Sat, July 29th on the family property at 96 Loveys St, Hickson. Words of Remembrance will take place at 2pm, immediately followed by a social gathering at the Hickson Park Pavilion. Dress casually. Light refreshments will be served. Please park vehicles at Hickson Park.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Hickson Firefighters Association (cheques payable to Township of East Zorra -Tavistock - Hickson Station) or the Hebron United Church would be appreciated by the family. Personal condolences can be posted at [www.gffh.ca](http://www.gffh.ca)

## OBITUARY

### WOELFLE, Dorothy



Dorothy Lovina Woelfle, 100, of Tavistock passed away peacefully at Stratford General Hospital on Tuesday, July 18, 2023.

She was born in South Easthope Township, Perth County on April 12, 1923 a daughter of the late Daniel and Geraldine (Wittig) Yausie.

Dorothy was an avid knitter, quilter, crocheter and enjoyed working with stained glass. She was a longtime member of the Ladies Auxiliary of Tavistock Branch #518 Royal Canadian Legion and a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Tavistock. In her younger years, she was a knitter with the J.J. Field & Co. Woollen Mill in Tavistock.

She married Harold Henry Woelfle on August 3, 1946. He predeceased her on September 19, 2005.

Dorothy is survived by her four sons and daughters-in-law, Douglas and Darlene, Kevin and Diane, Keith and Brenda, Kenneth and Cheryl; grandchildren; great grandchildren; her niece, Mary Ann Keller (Larry deceased) and family.

She was predeceased by her grandson, Sean Woelfle; her brothers and sister-in-law, Lloyd and Sara Yausie and Walter Yausie; her sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Erma and Walter Merklinger.

A private funeral service was held in the Francis Funeral Home, Tavistock. Pastor Michael Mayer officiated. Interment was in St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery, Tavistock.

The family wishes to thank the staff at the Maples Retirement Home and the staff at Stratford General Hospital for their compassionate care of Dorothy.

As expressions of sympathy, donations to Tavistock Branch #518 Royal Canadian Legion or Tavistock Historical Society would be appreciated and may be made through the Francis Funeral home by calling 519-655-2431.

Personal condolences can be posted at [www.francisfh.ca](http://www.francisfh.ca)

## OBITUARY

### BOYD, Audrey



Audrey Mary Boyd, 96, of Tavistock, passed away peacefully with family by her side at Rotary Hospice Stratford Perth, on Friday, July 14, 2023.

She was born in Hamilton on July 2, 1927, a daughter of the late Alec Cheyne Wilson and the former Gladys Mary Reid.

She married A. Stanley Boyd at Toronto on September 8, 1951. He predeceased her on July 17, 2016.

Audrey is survived by three daughters, Karen Bojin (Joe), Laurie Weldon (Andrew), Kathy Bickle (Tom); seven grandchildren; nine great grandchildren.

There will be no public funeral home visitation or service.

Family arrangements are being handled through the Francis Funeral Home, 77 Woodstock St N., Tavistock.

As expressions of sympathy, donations to Stratford General Hospital Foundation or Rotary Hospice Stratford Perth would be appreciated and may be made through the Francis Funeral Home, Tavistock by calling 519-655-2431.

Personal condolences can be posted at [www.francisfh.ca](http://www.francisfh.ca)

## 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

4339 Huron Rd. Wilmot Township

Special guest preacher is Canon Christopher Pratt.

### All Welcome

Rev. Margaret Walker; Office: 519-662-3450

[sgacnewhamburg@gmail.com](mailto:sgacnewhamburg@gmail.com)

Current health and safety protocols are followed.

### St Agatha Mennonite Church

1967 Erb's Road St Agatha 519-634-8212

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) Which breed of dog is believed to be the fastest?
- 2) Who was the author of Peter Rabbit?
- 3) How many lines does a Limerick have?
- 4) Who had an 80s hit with the song entitled '99 Red Balloons'?
- 5) What is the name of the largest river in France?
- 6) Which famous poet wrote 'An Ode to a Nightingale'?
- 7) What is the largest planet in the solar system?
- 8) How many ribs are in a human body?
- 9) What is the largest island in the world?
- 10) What is the name given to animals that eat plants only?

Answers found on page 22

# BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

**July 27:** Happy Birthday to Declan Yantzi (7), Ryker James Demerling (9) and Emma Brenneman (22), and anniversary to Nolan and Allissa Steckly (4th).

**July 28:** Happy Birthday to Austin Eidt (18), and anniversaries for Reid and Chrissy Yantzi (16th), Chris and Sarah Bewhey (5th) and Gary and Lori Snider (33rd)

**July 29:** Happy Birthday to Grace Schmidt (13).

**July 30:** Happy birthday to Sam Ferguson (6), Meredith Richmond (10), Macarther Brennan (20) and anniversary for Adam and Jacqueline Brooks (12th).

