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Jerry Fischer wraps up 72 years of the paper distribution business



Jerry Fischer shows off a copy of the New Hamburg Independent, which he began delivering in 1984. He has been in the distribution business since 1951.

By Veronica Reiner

Jerry Fischer is celebrating two milestones this year - turning 85 years old and 72 years in the paper distribution business.

His career saw him deliver the New Hamburg Independent, the Waterloo Chronicle, and the Wilmot telephone book. "I enjoyed delivering the paper," explained Jerry, on what motivated him for decades. "I liked the people; I liked the outdoors."

One thing he won't miss will be delivering newspapers in the wintertime. "It's a bit of a challenge delivering the paper in the country in the wintertime - the roads are not always in great shape," he said.

Jerry started delivering the Waterloo Chronicle newspaper in 1951, and two years later, he was a carrier supervisor.

"At that time, the city was much smaller," explained Jerry in an interview with the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette. "Since that time, the area grew so that by the mid

1980s, they had 200 carriers."

Around 1984, Jerry started delivering the New Hamburg Independent newspaper. He dropped papers off at stores and post offices. "At that time, the paper was larger. Not only was it larger, they delivered it to a lot more people," recalled Jerry.

"They had quite a subscription list, and they also delivered what they called The Advertiser to people that didn't get the paper."

Continued on page 2

Wilmot councillor clarifies position on Canada Day committee

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The councillor behind a motion to reinvent Wilmot's Canada celebration said there appears to be some misunderstanding about the intent behind her motion at a recent township council meeting.

The motion from councillor Lillianne Dunstall to have Wilmot Township staff investigate the creation of a governed Canada Day Committee. The goal, she said, would be to reinstate past Canada Day Committee members, the township, service clubs and organizations back to the table and supply much-needed transparency to the committee.

She said further investigation confirmed constituent's concerns that their clubs were, in fact, being excluded.

"It became clear to me that to ensure inclusivity and transparency, the Township had to be involved," said Dunstall.

"As one of the councillor's representing New Hamburg, a member of the Wilmot Optimist, New Hamburg Board of Trade Executive and the New Hamburg Legion, constituents felt comfortable speaking with me. They shared their concerns that local New Hamburg community organizations were being excluded from participating in the organizing of the Canada Day Celebration, as they had done previously for years."

Dunstall added that as she began looking into the concerns, it appeared that up until 2021, the clubs being excluded had been part of the Canada Day Celebration Organizing Committee, along with the township.

Continued on page 2



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COMMUNITY —

Fischer wraps up 72 years of the paper business

Continued from page 1

All of the papers at the time were owned by Fairway Press, owned by the Motz family. "They were a good outfit to work for," said Jerry. "They were generous and thoughtful."

Over the years, the papers changed ownership several times, until Metroland Media took ownership. As time went on, Jerry noticed that for him, management became more impersonal. The top management from Metroland became more impersonal, while the direct supervisor was excellent," said Jerry.

The paper also got smaller in size about five to ten years ago. Further, the New Hamburg Independent closed its physical location at 77 Peel Street in 2019. Before that, the newspaper had a physical location in the community for 141 years.

"They didn't have a local editor; it was all combined with other papers," noted Jerry. "The paper lost some of its local flavour when they no longer had an office in New Hamburg, and no longer had local employees working out of the office."

Metroland Media published more than 70 community newspapers - including six

dailies - across Ontario. On September 15, the company filed for bankruptcy protection and ceased production of all weekly community newspapers, moving to an online only model. There were about 600 jobs lost through this decision.

Jerry said that this wasn't a big surprise, and he was given no personal notice at the time that the printed paper had ceased operation.

"In my mind, it was doubtful for the last few years whether the paper was going to carry on," he said. "On the week of my last delivery - I delivered on a Wednesday,

and on Thursday, it was on the TV that Metroland was closing down the weekly papers."

The payments for the month of September are still outstanding. "There is no transparency about where claims can be made," said Jerry. "When I tried to contact the paper, I did not receive any response."

"So many people lost their jobs," he added. "I am thankful that this just happened at the end of my career."

Councillor clarifies position on Canada Day committee

Continued from page 1

"In June of 2021, a unilateral decision to cancel the Canada Day event (was made) without consulting or notifying other committee members. The committee members learned of the decision through the media, which caused concerns about the lack of communication and inclusion in the decision-making process. It was never the validity of cancelling the Wilmot Canada Day celebration out of respect to the Indigenous who were mourning, but lack

of inclusion in that process."

Dunstall brought forward a Notice of Motion at the July 24 council meeting, requesting the township investigate the cost of the event, gauge interest from community groups concerning their participation and willingness to assist with costs to ensure the Wilmot Canada Day Celebration remains a free event.

"The township came back with a report at the September 25 meeting. The report stated an estimated cost of \$25,000 and

included a breakdown of what that would cover. Also, in-kind services like rental fees and township staffing would be covered by taxpayers. "This was an initial fact-finding report about the viability of creating this committee, further community engagement would be required if the motion moved forward."

The next step in the process is the development of Terms of Reference by township staff to set out the roles and responsibilities of those involved, in addition to

providing guidance on how the work will be undertaken and reported. "I am hoping once we see the terms of reference from the clerk's office, we will see regulations put in place that assure Canada Day will always be inclusive, transparent and a free community event." Dunstall added Mayor Salonen and council voted unanimously for this motion to move to the next step.

Township staff are predicting a budget of up to \$25,000, which includes between \$10,000 to \$15,000 for fireworks.



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COMMUNITY —

Different look for Tavistock summer camp in 2024

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

It looks like Camp Alliwannado will return for an eleventh year of fun for area kids but the summer-long camp at Tavistock's Queens Park will have a different appearance next year.

East Zorra-Tavistock staff met with owner Annie Rowland last week to propose a new agreement on the space used for the camp which for many parents represents childcare in the summer where few other options are available. An update was provided on the construction schedule for the new Tavistock Spray Pad, along with a layout of the available space and rental rates for the camp to consider for its 2024 program.

The proposed area would include the Tavistock Agricultural Pavilion and adjacent green space between it and the walking trail through Queen's Park. Kitchen space at the Memorial Hall would be available when the camp offers prepared food. The township is also offering the arena washrooms on that would be updated and designated for use by the camp exclusively during the day.

In her report to council at this week's meeting, EZT Chief Administrative Officer Karen DePrest said the update she provided on the camp will be the last one, and there is no wiggle room on what the township has laid out. "This booking is no different than any other booking. It is not a negotiation. She is no different than anyone else. We charge them the rates that are posted on the township's website."

Rowland said Camp Alliwannado has been based out of the Queens Park pavilion since its inception and naturally she is disappointed but is ready to move on. "Things change. EZT are clear that they want us to remain in Tavistock and they are working hard to meet the needs of the camp while also balancing the use of all facilities. We get that. We were worried

that the proposed site for the spray pad would mean a change for us."

In addition to the spaces offered by the township, Rowland said she hopes to consult with the Thames Valley District School Board. "We are taking some time to map out the proposed space for summer 2024. We are trying to connect with the school board to learn if we can continue using the soccer fields during the summer months. We also would like access to the school's back forest in order to have more shade as the current proposal doesn't have a lot trees. We've rented the soccer fields from the school board the last couple of years in an effort to reduce our footprint on the Queens Park green space."

Rowland added the township has been a willing to listen to what she has to say. "I believe (EZT) is open to our feedback. We have had good discussions with several councillors, and we had a productive walkthrough of the new proposal with the leadership team. We haven't been given a date to decide, but we will stay in contact with EZT as we work through the logistics of a different camp layout." The township has also told Rowland she would be allowed to put up temporary storage and a portable office space for the summer months. "This would allow us to have our materials near the small pavilion."