**July 31:** Happy Birthday to Sloan Douglas (6), Megan Hopkins (16), Lydianne Bender (18) and Owen Shantz (20).

**August 1:** Happy Birthday to Andrew Parker (3) and James Parker (3), Keaton Brown (14) and Jaydan McGregor (18).

**August 2:** Happy Birthday to Wyatt Gunn (5), Daniel Rudy (21) and Taylor McKay (22), and anniversary for Scott and Candis Kelly.

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

# 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 25, 2018 Edition (5 years ago)**

The Township of East Zorra-Tavistock has signed a 20-year contract with EARTH Corporation for two solar panel array installations on Township buildings. A 250kw array has been installed on the roof of the Tavistock & District Community Centre while a 100kw system has been placed on the roof of the Hickson Pavillion.

The Tavistock Hops Junior Fastball team came from the provincials with a silver medal. They will be representing Ontario at the Nationals Team ON2. The Tavistock Juniors include Jermy Kropf, Bryn Wagler, Travis Ramseyer, Deven Kropf, Angus Rowland, Zac Berg, Derek Hyde, Al Harmer, Chad Harmer, Kyle Fry, Steve Malott, Tristan Hohl, Addie Cober, Jake Wiffen, Carson Lamond, Travis Hyde, Justin Wagler, Tyson Zehr, Steve Hohl and Kevin Zehr.

**July 30, 2008 Edition (15 years ago)**

One week after public meetings were held to discuss the latest offers for policing in

East Zorra-Tavistock, Council voted 4-3 to accept a new proposal from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) that ends the Oxford Community Police Service (OCPS) ten-year agreement. Joining the other two townships, Blandford-Blenheim and Norwich, East Zorra-Tavistock effectively withdraws from OCPS and leaves the City of Woodstock to deal with the future of the police service.

You couldn't have had a better night. Perfect weather, great fans, world class fast-ball teams, and great entertainment highlighted the official re-opening of Queen's Park in Tavistock on Thursday, July 17, 2008. The Argentina National Team played a doubleheader in the international marquee event, though the opening ceremonies were slightly delayed due to the team having trouble finding their way to the venue.

**July 29, 1998 Edition (25 years ago)**

Five area girls are members of the Stratford Boehmers Midgets softball team scheduled to compete in the National Girls Softball Championship to be held August 8-16 in Red Deer, Alberta. Suelyn Wirth of Tavistock; sisters Barb and Chrissy Wilhelm of RR2, Tavistock; Melissa Morris of Shakespeare; and Melissa Oliver of Hick-

son are all part of the first ever Stratford Minor Girls Softball Association team to reach the final round; one of four teams from Ontario vying for the trophy.

Plans for Tavistock's 150th Anniversary celebrations are in their final phase as community volunteers gear up to host an inestimable number of former residents and descendants of those who have called Tavistock home over the past 150 years.

**July 25, 1973 Edition (50 years ago)**

On July 16th the Tavistock Bantam Girls travelled to Brussels and defeated their opponents with a score of 61-3. The local girls were able to put wood to every ball that crossed the plate and racked up 8 home runs. Among the heavy hitters were Donna Mogk, Debbie Wilker, Julie Matthies, Gail Ramseyer and Arlene Roth. Debbie Wilker crossed home plate 10 times and Sharon Sippel shared the win with 8 strikeouts.

Miss Janet Fuhr, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Fuhr, has been awarded a \$500 Scholarship from the University of Western Ontario, London. She plans to attend the University this September in her first year of the four-year Nursing Degree Course.

## WORSHIP WITH US!

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116 Woodstock St Tavistock

Office: 519-655-2151

Rev. Marg Smith

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[graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.tavistockmennonitechurch.ca)

### TAVISTOCK BIBLE CHAPEL

(corner William & Oxford Streets)

[www.tavistockbc.org](http://www.tavistockbc.org)

### ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN LCC

Church Phone 519-276-0701

Wellington Street, Tavistock

[stpaulstavistock@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulstavistock@gmail.com)

Pastor Rev. Michael Mayer

### EAST ZORRA MENNONITE

677044 16th Line Road, East Zorra

Pastors Ray Martin & Mike Williamson

[www.ezmennonite.ca](http://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](mailto:office@tavistock.church)

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## COMMUNITY —

## Oxford County Library looking for strategic plan input

By Lee Griffi

Oxford County Library is updating its Strategic Plan and looking for community input to help shape the future of library services, programs, and spaces.

The library has launched a 10-minute survey, inviting residents to share their thoughts on aspects of the library's programs and services. The survey aims to better understand community priorities, while identifying key opportunities and challenges.

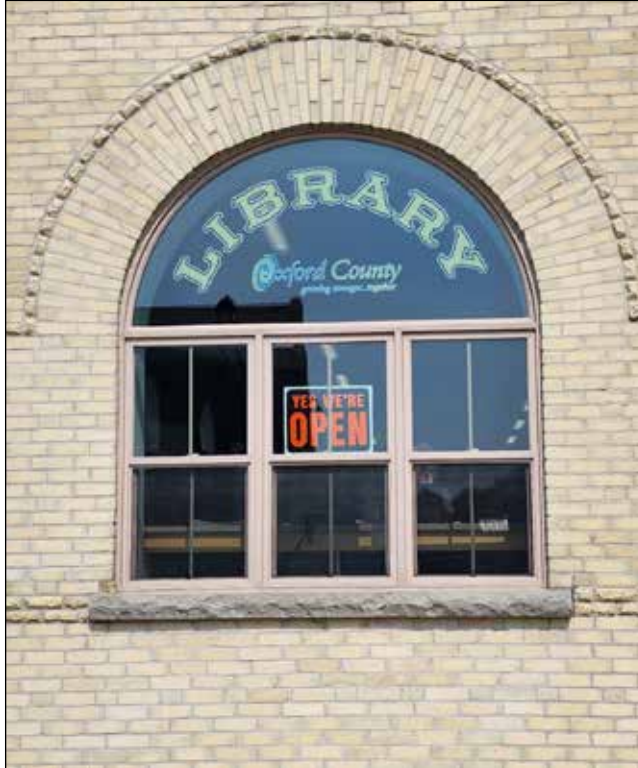
"We are really hoping to get some insight into what the community is looking for from us over the course of the next several years and into the future so we can plan to deliver the services they want and need," said Oxford County's Chief Librarian, Lisa Marie Williams. "The library welcomes feedback from all residents, whether they are long-time library users, newcomers to the library, or individuals who do not use library resources. By embracing a wide range of perspectives, the library hopes to ensure its services are inclusive and responsive to the needs of the entire community," she added.

Part of the discussion will be online versus in person, but Williams says, for the most part, people want to get out and experience the libraries in person. "There is still a demand for some of our virtual services, whether they be e-books or digital movies or virtual programming. We have noticed that people are ready to come back to their libraries and borrow physical materials like books and DVDs and come back to the programming in our physical spaces."

There are a total of 14 physical library locations across Oxford County, and Williams said there could very well be different asks depending on geography. "I think that is completely possible. People are asked to identify what area they live in and what library they might use or is closest. The needs of each community are different, and what we are able to offer in services can be different too." She added people in Innerkip are only getting a certain number of hours per week, whereas Tavistock is lucky enough to have a 35-hour week. "We know (the strategic plan) will help us to plan each individual branch as well as the system as a whole."

While it can be difficult to get the public involved in these planning processes, Williams wanted to remind residents their voices will be heard. "As we look to the years ahead, we want to build upon what makes our libraries special and deliver services that truly resonate with our patrons. That's why every survey response matters. Whether you have been a patron for years or have yet to step through our doors, we genuinely value your insights. Your participation in this survey will help shape the future of our library and enable us to serve you better."

She added that people across Oxford County do have the same asks of their public libraries. "The thing I hear from folks when I am out and about is really making sure our branches have enough hours to serve our communities, are welcoming, accessible, and inclusive spaces for people

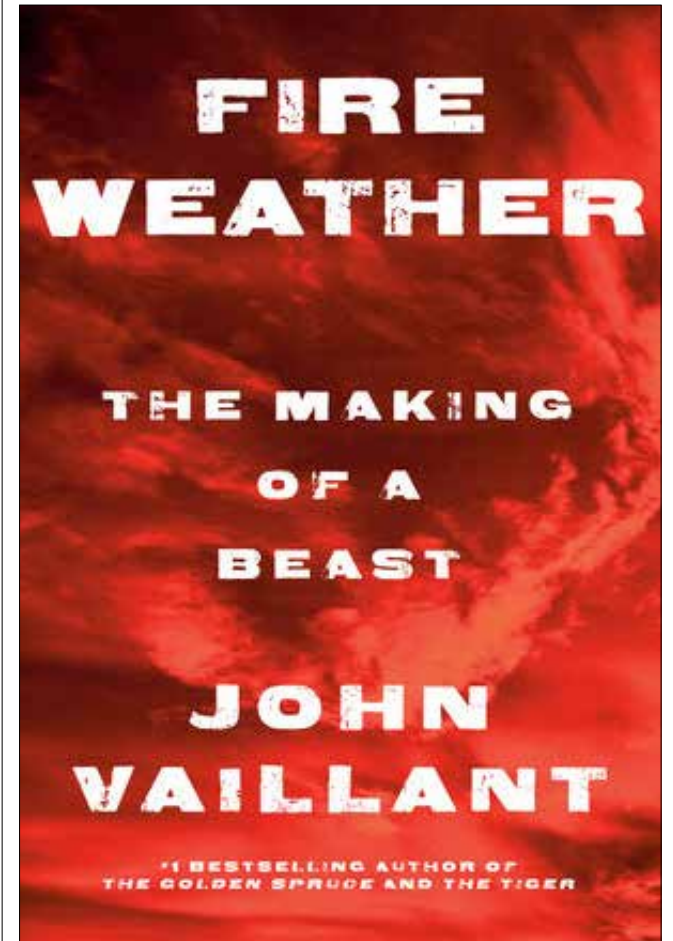


that reflect their communities." She added it is important to not create a cookie-cutter approach to how each of the 14 locations is viewed in the public eye. "What we really notice are young children and families with young and school-aged children come in and are using our branches quite regularly. Older folks are comfortable coming in. We normally lose people when they reach their teens and, their twenties, when they are maybe a little too busy to be involved with us. I do think it really matters what they are looking for and whether or not we have that." Williams added the survey and strategic plan are crucial to finding out what those who don't use the library would like to entice them to come in.