Perhaps the most asked question other than would there be a camp next year is will there be a reduced number of spots for children. Rowland added that is up in the air right now. "We aren't sure on number of campers. The township isn't imposing a limit, but we need to map out what we can actually do with the space proposal. Short answer, probably less. We were 150 this year and it could be closer to 100 in 2024. It also depends on where we get with the school board."

The Memorial Hall will be utilized in case of a weather event. If scheduled, pickleball would be cancelled.



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COMMUNITY —

Turmeric Indian Bistro



Tejveer Sidhu owns Turmeric Indian Bistro in New Hamburg.

By Mercedes Kay Gold

Hurrah! Turmeric Indian Bistro is open in New Hamburg, and taste buds are tingling. As you step into the Indian Bistro, the aroma of garam masala is magical. Tejveer, no stranger to the restaurant business, whips up fragrant fresh, flavorful family recipes, infused with her own food flair. It's a family affair, and her husband, Harvir and mother-in-law Harjinder are all hands on deck!

Turmeric speaks the language of love, serving homecooked culinary pleasures. The daal makhani is simmered slowly for up to six hours, bringing out the subtle smokiness of the slew of spices and creamy texture. There's an earthy hint of cumin in the basmati rice and fresh mint in the chutney. Tejveer's secret is a slew of spices, twelve toasted on site for the most memorable garam masala.

Indian cuisine is one of the most loved cuisines in the world. Turmeric Indian Bistro offers a wide variety of options, from vegan to vegetarian to hearty meat favorites. As a certified holistic nutritionist, I love the diversity. Choose from vegetables, legumes, whole grains, various lean meats or fish, dairy and fruit. Indian food turns simple staples into superstars with heaps of holistic herbs. All the exotic and unique Indian dishes are a synergy of sweet, sour, salty, bitter, astringent, and spicy.

Legumes are legendary. Lentils and kidney beans are the heart of dazzling daal makhani, while chick peas are the center of chana masala. They are great sources of protein, low in fat and thanks to fiber, legumes stabilize blood sugar and promote fullness. They are chock-full of folate, magnesium, potassium, and non-heme iron, plus a bounty of B vitamins. Tejveer tames tummy trouble often associated



Some of the delicious food on offer at Turmeric.

with legumes by soaking them for up to eight hours.

Vegetables are the cornerstone of a healthy diet. Fall in love with the fresh and flavorful French beans, carrots, cauliflower, and the power of potatoes for a rainbow of body-boosting benefits. Not only is the handcrafted seasoning palette pleasing, but the burst of yellow, thanks to turmeric, is a renowned pain support.

The culmination of twelve spices in the bistro's garam masala is mouthwatering, but coriander and cumin share the spotlight. Coriander seeds or cilantro leaves both come from the same plant but named differently throughout the world. They are rich in immune-boosting antioxidants and a natural diuretic. Cumin has been used throughout the world for thousands of years. Flavor enhancer yes, but research is linking India's favorite spice to improved digestion, weight control and improved

cholesterol levels.

Turmeric Indian Bistro serves all the classics, from naan bread to samosas to butter chicken, but try something new. Curry chicken is always my go-to, and I can't pass on produce, but the allure of aloo tikka turned out to be a titillating taste adventure. Turmeric also offers a twist on timeless. Tejveer fuses India with Canada by pairing poutine and butter chicken for a modern take on two world famous dishes. Looking for a culinary experience? Turmeric Indian Bistro opens officially on October 14 with a full menu, space to nosh, plus lots of lunch and dinner specials. Life is busy and ordering healthier take-out or delivery minimizes menu planning. Turmeric is located at 174 Union Street-Unit 4 in New Hamburg. Order online at turmericnewhamburg.ca or follow on Instagram @turmericnewhamburg

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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COMMUNITY —

University students to brainstorm ideas to improve the community of New Dundee

By Veronica Reiner

About 150 Wilfrid Laurier University (WLU) students will be brainstorming ways - socially, economically, and environmentally - to improve the community of New Dundee.

The assignment is part of a second year course called Introduction to Sustainability, taught by WLU professor Dr. Robert McLeman.

"It's going to be a real challenge for my students, because it's an eclectic, small community, with some monster homes, some new subdivisions, some buildings that have been there for 150 years," said Dr. McLeman in an interview with the Gazette. "It's just going to be a really interesting project for them to take on."

Students will be split into 15 consulting teams. They will tour New Dundee,

starting at the library on Queen Street. "It'll be a good eye opener for the students, none of whom have ever been there before," said Dr. McLeman.

Students will also do some research and find out what's going on in other comparable communities, which includes a media scan - building up inventories of articles and online posts to find out what's happening - or not happening - in the community.

The community of New Dundee was suggested to McLeman by the Wilmot Township planning office. In the past, McLeman's students have studied Baden (2022), Ayr in North Dumfries Township, as well as St. Jacobs and Breslau in Woolwich Township.

With a population of about 1,174 people (according to a 2021 Census), this will

be the smallest community that students have studied yet.

"They're trying to come up with projects that provide opportunities for folks who live in New Dundee, but without ruining the sort of small town character," said Dr. McLeman.

"In terms of businesses, there's the emporium, there's the liquor store, there's a pottery store, and a few other services, so not a lot of businesses out there - even just anecdotally, I hear things like 'It would be really nice to have a coffee shop out here. So we'll see what the students come up with.'"

Some examples of ideas for communities in the past have included a microbrewery and a transit hub for the Baden, a trail network to connect all the new subdivisions in downtown Ayr, as well as the

redevelopment of some flood-prone waterfront land along the Nith River.

The ideas have had lasting impacts in the past - there is now a farmers market and upscale brewpub in the community of Ayr, after students suggested these ideas to North Dumfries township.

Dr. McLeman added that the ideas need to be realistic for the community.

"They're limited by what exists in the community," he said. "If there's no municipal sewers in New Dundee, then obviously they can't propose a 10-storey apartment building. They'd have to budget in the infrastructure for the waste disposal, which would probably be in the millions."

The project ideas will be presented to Wilmot Township staff. A survey will be conducted to find out what residents would like to see in the community.

Oxford County Library seeking a volunteer for its board

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

The Oxford County Library is seeking an engaged citizen to join the county's Library Board for the remainder of the current term, ending December 2026.

The citizen should be passionate about reading, literacy and public library services. The board member would help ensure that Oxford County's 14 branch locations provide comprehensive, efficient library services that reflect the unique needs of Oxford County and its residents.

The responsibilities of the board include:

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system and demonstrating accountability to key stakeholders through an annual report and a legacy document at the end of the board's term.

Interested applicants must be at least 18-years-old, a Canadian Citizen or permanent resident, and live in Oxford County. Applicants are asked to submit their resume, in writing or by email, before October 22, at midnight to:

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"Serving on a community board or committee can be immensely rewarding," said the county in a release. "But it also requires a great deal of commitment and passion. Volunteering on a committee is a great way to share your talents while helping set the strategic direction for the future."

More information about the Oxford County Library Board and its terms of reference can be found online at www.ocl.net/libraryboard. Paper copies are also available at any branch of the Oxford County Library.



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COMMUNITY —

Shakespeare Elementary School fosters entrepreneurship in kids

By Amanda Modaragamage

Shakespeare students connected with their entrepreneurship side to host a Student Entrepreneurship Day at Sprucedale Public School on September 30. The parent council organized the event to help students show off their talent with homemade necklaces, baking and farm-stand produce throughout the gym.

One student in particular has a business that is taking off quite well and, since starting her business just eight weeks ago, has sold out over 600 pairs of earrings.

Sydney Robinson, owner of Pretty Little Earrings, decided to start a business selling earrings and, with her mom's help, sold out at her very first market in Waterloo, "there were people going through the bins as we were packing up," says Robinson's mom, Heather Robinson.