The strategic plan should be completed in the next few months and released to the public sometime in October. Williams said the library's budget will likely be influenced by the results. "It would affect how we are planning our budget and what that may look like over the next few years. We do keep fiscal responsibility in mind with everything we do and make sure we are looking at our budgets broadly without asking more from the taxpayer," said Williams.

To access the survey and learn more about the library's strategic planning efforts, go to [www.ocl.net](http://www.ocl.net) or visit any Oxford County Library branch. The survey will be open for responses until Friday, July 28. All responses are confidential. The library's 14 branches are located in Brownsville, Burgessville, Embro, Harrington, Ingersoll, Innerkip, Mount Elgin, Norwich, Otterville, Plattsville, Princeton, Tavistock, Thamesford and Tillsonburg.

## Oxford County Library book review



The Oxford County Library will submit a book review each month to let our readers know about the library and newer books. This week, that book is *Fire Weather* by John Vaillant.

*Fire Weather* is an excellently written, and well researched nonfiction book that explores the symbiotic relationship between humans and combustion and why we are entering a new century of fire.

It left me stunned - I felt like I was at the edge of my seat while reading it. I didn't really have a clear concept of just how devastating the 2016 Fort McMurray fire was, and to learn that these types of fires are getting more and more frequent world-wide, and creating their own weather systems? Holy Moly.

I am now so much more aware of the incredibly rapidly changing landscape we are living through. The stories from survivors had me close to tears, and the science behind the destruction of the fire, and how we got to the place we are now absolutely fascinated me.

This is a very worthwhile read!

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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 was taken by Leanne Freitag during an evening walk in the Mike Schout Wetlands Preserve. (Photo credit: Leanne Freitag)

## Wellesley officially adopts four day work week

TOWNSHIP OF WELLESLEY							July 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1							
2	3 Stat Holiday	4 All Staff	5 All Staff	6 All Staff	7 All Staff	8							
9	10 Group A Including: Deputy Clerk, Finance Clerk, Public Works Supvr	11 All Staff	12 All Staff	13 All Staff	14 Group B Including: Deputy Clerk, Finance Clerk, Recreation Supvr	15							
16	17 Group A Including: Deputy Clerk, Finance Clerk, Public Works Supvr	18 All Staff	19 All Staff	20 All Staff	21 Group B Including: Deputy Clerk, Finance Clerk, Recreation Supvr	22							
23	24 Group A Including: Deputy Clerk, Finance Clerk, Public Works Supvr	25 All Staff	26 All Staff	27 All Staff	28 Group B Including: Deputy Clerk, Finance Clerk, Recreation Supvr	29							
30	31 Group A Including: Deputy Clerk, Finance Clerk, Public Works Supvr												

Wellesley staff schedule for the month of July.

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

After a one year pilot program, the Township of Wellesley staff are officially adopting a compressed work week, with core office hours of Monday to Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Each participating employee works four scheduled days per week, either Monday to Thursday or Tuesday to Friday.

Staff have been separated into two categories: Group A includes Chief Administrative Officer, Director of Planning, Director of Public Works, Treasurer, Accounts Payable/Bookkeeper, Building Inspector/Plans Examiner, Executive Assistant, GIS Technician and Recreation Scheduling Administrator. Group B includes the Chief Building Official, Director of Recreation,

Fire Chief, Municipal Clerk, Building Permit Coordinator, Public Works Technologist, and Recreation Administrative Assistant.

These groups help to determine who will work on what day. For example, Group B is scheduled to work on Friday, July 28 (including the Deputy Clerk, Finance Clerk, and Recreation Supervisor) while Group A is scheduled to work Monday, July 31 (including the Deputy Clerk, Finance Clerk, and Recreation Supervisor).

"We continue to strive to provide the best service to our residents," said the township in a news release.

Those who need immediate assistance during office hours can call the office at 519-699-4611.

# Gazette Puzzles

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## Pet of the Week



### MACY

Our Pet of the Week is a nine week old Jack Russell Terrier and Pug cross puppy named Macy. Her owner is Hailey Bell, from North Easthope Township, who likes to take her to the horse shows she is involved with while riding her own horse. She says her new puppy runs around so much that eventually she gets exhausted.

Nominate your Pet of the Week by emailing [info@wilmotpost.ca](mailto:info@wilmotpost.ca)



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## COMMUNITY —

# Ireland - A most exciting destination for travel in anyone's future

By Gary West

There are many destinations worth travelling to in the world these days, but none (in my humble opinion) is more beautiful and picturesque than Ireland.

We visited there recently and surely admired the resilience of this island country that has sure seen its ups and downs over the centuries, but they sure know how to treat visitors to this "Emerald Isle," as it is now known.

After a two-week vacation to this country of 40 shades of green, we were able to sit down with a true Irish friend of mine from Tavistock, and talk about what makes Ireland so interesting.

Eileen Ohrling was born in Ireland. Along with her husband Carl, she still owns a home in Ireland, northeast of Dublin, where they continue to travel for vacation during the summer and fall.

The island is home to approximately seven million people, with five million of those residing in the south, also known as the Republic of Ireland. Northern Ireland is home to the other two million people.

The Republic of Ireland was formed and called the Irish free state when it broke away from British rule in 1922.

Most people in Ireland speak English, although there are regions where Gaelic is spoken. Road signs have both printed on them.

The island has two currencies the Euro in the south and the Pound Sterling (part of the U.K.) in the north.

A thriving tourism industry employs thousands of people annually, and welcomes millions of visitors to the island. Tourism, agriculture, medical supplies, and the manufacturing sector contribute to the success of their very strong economy.

Dublin is usually the first stop - for us, it was where we were able to take bus tours and also enjoyed our first taste of Guinness at the world-renowned Temple Bar. There is no shortage of pubs to enjoy a pint or an Irish whiskey, where it is spelled with an E, between the K and the Y. Jameson's and Bush Mills are just two of the many local whiskeys that are exported worldwide.

Travelling south of Dublin toward Killarney, is the ring of Kerry and Blarney castle. We truly enjoyed spectacular scenery with breathtaking views.

Crossing into Northern Ireland (no border now), you now use British pounds and travel in miles, unlike the south as it is in kilometers.

Donegal town is a jewel in the northwest of the island and receives thousands of visitors annually with its quaint shops, cafés, and historic pubs. They're all nestled at the mouth of the Donegal Bay and a stroll through this town is a must to see when in the north.



This is a look at the pedestrian walk outside the world famous Temple Bar, which is one of the biggest bars you'll ever see, and full of visitors day and night, seven days a week. (Photo credit: Gary West)

As a farmer, the joy of seeing hundreds of dairy cows (mostly Holstein), grazing on lush pastures and sheep grazing the hills was certainly a highlight of the trip for me. It was interesting, though, to see thousands of sheep, but lamb is hard to come by in restaurants. Local farmers would say, "most of the lamb produced was exported to countries in Europe to fetch higher prices."

You will meet some locals who will warmly greet you with how's the "Craic?" This means what's happening? And also means having a good time. Locals will say the Craic was mighty, referring to fun times. Failte is a common Irish greeting meaning welcome. Slainte is a term the Irish use in wishing you good health.

Leaving Donegal and heading to Derry (Londonderry), you may see one of the "Derry Girls," a popular Netflix series about growing up in the city during the troubled times between 1968 and 1998.



Visitors to Ireland usually stop in the south at the Blarney Castle near Cork, and are encouraged to climb to the top through a narrow stone stairway and kiss the Blarney Stone. (Photo credit: Gary West)

Travellers can't go to Ireland without visiting Belfast in the northeast, which is the birthplace of the Titanic, and now houses the Titanic museum. It was interesting to note that of the thousands of men who worked on building this monstrous vessel, non could be Catholic, only Protestants.

Belfast has a layered history that is evident in the colourful murals painted on the walls throughout the city, and still stand there today.

It's easy to see that after a couple of weeks of visiting, the Irish are a resilient, hard-working people, who are full of charm and wit. Despite the tragic history of the great potato famine from 1845 to 1852 and the religious troubles from 1968 to 1998 ending in the Good Friday agreement, the Irish people are still the country's best tourist attraction.



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COMMUNITY —

# Coffee House Talks about honey bees



Left to right, Lynn Osborne-Way (WFRC Volunteer), Harpreet Dhaliwal (WFRC Staff), Catherine Young (guest speaker from Backyard Honey and Beekeeping Supply), Tim Louis, Anita Wasowicz (WFRC Volunteer) and Karin Demerling (WFRC Volunteer).

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

There was an insightful Coffee House Talks event about honey bees and the importance of beekeeping that took place at the New Hamburg Legion on July 19.

Those in attendance included Catherine Young from the Backyard Beekeeper Supply Company based in Wellesley Township. Her business supplies beekeeping equipment and hosts “bee school” to educate our region about bees

and their importance. Also in attendance include Kitchener-Conestoga Member of Parliament Tim Louis, and representatives from the Wilmot Family Resource Centre.