Robinson wanted to start her own business with her birthday money, says Mom and because she only had thirty dollars, she needed to start a tab with her parents. Robinson said, "I had \$30, and the supplies I needed were \$60, so I knew I needed \$30 extra from my mom to start my business."

The young entrepreneur started selling the handmade earrings on Facebook Marketplace, where she regularly sells out, and was recently picked up by The Peach Basket and Co. at the Stratford Mall to showcase some of her earrings for the season.

Robinson will be at local community markets again in October and then again at Christmas for the holidays, but until then, her mom notes it's hard to keep up with the online demand, "We will start an Instagram account in the future, but for now, she's selling out just on Marketplace and at local markets."

Robinson's mom said that she didn't expect how fast the small business would grow, "We had to open up a bank account for her. She's slowly been paying me back; I take care of the overhead, and then she slowly pays me back. She's already made thousands," she joked.

Robinson tries to cater to everyone with rainbow earrings, farm animals and ones for specific careers, such as stethoscopes for nurses and doctors and teeth for dentists and dental hygienists. She truly has a pair of earrings for everyone. "My customers really love them," she said.

Although her earring business is thriving, Robinson has other plans when she grows up. She's looking at a career as a vet or paramedic, "I just want to help people," she says.

You can find a wide range of earrings at The Peach Basket and Co. at the Stratford Mall and periodically on Facebook Marketplace. Robinson says to keep an eye out for upcoming markets and check their online marketplace, where you can find a range of styles for everyone.



Sydney Robinson, owner of Pretty Little Earrings set up and ready to sell at the Sprucedale Public School Entrepreneurship Day in Shakespeare.

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COMMUNITY —

Aliya McNeil from Shakespeare receiving \$150,000 scholarship

By Gary West

There is a young lady from Shakespeare that has recently been contacted and awarded a scholarship for \$150,000 from the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship Fund.

Aliya McNeil said she couldn't be happier and the scholarship is a "dream come true." She says she has "always wanted to enter a helping profession" and she grew to "love research during her undergraduate degree."

Under the supervision of Dr. Christine Purdon, her research will examine the role of shame in the development and persistence of obsessive compulsive disorder, known as O.C.D.

She hopes that her research will help people understand that clinical presentations of O.C.D. are complex and variable. She says by improving the understanding of O.C.D., she inspires to make a positive difference in the lives of people living with this mental health condition.

Aliya McNeil has lived in Shakespeare, her whole life, attended Sprucedale Public School, Stratford Central Secondary School, and then the University of Waterloo (department of psychology) for her Bachelor of Science, Master of Arts, and now her PhD.

This summer, she completed her masters level practicum in a mental health care setting. She said this experience highlighted the "why",

behind her research, and saw many connections between that research and the lived experiences of people living with O.C.D. She said having the opportunity to complete research with clear and clinical implications was incredibly exciting.

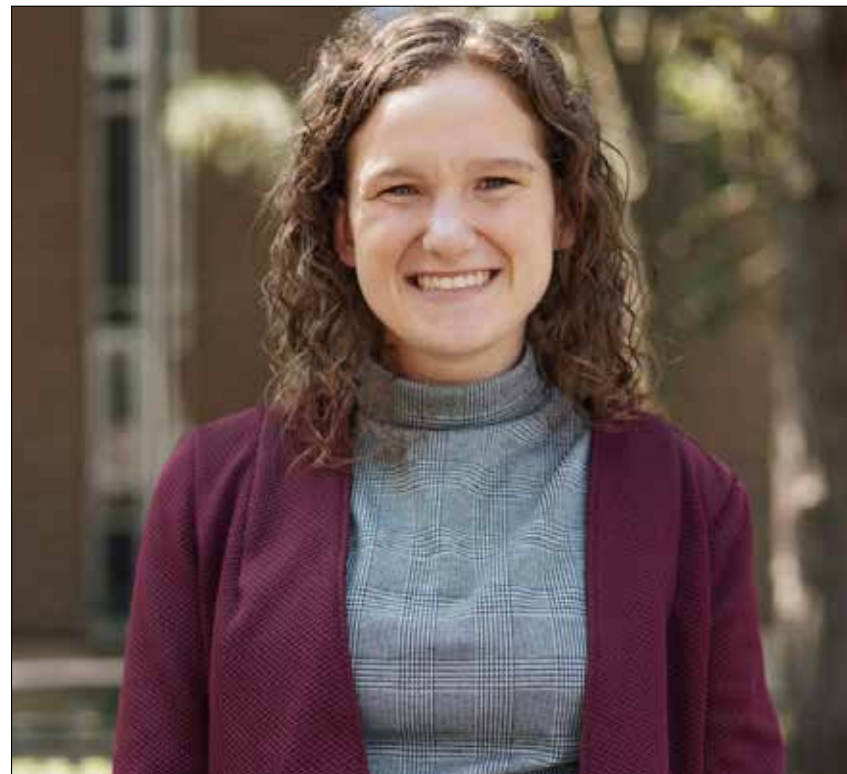
If you have ever met young Aliya McNeil, you will quickly understand a young research student with drive and goal driven, with a pleasant, outgoing personality, while being able to work closely with other people.

She has worked as the research co-ordinator for the anxiety studies lab, which is where she is now completing her PhD.

Her local work and volunteer experiences with Camp Alliwannado, Stratford-Perth Shelterlink, and the Stratford Girls Hockey Association, developed her leadership skills, and at the same time, confirmed her desire to work in the field of child and youth mental health.

Outside of school, she enjoyed playing hockey, going on family hikes, and rock climbing with friends.

Aliya is the daughter of Mike and Cheryl McNeil and granddaughter of Jean Herman and the late Neil Herman along with the late Gil and Ruth McNeil. They were and are all upstanding citizens dedicated to making a better and caring life for everyone in their respective communities, just as Aliya says she "hopes to also be in the future."



Shakespeare's Aliya McNeil, smiling and excited upon receiving notice of a \$150,000 graduate scholarship in her name, for her future research in Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (O.C.D.).

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COMMUNITY —

Brian Anderson of Tavistock wins 4H Award



4-H Arbour Award winner Brian Anderson thanking the Perth County 4-H Leaders Association for all their support and encouragement over the years.



Planting an oak tree at the front of the Historical Stratford Fairgrounds are, left to right, Wendy and Brian Anderson, Laurie Farquharson (4-H Ontario President), MP John Nater, Melinda Scott (volunteer support for Region 5 & 6), Erica Murray, 4-H council director.

By Gary West

This is a story about a South Easthope dairy farmer who grew up on a farm at RR#2 Tavistock, and continues dairy farming with his family on Line 29 between Tavistock and Stratford to this day.

He has become one of 4-H Ontario's highest recognized volunteer leaders through the Perth County 4-H Association.

Brian Anderson, was presented on the weekend with 4-H Ontario's prestigious Arbour Award, with a tree planting ceremony behind the historical front gates off

Churchill circle in Stratford.

He felt it was appropriate to have the tree planted there since the former fairgrounds is the location where his 4-H career began as a dairy club 4-H member decades ago.

In congratulating Brian, Ontario 4-H Council President Laurie Farquharson from Middlesex County, related that "he is now part of the 4-H Alumni, who has been a 4-H volunteer in the Perth 4-H Association for over 30 years, while leading over 40 clubs during his tenure."

She also credited Anderson "for doing an

excellent job in leadership, by encouraging youth to be the best they can be, whether they had a tough day in the show ring, or stepping out of their comfort zone at a 4H meeting".

The President also recognized how Brian donates his time beyond 4-H, serving on the Stratford and District Agriculture Society Board of Directors for more than 20 years (this year, its President) in addition to other community groups and boards. Fellow volunteers noted that Brian is always a phone call away for advice and support, and has inspired many youth to

pursue careers in agriculture.