The Wilmot Family Resource Centre received just over \$14,000 through the New Horizons Program for their Coffee House Talks events series. These events take place monthly and most recently have been hosted at the New Hamburg Legion for those 55+.

# Wheat harvest in full swing



This was taken on the Sebastopol Road (Line 29), northwest of Tavistock, in South Easthope Township, on a sunny warm day at the beginning of the week. Hard at work for Dietview farms is Scott Dietrich in the combine and his uncle Bob Dietrich operating the grain buggy. They will then be transferring the crop to nearby gravity wagons, for transfer to their elevator and storage silos.

By Gary West

Wheat harvest is in full swing in the Oxford and Perth counties, as well as Waterloo Region. Crop farmers are saying the crop is coming off now, with drier weather, at the right moisture, with good bushel weight, and above

average yields in comparison to other years.

Farmers that we talked to said this has been an exceptional year in the immediate area, with rain when needed and heat units above average.

Very little lodging has occurred in most area fields.

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**SPORTS —**

# Wilmot Aquatic Aces news report



Wilmot Aces members Mia and Luka Tomic.



Open water swimmers Austin Heinbuch and Calum MacLeod.

By Joni Maerten-Sanders

Wilmot Aquatic Aces come up BIG at the East Coast Swimming Championships in Halifax. Twenty one members of the Aces travelled to Halifax, Nova Scotia, from July 6th to the 12th to compete at the Ken Dunn East Coast Championships held at Dalhousie University.

The team finished overall in 4th place out of 26 clubs. The male team was 3rd overall, only 100 points out of 1st, and the women's team was 4th overall. Halifax won the overall title, with Dartmouth and Ottawa in second and third.

14-year-old Mia Tomic had an amazing meet winning the High Point award for girls 13-14 years of age. Mia came home with gold in 50 fr, 100 fr, 200 fr, 400 fr, 50 bk, 100 bk, 200 bk, and silver in 50 fly. Mia had already qualified for the Canadian Junior Nationals, and has added to those events. Not to be outdone, 15 year old Robert Pop won the high point for 14-15 year old boys. Robert qualified for his first National Championship in the 800 fr and 1500 fr. Robert won gold in the 800 fr, 1500 fr, 400 fr and 200 fr, second in 100 fr, 5th in 50 fr and 9th in 50 fly and 200 bk

13 year old Isabel Willson got up in her first event of the weekend and qualified for her first National Championships in the 200m br event Isabel won the 200 br, silver in the 100 br and 50 br and 400 IM, bronze in the 200 IM, 4th in 200 fly and 8th in 400 fr.

17 year old Emma Jane Fowler came up big in the 200 fly, winning the event in a National qualifying time. She also was silver in the 400 IM, 4th in 200 IM, 50 fly and 100 fly, 8th in 50 br, and 9th in 50 fr.

Other top performances included:

Silas Campbell, 15 years; gold 400 IM, Silver 400 fr, 200 fr and 100 fly, Bronze 800 fr and 1500 fr, 4th 200 IM and 9th in 50 fr.

Jacob Fowler, 13 years; gold in 800 fr, 400 fr, 400 IM, 4th 200 fr, 5th 200 IM, 100 fr and 200 bk and 7th 100 bk. Austin Heinbuch, 14 years; was 4th in 50 br, 5th in 200 br and 100 br, 6th in 400 fr and 7th in 200 IM

Vasyl Kruypnin, 10 years old, swam to 4 number one times in Canada this season in the 50 br, 100 br, 200 br and 200 IM. Vasyl competed in 13 and under finishing 5th in 200 br, 6th in 50 fly and 100 fly 8th in 100 br, and 200 IM.

Macy Larivee, 12 years, won bronze in the 800 fr, 5th in

100 fr, 100 fly 6th in 200 fr, and 50 fr 7th in 100 bk, 8th in 400 fr. Angela Levac 14 years struck silver in the 50 bk behind Mia T, giving the ACES a 1-2 finish. She also finished 7th in 100 bk.

Lucy Levac 13 years was 8th in 100 br; Anna MacDonald 10 years old racing 12 and under also had a great meet finishing 5th in 200 br, 4th in 100 br, and 50 br, and 7th in 200 IM; Calum MacLeod 13 years won bronze in the 800 fr, 7th in 200 bk, 8th in 400 fr; Ben Sos 15 years swam to a 5th place finish in the 400 fr; Luka Tomic 18 years won gold in 100 fly, silver in 200 fly, and 50 fly and 200 fr, bronze in 100 bk and 50 fr, 5th in 50 bk, 8th in 100 fr.

Aces relays came up big; gold 13 and under boys 4\*200 free relay Calum, Jacob, Vasyl and Noah Meuleman silver 4\*100 Free relay same team silver 4\*100 Medley Relay Noah, Vasyl, Calum and Jacob. 4th 13-14 Girls 4\*200 free relay Isabel, Macy, Grace Bach and Mia Silver. 13-14 Girls 4\*100 free relay Angela, Macy, Isabel and Mia Gold.

14-15 Boys 4\*100 free relay Silas, Robert, Ben and Austin Gold. 14-15 Boys 4\*100 medley relay Robert, Austin, Silas and Ben. Open Women 4\*200 free relay 8th Emma Jane, Bailey Ewanchuk, Alexa Pollard and Angela. Open Women 4\*100 free relay 9th Emma Jane, Lucy, Bailey and Alexa. Open Women 4\*100 medley relay 6th Mia, Isabel, Emma Jane and Bailey.

Open Men 4\*200 free relay BRONZE Luka, Robert, Silas, and Ben. Open Men 4\*100 free relay 5th Silas, Luka Max Hall Smith and Robert. Open Men 4\*100 medley relay. 6th Max, Austin, Luka and Robert Open Mixed Free relay. 4\*100 Emma Jane, Mia, Robert and Luka. Silver Open Mixed Free relay 4\*100 Bailey, Max, Alexa and Ben 10th On the final day, Calum and Austin competed in the Open water event Calum finished 3rd in the 3 km open water in 13 and under while Austin was 2nd in the 3 km 14-15 year olds.

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**SPORTS —**

# Tavistock and District Recreation Centre upgrades



Change rooms at the arena are getting a facelift with a customized paint job. The idea to match the colours with minor hockey's Tavistock Titans came from Matt Lamers, the Parks and Recreation Supervisor for East Zorra-Tavistock. The referee room door has also been given an interesting new look. A new chiller for the ice surface has also been installed.

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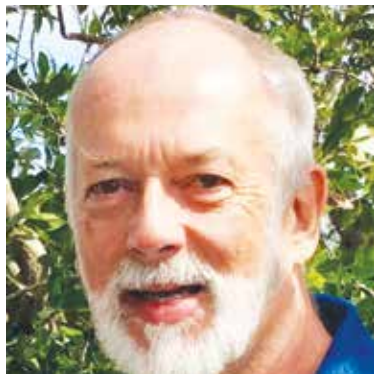
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## TRAVEL —

## OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: The romance of the sea and the mystery of military tunnels



By Paul Knowles

There is always something just a little more special about visiting a place you can only reach by boat. The trip across the water, whether brief or lengthy, gives you time to reflect on the uniqueness of your destination.

And you also realize that you are among the relatively few who have actually visited this site.

A visit to George's Island, in Halifax's inner harbour, offers exactly that experience with a couple of additional pluses. First, the island is the site of Fort Charlotte, first constructed between 1792 and 1798 and named for Queen Charlotte, wife of England's King George III. (Their son, Edward, was Commander-in-Chief in Halifax at the time). Second, when you visit George's Island today, you are among the first visitors to set foot on the island in the past few decades. It has been essentially unoccupied since the end of World War II and although it was named a National Historic Site in 1965, only in the past couple of years has Parks Canada re-developed the place into a

fascinating tourist attraction.

A highlight of a visit to Fort Charlotte is a tour of the underground tunnels, reminiscent of the underground passages at Dover Castle in England.

The Fort Charlotte tunnels were constructed circa 1877, almost a century after the first fortifications were built on the island. What is described as a "labyrinth of underground magazines and tunnels" was dug out to serve extensive batteries of guns and cannons that were put in place as a response to the tensions engendered by the American Civil War.

In fact, most of the construction and subsequent changes at Fort Charlotte had to do with international conflict. The first fortifications here, now long replaced, were built in 1750 to defend what was now an English island against possible attack by the French. The defenses of the Fort were improved and augmented again and again – during the Seven Years' War (1756-63), the American Revolutionary War (1775-1783), the French Revolutionary War (beginning 1792, the era in which the current fort was constructed), the War of 1812, the American Civil War (the 1860s), World War I and World War II, when anti-aircraft guns were installed on the island.

All of that led to virtually no actual action. I can't find any record of a battle, or conflict of any kind, involving Fort Charlotte. But to be fair, the Halifax Military History Preservation Society points out that "The end of the war

(WWII) marked the last time that George's Island was used for defending Halifax, a role it upheld for two centuries after the founding of the city."

Today, young guides in period uniforms will lead tours through the damp tunnels that connected the underground magazines, tunnels and gun batteries. So not only does your visit include the romance of a sea voyage (albeit relatively brief), but also the mystery of exploring underground tunnels that have only been opened to visitors like you in the last couple of years.

It's also worth exploring the island above-ground. Parks Canada is a terrific organization and, in my experience, always does it right. So there are picnic tables and the iconic red Muskoka chairs acting as invitations to relax and enjoy the island and the terrific view of Halifax. The island is open to visitors from Thursdays through Mondays, 10-3, to September 9, and weekends, until October 8.

Oh, yes – George's Island has one other claim to fame. It is home to unique, black garter snakes, smaller than their mainland cousins and never happy to encounter come-from-away visitors.