In accepting the award, Anderson said, "his family has been in Perth County for several generations, and have always taken pride in their Scottish heritage."

The Anderson "Clan Crest" features an Oak tree, and the motto "Stand Sure."

An oak tree seemed the obvious choice for this occasion, and this Red Oak was chosen because it is a species that is native to Ontario.

He hopes it inspires and brings enjoyment to all, in the years to come.

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COMMUNITY —

Shout out to the village of Morningside Terry Fox walkers



32 slim and trim walkers and two puppies set on their way on a 2.5 kilometre walk in the village of Morningside complex as they did their part to battle cancer. Their Terry Fox walk was held on September 17th, earning \$6,455 from the participant's sponsors. The group organizer is a Citizen of the Year recipient and New Hamburg Legion president Ross Eichler. He told us that the group started in 2016 with six walkers, and today, they are now 32 strong and have collected over \$30,000 since that time. All proceeds go to the Terry Fox Foundation and cancer research. Well done Ross and crew!



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COMMUNITY —

Record crowds at the ABC Festival



This booth, run by the Wellesley Lions Club, offers sausage on a bun, as well as schnitzel on a bun, hot dog on a bun, fries, pop and water.

By Veronica Reiner

The weather cooperated for the 47th annual Apple Butter & Cheese Festival, which took place in Wellesley village on Saturday, September 30.

"Saturday was a great day. In my opinion, record crowds," said ABC Festival Committee Chair Jamie Reid. He added that the total amount raised has not been

determined yet.

The day included a pancake and sausage breakfast at 7 a.m., along with a street mall format on Queens Bush Road. On offer were apple fritters, Anna Mae's apple fritter donuts, caramel apples, pickle on a stick, sausage bun, and schnitzel on a bun.

There was also a vendor market and a craft market, both in and around the Wellesley



A clogging demonstration on Queen's Bush Road during the early afternoon on festival day, September 30.

community centre.

An antique car parade went through Henry Street to Catherine Street, around the arena and the community centre parking lot, down Maple Leaf Street and then up Nafziger Road to Henry Street.

A horse shoe tournament took place beside the area, and a craft hard cider sampling event took place in the arena.

Buses took visitors to Hogendoorn Dairy Farm in Baden for a tour.

Entertainment was provided by Erick Traplin, Kyle Geraghty, Allister Bradley, The Chord Spinners, Jampree, Kiki Heard, and Turning Corners.

Clogging and Taekwondo demonstrations took place on Queen's Bush Road.



The Turning Corners band played on a stage behind the community centre throughout festival day.



Clark, right, pets Stella the corgi, left, on festival day. It was Clark's and his mother's first time at the ABC Festival.



Local musician Allister Bradley performs on the main stage on Queen's Bush Road. (Photos by Veronica Reiner)



Rosalind Wagler shows off the Toronto Maple Leafs themed syrup bottle at her Wagler Maple Products booth on Queen's Bush Road.

COMMUNITY —

Tree Planting in Baden Hills



Many volunteers wore orange shirts to acknowledge Truth and Reconciliation Day at the Baden Hills tree planting on September 30.

By Marlene Knezevich

Baden Hills was the scene of another great day of tree planting by Let's Tree Wilmot volunteers. By planting trees, our intention is to help restore the land with native tree cover and prairie. We acknowledged the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation by tying orange ribbons on the trees/stakes we planted. LTW plants and cares for the trees for future generations. We honour the land in our time to help in healing the seven generations to come.

Baden Hills is a unique project. The forest is Waterloo Region property, and the parking lot is Wilmot Township's property, along with trail maintenance responsibility. Our planning meetings include Wilmot Township, Region of Waterloo, Phil Holst, project head of Mike Schout Wetlands Preserve, Clarence Cachagee of Crow

Shield Lodge, and Let's Tree Wilmot.

The room vibrates with passionate energy when discussing plans. LTW is planting trees and shrubs. The Region is working with Phil to create a pollinator prairie in the areas that you see tilled now. In the future, there will be a natural amphitheatre created to be used by the public, Crow Shield Lodge and others. We will ensure that cedars, a sacred tree, will be planted in accordance with Indigenous teachings.

Baden Hills (Gibney Regional Forest) on Sandhills Road is one of some of the largest kames formed by retreating glaciers in Southern Ontario. In high school geography, I remember them being called drumlins, but apparently, they are slightly different. The soil is predominantly coarse, with outwash sands and sandy loams. We are planting many species of native trees and shrubs amongst the rows of existing



A booth offering refreshments at the Let's Tree Wilmot Baden Hills tree planting.

walnuts and oaks that were part of an experimental agroforestry site. We can plant understory species because existing trees offer shade for pagoda dogwood, redbud, red elderberry, bladdernut, fragrant sumac, and hop tree, for example. Most of our other projects have no existing tree cover. Some of the tree species we are planting are Carolinian Forest species, which grow south of Wilmot, but with climate change, the boundary of Carolinian forest will move north. Here is the partial list: American Elm (resistant), catalpa, Kentucky coffee tree, red cedar (juniper), hickory, hackberry, white pine, white spruce, and aspen.

Volunteers who plant are young and old. They come as singles, couples and families. They come from outside of Wilmot, seeing our Eventbrite listing, looking for experiences related to the environment. High school students come to complete

volunteer hours, and Scouts, their badge requirements. We have a core group who comes out regularly. Planting days are fun times, rain or shine. We have two more days of planting this fall. On Saturday, October 14th, we return to Baden Hills. Saturday October the 28th, both morning and afternoon plantings will be on the township property on the northwest corner of Foundry and Gingerich Roads. This field of non-native grass alongside a stream will become a small wood. In the future, a trail will be created along Foundry Road.

To learn more about Let's Tree Wilmot and register for tree planting, go to letstree-wilmot.ca. There are also resources about where, how and why to plant trees. Check out our YouTube channel. Come plant with us. We have many other volunteer opportunities in planning, maintenance, education and promotion committees.



The weather held up for the tree planting at Baden Hills.



Orange ribbons were tied to the trees/stakes planted in Baden Hills on September 30.

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FAMILY MILESTONES —

OBITUARY

BRODRECHT: Charlotte



Charlotte Margaret passed away peacefully on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at her residence, PeopleCare, Tavistock in her 94th year.

Loving partner of Ollie Luckhart who predeceased her November 8, 2007 and remembered by his family Debbie Luckhart and her children Nicole & Justin

Hanson (Ella and Ava) and Kyle Lambertz (Keaton and Bennett) and Donna (Terry) Romashyna and her daughter Allie & Aaron Kubasek (Isla, Olivia and Emry). Charlotte is survived by her sister-in-law Marie Brodrecht of Tavistock and by her many nieces and nephews. She will also be remembered by the extended Luckhart family.

Predeceased by her parents Henry & Florence (Weicker) Brodrecht, brothers Robert Brodrecht, Wilson & Carole Brodrecht and Walter & Betty Brodrecht, by niece Debbie Gerber, nephew Doug Brodrecht and great nephew Darren Young.

Charlotte was the longtime organist at St. Matthews Lutheran Church, East Zorra.

Relatives and friends were received in the Francis Funeral Home, 77 Woodstock St. N. Tavistock on Friday from 6-8pm. Funeral Service was conducted from St. Matthews Lutheran Church, East Zorra on Saturday, September 30, 2023 at 11:00am. Interment followed in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the St. Matthews Lutheran Church, East Zorra would be appreciated by the family. Personal condolences can be posted at www.gffh.ca

HARTMAN

The Hartman Family is grateful to all who showed their support and caring through this difficult time. Till had the ability to touch many lives and we deeply felt the support from family, friends, neighbours and community. Thank you to the Trinity Lutheran Ladies for the lovely luncheon and to the Men's Club for accomendating our friends and family. Thank you to Peter Francis of Francis Funeral Home for your caring expertise and guidance. Our hearts are filled with the support and care you all have offered. With gratitude, the Hartman Family.