When you return to the mainland, you arrive at the completely revitalized Halifax waterfront. Personally, I could explore this district with its three-kilometer boardwalk for hours. It's a place for food and drink and talented buskers and museums and did I mention food?



George's Island lighthouse. (Photos by Paul Knowles)

It's also the location of one the most up-scale hotels in Canada, the newly constructed Muir hotel. Waterfront wanderers are welcome to wander through the Muir's section of the waterfront which includes some symbolic steps right down into the sea and intriguing art installations.

The museums along the waterfront include the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic where you can learn all you would want to know about Nova Scotia's maritime history, and where you can also enjoy free outdoor concerts every Tuesday night during the summer.

A 15-minute walk away is Pier 21, home of the Canadian Museum of Immigration where your hosts boast that "one visit can change your life" as you will learn the history of immigration Canada and may discover new facts about your own ancestral

history.

While it's not on the waterfront, I have to suggest you also wander up to the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. (It's a three-minute walk... well, more like a climb, given the streets leading down to the harbour... from the Maritime Museum).

There's so much more to explore in Halifax, including the iconic Citadel, but it is certainly worth the time to spend a day or two at the waterfront and immediate environs. The local powers that be and Parks Canada have done so much to entice visitors and you, the visitor, will reap the rewards.

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



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# OPINION —

## EXPERT ADVICE: *Mental Health Matters ...*



**By Kimberly Wagner,**  
**Psychotherapist (Qualifying)**

While many of us feel the urge to stay indoors during the winter, summer produces the opposite effect. During the summer, people often notice a boost in their mental health. Increased exposure to

the sun can boost our vitamin D levels, fresh fruits and vegetables offer nutritious choices from local sources, and we tend to be more active outdoors.

The vitamin D we get from the sun, produces melatonin, a natural hormone that helps to regulate our circadian rhythms - or sleep patterns. Too much sun can upset our natural rhythms, and some people may notice trouble sleeping, nausea, or palpitations, due to increased cortisol levels, produced from higher temperatures. These symptoms can feel similar to a panic attack and can increase anxiety.

The Summertime Blues, like SAD, may show symptoms of low-mood, or lack of energy, but less debili-

tating. If the heat feels intolerable, we may find ourselves hiding in our dark, air-conditioned homes, perhaps missing out on social opportunities the warm weather brings. Identify your triggers - is it the heat and humidity? Financial stresses related to increased child-care or vacations? Or are you battling body-image issues, made worse by summer clothing? We also need to consider our expectations. People are expected to be happier in the summer, but not everyone is.

The key is balance. While enjoying all the wonderful things the summer season offers us, be aware of keeping yourself protected from too much sun. Schedule changes, and having fewer, or more disrupted routines in the summer, is

a welcome break, however, having a regular routine is important in preventing depression. Stay hydrated and use sunscreen.

Give yourself permission to feel good this summer. Take some time for yourself by taking a calming walk or reading your favorite book in the shade. Take ad-

vantage of the weather and find something you would normally do indoors and take it outside. As we all know, the warm, bright summer months will not be with us forever, take the time to do the things you enjoy.

You deserve it, and you need it!

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR - JULY/AUGUST 2023

<p><b>July 27th</b> <b>Castle Kilbride Summer Concert Series</b></p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Those interest can contact membercoordinator@nhbot.ca for more information.</p>
<p><b>July 27th &amp; August 25th</b> <b>Young at Heart Adult Game Night</b></p>	<p><b>August 2nd</b> <b>East Zorra-Tavistock Council Meeting</b></p> <p>In-person council meeting taking place at 695566 17th Line in Innerkip starting at 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>August 10th</b> <b>Beef Barbecue at Tavistock Memorial Hall</b></p>	<p><b>August 14th</b> <b>Blood Drive</b></p> <p>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 <a href="http://www.blood.ca">www.blood.ca</a>.</p>	<p><b>August 19th &amp; August 20th</b> <b>Moparfest</b></p> <p>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 <a href="http://www.moparfest.com">www.moparfest.com</a>.</p>
<p><b>July 29th &amp; July 30th</b> <b>Beer &amp; Bouquets Open House</b></p> <p>Hosted by the Tavistock Hop</p>	<p><b>August 9th</b> <b>Wilmot Council Meeting</b></p>	<p>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.</p>	<p><b>August 18th</b> <b>Board of Trade Cruise Night</b></p> <p>Taking place from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the New Hamburg Mill Block. This year will feature a vendor market. The Board of Trade is looking for local crafters, artisans and makers to showcase their products.</p>	<p><b>August 22nd</b> <b>Wellesley Council Meeting</b></p> <p>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.</p>



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### Weekly Quiz Answers

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1) The Greyhound  | 5) Loire       |
| 2) Beatrix Potter | 6) John Keats  |
| 3) Five           | 7) Jupiter     |
| 4) Nena           | 8) Twenty-four |
|                   | 9) Greenland   |
|                   | 10) Herbivore  |

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