THANK YOU

The family of Charlotte Brodrecht would like to say a big thank you to the peopleCare Tavistock for their love and compassionate support they gave to Charlotte for these past 8 years. You became her family throughout COVID and we are so grateful. Also a thank you to Dr. Barbara Cowing. Thank you to Jeff Glendenning and Francis Funeral Home for their compassion and professionalism. Thank you to St. Matthews Lutheran Church ladies for your act of service.

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COMMUNITY —

OBITUARY

STEINMANN: Ervin Nelson



Passed away peacefully at Nithview Home, New Hamburg, Ontario, on September 28, 2023. He had recently celebrated 72 years of marriage to Erma (Leis) Steinmann.

Ervin lived just a few kilometres away from his family's farm in Wilmot Township, where he was born on January 7, 1930. One of nine children of Abraham and Mary (Roth) Steinmann, he was a life-long member and active participant in Steinmann Mennonite Church. Ervin's deep Christian faith, and his love of learning, drove him to contribute to his congregation, grow his business ethically, and give back to the local and global community.

Throughout his career and into retirement, Ervin gave of his experience by serving on the boards of Tri-County Mennonite Homes; Mennonite Savings and Credit Union (now Kindred Credit Union); Interfaith Counselling; Habitat for Humanity; Mennonite Foundation of Canada (now Abundance Canada); Mennonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA); and Conrad Grebel College (now Conrad Grebel University College). He and Erma travelled widely to meetings and conventions of these institutions, forging life-long friendships with many they met there.

Ervin retired in 1999 as president of Riverside Brass and Aluminum Foundry, a business he co-founded in 1966 and developed into a major employer in New Hamburg. He was a hands-on leader, doing everything from negotiating raw material purchases, to running network cable for the computer systems, to devising ingenious on-the-spot repairs and creating tools for the production line. He ran the company with great respect for people: sharing profits with employees, dealing honestly with customers and suppliers, and sponsoring community initiatives.

For over two decades, Ervin and Erma spent much of the winter at their favourite Florida vacation spot, overlooking the beach at Siesta Key. They enjoyed sharing their warm hospitality with friends and family both in Florida and at their home in New Hamburg. Ervin and Erma also travelled throughout Canada, the United States, Central and South America, and including trips to Europe and Asia. In retirement, Ervin rediscovered a favourite car of his youth, purchasing a 1953 Kaiser Manhattan in 2000 – the same model he had owned in the 1950s – and driving it to classic car shows in Ontario and beyond.

Ervin is lovingly remembered by his wife, Erma, and their children, Susan Seyler (David Seyler), Nancy Steinmann Yantzi (Lynn Yantzi), and Doug Steinmann (Lynne Baril), all of New Hamburg. He was an accomplished Grandpa to James, John, Rachel, Stephen, Andrew, Justin, Michelle, Stephanie, Kory, Trevor, Curtis, and their spouses and partners; and a proud Great-Grandpa of Noah, Rebecca, Lillian, Connor, Leah, Michael, Evelyn, Jonathan, Zach, Logan, Lucas, Peyton, Brooklyn, Ethan, and Addison.

Ervin is also survived by his sister, Irene Bender; his brother, David Steinmann and his wife Ruth; his sister-in-law Arvilla Leis; and many nieces and nephews, cousins, and extended family members who took their chances playing cards against Ervin in a competitive game of Rook, or hoped to beat him to the potluck table for the last piece of elderberry pie.

He was predeceased by his siblings and their spouses: Mabel (Reuben Kennel); Reuben; Walter (Leona); Dorothy (Willard Schwartzentruber); Arthur (Florence); and Ruth (Ross Bender); and by his brothers- and sisters-in-law: Ervin Bender; Catherine Bartman; Vernon Leis; Florence and Harold McFarlane; and Ralph and Jeanne Leis.

Cremation has taken place. Friends and relatives are invited to visit with the family at Steinmann Mennonite Church, 1316 Snyder's Road West, Baden, on Sunday, October 15, 2023, from 2 – 4 p.m. and 6 – 8 p.m.; and to attend the memorial service at the church (also live-streamed) on Monday, October 16 at 2 p.m. Interment will follow in the adjoining cemetery, after which all are welcome to join in a time of fellowship at the church.

As expressions of sympathy, and in lieu of flowers, donations would be appreciated to Mennonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA), to Steinmann Mennonite Church, or to a charity of your choice.

In hope, we share this quote from Ervin in 2019:

"I don't know what's going to happen in the next 50 years. I don't know what's going to happen in the next 100 years. I think it's going to be more change than we experienced, but am I optimistic or pessimistic? I'm optimistic – incredibly optimistic."

Baden speed camera vandalized



Vandalism on the speed camera as of September 25. (Photo credit: Josh Goeree/CityNews)

By Veronica Reiner

The speed camera in Baden was found vandalized on September 23, with orange spray paint covering the sensor.

The camera covers the school zone in front of Sir Adam Beck Public School and Waterloo Oxford District Secondary School. At about 12:30 a.m., the Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) responded to a report of property damage on Snyders Road West in Wilmot Township.

"As a result of the investigation, two youths were arrested and diverted through the

pre-charge diversion program," said WRPS spokesperson Bradley Hickey.

This comes about two weeks after the pole on the speed camera was found with a straight cut through it. That incident occurred on Friday, September 8.

In June, the Region of Waterloo agreed to a plan implementing new speed cameras for all schools in the area.

The Snyder's Road speed limit is normally 60 kilometres an hour (km/h), and drops down to 40 km/h in school zones between September and June from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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This fall, students in Professor McLeman's Intro to Sustainability course at Wilfrid Laurier University will be generating ideas for projects that enhance the environmental, social and economic sustainability of New Dundee.

If you live in New Dundee, the students would love to hear your views on the community and its future. Please participate in an online survey, using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/New-Dundee-survey> or by pointing your cellphone camera at the QR code below.

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COMMUNITY —

29th annual Poor Boys Luncheon serves over 600 plates



There were more than 600 plates of food served at the Poor Boys Luncheon, hosted by the Wilmot Family Resource Centre, on Thursday, September 28. (Photo credit: Sharon Leis)

By Veronica Reiner

The 29th annual Poor Boys Luncheon, hosted by the Wilmot Family Resource Centre (WFRC), was a success this year, serving more than 600 plates of food.

There were more than 35 community volunteers supporting the event, as well as 75 event sponsors. The event took place at the New Hamburg Community Centre at 251 Jacob Street in New Hamburg on Thursday, September 28.

"It's a time where people come and sit together, break bread, it's just a really nice community event," explained WFRC Executive Director Trisha Robinson. The whole hall was filled for lunch and dinner."

There were two sittings - one from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and another from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Wieners and beans were served.

"It feels like COVID put a damper on things, and this year, it really felt like we were back to normal," said Robinson. "People were so appreciative of the luncheon - in previous years, we couldn't do it. I think people in general are just more grateful for the time they can spend with others regardless of what the event is."

The cost of the event was \$10 for a single ticket or \$35 for a family of four. Cash or cheque only was accepted, and tickets were available at the door or at the Wilmot Family Resource Centre office.

The final numbers raised have yet to be tallied. When asked how the numbers compared with previous years, Robinson said, "The numbers are pretty steady. I think it was about the same, maybe a little bit more."

The proceeds go toward the work that the WFRC does. The WFRC is a charitable, multi-service organization, offering a wide variety of programs and services, including EarlyON, Employment Services, Family Violence Prevention, Food Support, Parenting and Family Support, Summer Programs, Early Life, Children & Youth Programming.

Robinson added that the WFRC collected feedback from attendees through a survey.

"I personally got some feedback from people who said that we need to do this more than once a year," she said. "We're going to talk about how we can maybe get the community together again."

She thanked the community for coming together and supporting the work of the WFRC. The event was also made possible with the help of the many dedicated volunteers.

"We couldn't do it without volunteer help. It's a long day - we started at about 7:30 a.m. and ended at around 9 p.m. Some volunteers came for prep, some came for lunch, some came for cleanup, and some came for dinner and cleanup again."



The event took place at the New Hamburg Community Centre and included a wiener and bean lunch and dinner. (Photo credit: Sharon Leis)

POLICE REPORTS

WRPS arrest Wilmot man after collision

The Waterloo Regional Police Service charged a Wilmot man with impaired driving after responding to a collision in Wilmot Township on September 28.

At about 8 p.m., police responded to a report of a single motor vehicle collision in the area of Erbs Road and Sandhills Road. No injuries were reported.

A 22-year-old Wilmot man was arrested and charged with "operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs," "operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration," and "dangerous operation."

The accused's vehicle was impounded for seven days, and his license was suspended for 30 days. Erbs Road was closed in both directions, between Sandhills Road and Notre Dame Drive, for utility repairs.

If you suspect an impaired driver or witness driving behaviour that puts others at risk, please dial 911.

WRPS officer charged as a result of SIU investigation

A two year member of the Waterloo Regional Police Service has been charged by the Special Investigations Unit with one count of "dangerous drive."

The charge is in relation to an off-duty incident that occurred on January 17 in Brantford.

"As required by law, no further information can be provided by the Waterloo Regional Police Service at this time," said the WRPS in a release.

COMMUNITY —

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Weekly Quiz

- 1) In what year was the flip phone invented?
- 2) The bassoon belongs to which instrument family?
- 3) True or False. The color red is made up of shorter wavelengths than blue.
- 4) What is the largest island in the world by area?
- 5) How many gold medals does Michael Phelps have?
- 6) What country is the biggest polluter?
- 7) Who wrote "The Great Gatsby"?
- 8) What is the most dangerous jellyfish?
- 9) The currency used in Israel is known as what?
- 10) What type of tree produces acorns?

Answers found on page 26

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

October 5: Happy birthday to Tessa Hazeleger (5), Averie Schultz (10), and Madison McNab (23), and anniversaries for Brett and Monica Schultz (38th), Scott and Erika Wettlaufer (27th), Barry and Julie Kalbfleisch (27th), and Adam and Lisa Heinbuch (10th).

October 6: Happy anniversary to Scott and Jodie Zehr (22nd).

October 7: Happy birthday to Tyler Richards (6), Jack Church (17), and Spencer Fung (18), and anniversary for Mike and Marg Sullivan (51st).

October 8: Happy birthday to Sydney Wagler (15) and Derek Hyde (15), and anniversaries for Ryan and Nicole Ropp (18th) and Percy and Jennifer Ehnes.

October 9: Happy birthday to Audrey Weston in New Brunswick.

October 10: Happy birthday to Michael Ropp (20) and anniversary for Bill and Carol Matthies of Caledonia.

October 11: Happy birthday to Graham Faddies (15) and Lauren Ruby, and anniversary for Paul and Janet Heinbuch (48th).

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 Stewart Grant

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

October 3-10, 2018 Edition (5 years ago)

Ruby's Caboose has left the station. A fixture on the property of Bob and Joan Rudy since the fall of 1975, the caboose has been sold and moved to a property near Gravenhurst.

The Hickson Lions Club dedication ceremony for their new Parkette site on Loveys Street was held on Saturday, September 29th. The Parkette includes a shelter, picnic table, garbage can, trees and a bench. Lighting is solar powered and the sign encourages people to "Sit, Relax and Enjoy!"

The Tavistock Royals celebrated with the Oxford Cup after defeating the Tillsonburg Thunder 8-4 in a total goals series this past weekend.

October 1-8, 2008 Edition (15 years ago)

The Mighty Mites of the Tavistock Athletics Minor Ball organization have achieved another championship to com-

plete their 2008 season. After winning the Perth League championship, the team captured the WOAA 'B' Championship. The team is comprised of Ben Smith, Gibby Lamond, Logan Bell, Kirkland Ramseyer, Aiden Wilhelm, Sam Bauman, Jay Schurink, Mitch McKay, Spencer Roth, Jack Holdsworth, and Josh Bender.

Principal Mrs. Nora Polychronopoulos has taken over as head of Tavistock Public School for the 2008-09 school year.

"Bears Am I" at 2212 Line 34, Shakespeare is having a closing sale after a great 9 1/2 years in business.

September 30-October 7, 1998 Edition (25 years ago)

Hickson Central School students raised over \$6,600 in the Terry Fox Run as they ran for Grade 7 student Sarah King who has been fighting cancer.

This summer, the family of Kathy McCutchen hosted a young girl from Zhlobin, Belarus. Natallia Pashkouskaya, 9 years old, was one of ten children to arrive through the St. Marys Children of Chernobyl Programme. This project was initiated several years ago in an effort to allow as many children as possible, between the ages of 8 and 12, to leave

those areas most heavily affected by this nuclear accident.

Don Ahrens of Tavistock clinched the Smith Performance Series Super Stock Championship title in drag racing on Sunday at London Motorsports Park in Sparta.

October 3-10, 1973 Edition (50 years ago)

Village clerk Walter Schaefer was advised last week of the decision of Ontario Housing Corporation of Woodstock for the construction of 17 more Senior Citizens' Units in Tavistock. The units will be located on the large lot on Maria Street where there are already 10 units.

Coach John Yausie and captain Gary Yantzi were all smiles when they brought home the trophy for the All Ontario Junior "C" Championship after winning the final game in Domville on Sunday afternoon.

At a special meeting of the Council of the Village of Tavistock on September 27th, it was resolved that the Village concur with the recommendations of the Study Committee and amalgamate with the Township of East Zorra, part of North Oxford, and be known as Ward 1 and 2.

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COMMUNITY —

Shakespeare's Firefighters annual boot drive raises hundreds for muscular dystrophy



Shakespeare Fire Captain (for 33 years) Barb Myers, along with Station Chief Greg Ankenmann (8.5 years as chief), appreciated all the support for muscular dystrophy they received for their annual boot drive.



Shakespeare Firefighters, left, Matt Neumeister and right, Zack Lindner, collecting hundreds of dollars in Shakespeare in late September, for their annual Muscular Dystrophy Boot Drive.

By Gary West

Firefighters in the area have long supported the fight against muscular dystrophy through area Boot Drives.

On a sunny Saturday morning in late September, members of the Shakespeare Firefighters Association, with boots in hand, thanked the hundreds of passing

motorists at the village's intersection of 7&8 Highway.

Station Chief Greg Ankenmann, said motorists offered loose change and many 10s

and 20s along with many \$50 bills, in appreciation the work the firefighters do, for a great cause, in finding a cure for M.D.

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COMMUNITY —

Decisions made at September 27 Region of Waterloo council meeting

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

The following are decisions made from a Region of Waterloo council meeting that took place on Wednesday, September 27.

Region declares intimate partner violence and violence against women an epidemic

The region is joining other municipalities, declaring that intimate partner violence and violence against women is an epidemic. The Region will call on the province to follow suit and will support the inclusion of intimate partner violence as a priority of a community safety and wellbeing plan. The declaration aligns with a recommendation from the inquest into the murders of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam in 2015.

Council approves investment plan for new affordable housing funding

Council approved an investment plan for \$15.6 million in federal and provincial

funding through the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) and the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI). The region's investment plan for COCHI and OPHI funding in 2024 and 2025, which is subject to provincial approval, will focus on:

Creating more affordable and community housing for those experiencing homelessness, and those who face increased barriers to securing and maintaining housing;

Retaining and maintaining current affordable housing, including preventing disrepair and conversions into higher-cost housing;

Developing a broader range of housing options to accommodate continued growth, changing demographics, and diverse housing needs; and

Expanding support for people to find and secure housing. Despite the ongoing success of current programs, there are many

people seeking support and are challenges in meeting the need.

Council expedites paramedic services budget to meet growing demand

Council has approved more staff and resources for paramedic services, ahead of the region's 2024 budget process in order to meet the growing demand for emergency response services. This will help maintain response times and the availability of paramedics as the population and call volumes grow. The 2024 budget also includes funding for a mental health strategy to curb staff absences from exposure to traumatic events. The strategy will ensure paramedics receive preventative and real-time support to mitigate the impact on their mental health.

Council approves plan to reduce parking infraction backlog

Council has approved a staff recommendation to have the local municipalities

manage parking infractions that happen on regional roads. Processing these infractions through the municipal administrative system already used for city-owned roads creates a more efficient approach and reduces congestion in the courts. The change also enables a more local and accessible dispute resolution system.

Local processing centre to support expansion of automated speed enforcement

The Region will establish a processing centre to issue automated speed enforcement infractions to support the expansion of the program to all school zones by the end of 2028. The centre, approved by council, would accommodate the anticipated increase in projected charges and the need for additional capacity. The region said automated speed enforcement program have reduced driver speeds by an average of 63 per cent.

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COMMUNITY —

WRDSB offering Lunch and Learn sessions for parents, caregivers and family members

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

The Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) is offering Lunch and Learn sessions for parents, caregivers and family members. This is part of the organization's efforts to support the community. The webinars are scheduled over the lunch hour on Wednesdays, and aim to equip parents with useful tips and information to help them support their child.

All Zoom links are available on the WRDSB website. Here is the session schedule:

How to Support Your Teen's Mental Health and Well-Being During the Transition to High School

When: October 4, from 12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Meeting ID: 544 193 0058

Password: WRDSB

Development of Self-Regulation and Co-Regulation of Emotions

When: October 11, from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m.

Meeting ID: 544 193 0058

Password: WRDSB

When Your Child Doesn't Want to Go to School

When: October 18, from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m.

Meeting ID: 544 193 0058

Password: WRDSB

Anxiety in Children and Teens

When: October 25, from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m.

Meeting ID: 544 193 0058

Password: WRDSB

PD Day tomorrow for WRDSB schools

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

Tomorrow (Friday, October 6) will be a professional development (PD) day for elementary and secondary school staff under the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB).

Students will not attend school, in person or virtually. All board operated extended day and youth development programs will be closed.

PD days are held throughout the school year to provide learning opportunities for school based staff. The professional learning focuses on providing staff with the knowledge and skills needed to support student achievement and well-being.

Elementary staff are learning:

Focus:

Structured literacy

Unpacking the curriculum and curriculum implementation

School Learning and Improvement Plans

Formats: Online and In-Person

Learning delivery methods:

Live Stream video

Asynchronous video or slide deck

Workshop

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Waterloo Region District School Board

Schools Participating: All Elementary schools

Content of Staff Learning

Introduction to Acadience Early Reading Screener (Live Stream)

The What

The Why and the How

Unpacking the Language Curriculum with Emphasis on Strand B (Live Stream)

An overview of the multi-year plan and structured literacy approach (Live Stream)

Acadience Early Reading Screener (Year 2 Kindergarten)

Asynchronous learning opportunities (videos and/or slide decks) for specialized subjects like: French, Math, SciTech,

Physical Education, changes in social studies:

Holocaust Education expectations in Grade 6 and Indigenous Education expectations in Grades 1-3.

Secondary staff are learning:

Focus:

De-streaming

School Learning and Improvement Plans

Experiential Learning

Format: In-person and Online

Learning delivery methods:

Small team meetings

Whole staff sessions

Shared and customizable slide decks

Experiential learning with the Business Education Partnership

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Waterloo Region District School Board, Business Education Partnership

Schools Participating: All Secondary schools

Content of Staff Learning

School Learning and Improvement Plan connected learning

De-streaming with a focus on Tier 1 supports for students

Universal Design for Learning, Differentiation, Literacy Development

Trades-based Professional Development for guidance counselors offered by the Business Education Partnership in concert with Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada and Conestoga College

Perth County launches new road map

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

The Perth County's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Team launched a Perth County Road Map. This new map features the county, local municipal, and provincial road networks, along with locations of important community infrastructure such as hospitals, municipal offices, libraries and more.

"These maps are a great tool for the public and for staff at each municipality across the county," said Warden Rhonda Ehgoetz. "County council is pleased that these new maps will now be able to be handed out free of charge. They will be an excellent resource for the community."

This summer, county council amended the fees and charges bylaw to remove the \$5 fee that used to be charged for similar maps in the past.

"The GIS team is proud to launch an updated version of this popular map," said Gary White, GIS coordinator. "Maps are an important tool for understanding the geography of the region and our department regularly receives lots of requests for maps like this."

Perth County's GIS Team maintains critical datasets for the county and lower tier municipalities, including Perth East, North Perth, Perth South, and West Perth. This road map is a representation of the road network and geographic features of the county.

Copies of the new Perth County Road Map are available to pick up free of charge at local municipal and other locations across the county:

Perth County Courthouse: 1 Huron Street, Stratford

Municipality of North Perth: 330 Wallace Avenue North, Listowel

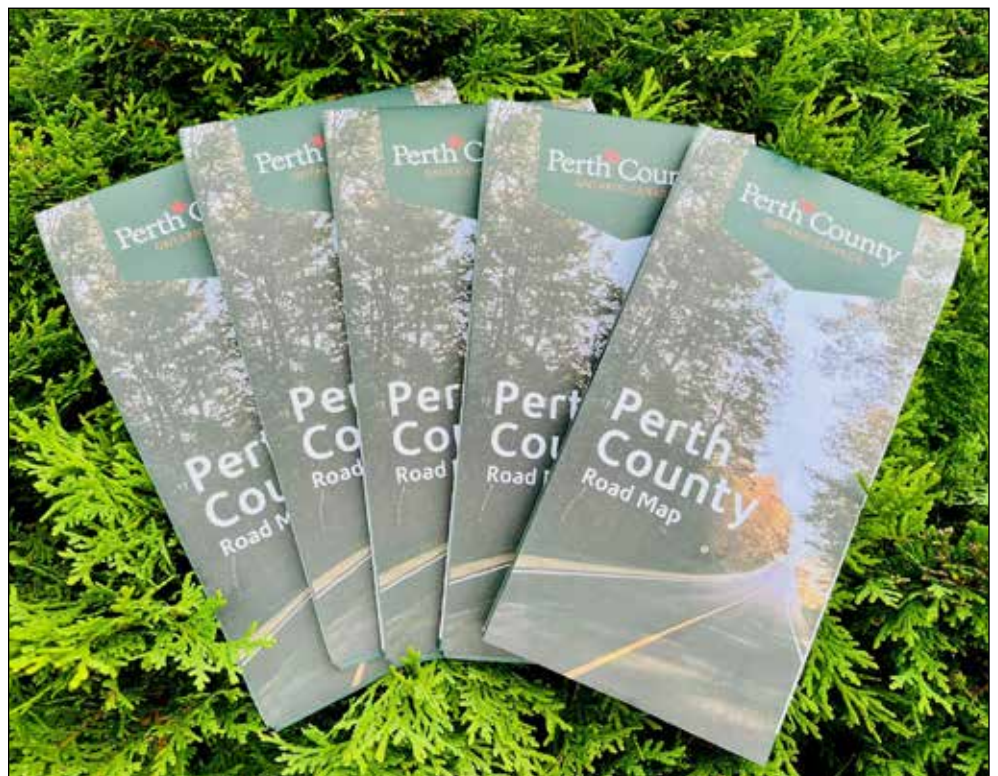
Township of Perth South: 3191 Road 122, St. Pauls

Township of Perth East: 25 Mill Street East, Milverton

Municipality of West Perth: 160 Wellington Street, Mitchell

Stratford-Perth Archives: 4273 Line 34, Stratford

The county last produced a road map in 2013.



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SPORTS —

PJHL ROUNDUP: Applejacks in tough defending Schmaltz Cup

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Wellesley Applejacks are fully aware of how difficult it will be to repeat their Schmaltz Cup title from last season, but that doesn't mean they didn't work hard to assemble a quality lineup for the 2023-24 season.

Director of Hockey Operations and Head Coach Brock Gerber has six forwards, two defencemen and a goalie returning. "We were also able to plug some holes with some guys from Junior B. We've brought in three forwards and two defencemen, and the rest of the newcomers are young guys to get their careers started here." The players with B experience are New Dundee's Kiam Harron (Listowel Cyclones), Liam Wadel and Embro's Isaac Westlake (Cambridge Redhawks), Logan Crans (Elmira Sugar Kings), and Roenick Jackielaszek from the Central Canada Hockey League (Brockville Tikis).

Among the veterans back are Isiah Katsube and Carson Wicke, both of whom played key roles in the Applejacks title run. "Those two over-agers are back up front along with Curtis Butler, a Wellesley boy. Curtis is a great two-way player, and you won't find a better one in the league,

in my opinion. On the back end, the last over-ager is Owen O'Donnell. Having those guys in the room, they know what is expected, and we can set the tone, play our style of hockey, and get everybody settled in."

A big part of Wellesley's success last season was their physicality, something Gerber said may not be quite as notable with this team. "I don't know if we're going to be quite as physical. When we move into the new rink, we are going to have to have a team that skates. That being said, last year we did win on an Olympic ice surface (in Woodstock), so it proved that the big boys we did have could skate and compete at that level." Gerber added he wants his players to form a blue-collar team, which means finishing checks and playing in-your-face hockey. "That's the way you have to be. It has been shown in the past in this league that it works. We aren't going to stray too far from that."

Despite sitting with a .500 record through four games, Gerber said overall, he's satisfied with how his guys are playing. "We had a couple of slow starts and obviously weren't ready for New Hamburg the first week. They came out flying, and they have a good hockey team. We need to keep

practicing and working on our D-zone. We're alright. We'll get there." He added the Doherty division will be tight again this season, and no one can take a night off, as is always the case.

Roenick Jakieleszik gave the Applejacks a 1-0 lead in Woodstock on Friday night, but the undefeated Navy Vets would score the next four goals before Rowan Aljoe's first of the season cut the lead to 4-2. Woodstock led 5-2 after two periods, then Isaac Westlake and Liam Waddel added third period markers for Wellesley, but Woodstock held on for a 5-4 victory. The Applejacks went 3 for 5 on the powerplay.

The Applejacks bounced back in St. Clements on Saturday, downing the Paris Titans 3-2. Carson Wicke and Logan Crans gave Wellesley a 2-0 lead by the 2:30 mark of the second period. Westlake added the third Applejacks goal between two markers by the Titans, who outshot the home team 45 to 33. Former Hespeler Shamrock Tyson Gustaw earned the win between the pipes.

Braves split weekend games, Firebirds sweep

Tavistock started the weekend off with a 5-3 win in Norwich but dropped a 4-2 decision to New Hamburg at home Saturday. Ian Glendinning scored the game's first two goals in the opening frame before the Merchants made it a 2-1 game late in the first. Jacob Roach's third of the season with 11 seconds remaining restored a two-goal lead. The teams traded the next four goals of the game, with Carter Arsenault and Ryan Suljack scoring their first of the year for the Braves.

The Firebirds jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first period, with both goals coming from Tyler Reid, who added an assist on Antonio Pasqualino's marker in the second to make it 3-0. The Braves scored at the 7:28 mark of the third on Kaden Brame's first of the season, but Keegan Metcalfe third of the season sealed the win. Jacob Reid-Brant added scored the second goal for the Braves, his second of the campaign. Tavistock was outshot 36-21.

The Firebirds started their perfect weekend with a 5-1 win versus Hespeler after scoring the game's first five goals from five different skaters. New Hamburg outshot their opponents 49-35.

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Agenda

9 - 9:15 am	Opening Remarks
9:15 - 10:30 am	Guest Speakers
10:30 - 11 am	Stretch Break/Coffee/Vendors
11:00 - 11:20 am	SMART Exercises
11:20 am - 12:30 pm	Panel: Older Adult Services in Wilmot
12:30 - 1:15 pm	Complementary Lunch
1:15 - 1:30 pm	Door Prizes and Closing Remarks
1:30 - 2:00 pm	Vendors

You must register for this event

Please contact
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This event is hosted in partnership with the Older Adult Centres' Association of Ontario (OCAO) and sponsored by the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility.

SPORTS —

EZT denies senior hockey team's alcohol policy exemption ask

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Tavistock Royals request for an exemption has been denied by staff at East Zorra-Tavistock township, a move supported by members of council.

The township's recently approved alcohol policy means fans of the senior hockey club are no longer able to consume alcohol in the standing room area at the top of the tiered seating at the Tavistock and District Recreation Centre. Team President Kyle Wynette asked for the status quo to remain at a recent council meeting.

Staff came up with two temporary options for the team to consider, the first is to only license the upper hall where the current blueline club is situated until the end of October. The second is an exemption to have alcohol consumed in the tiered seating area of the arena until the end of October in addition to the hall. The capacity would be at 732 people which would require three bartenders, five floor monitors, and three licensed security guards. Township CAO Karen DePrest told members of council on Wednesday that the team is willing to accept the second option which will be in place until the end of the month when staff does more homework on a permanent solution and makes some edits to the policy. "When we turned over a rock, we found other rocks that need to be turned over," said DePrest. Councillors and staff spent about 20 minutes discussing different options and ideas including one from Deputy Mayor Brad Smith who asked



if the team could license part of the seating to reduce the burden of volunteers and staff needed to operate the serving of alcohol.

The township will continue to review the policy and will be providing suggestions for revisions with an update at the October 18 meeting in Innerkip.

The report presented to councillors said staff did not have an opportunity to conduct a site consultation with the township's insurer, Intact Insurance, nor was staff able to consult with the Township's Fire Prevention Officer, as he was unavailable. It is staff's intention to get advice from

both of these parties. In addition, staff will be contacting similar sized municipalities with alcohol policies and who have organizations serving alcohol in their arenas, to see how they are addressing these types of concerns. DePrest added they will be talking to other municipalities. "We can't fix this in a week and a half. There isn't time to make structural changes. Patience would be appreciated so we are giving you a short-term solution. We are going to talk to other arenas who are making it work." Fire Chief Scott Alexander was present at the meeting and said one of the challenges is the upper walkway wasn't designed as an area where booze would be served.

Mayor Phil Schaefer thanked staff for coming up with the two options for the Royals. "I think (it) is thinking outside the box. This is kind of a unique situation and we've got a unique solution albeit for a short period, but it will allow the Royals to do this. When we met with them in August, and it was mostly the playoff games that were going to be the issue (with high attendance)." He added he isn't a fan of licensing the tiered seating, "but it's clearly the option we have."

The Royals open the season this Saturday with a home game against the expansion Georgian Bay Applekings. Players from last year's championship team will get their rings at a ceremony in the blueline club following the game and a banner will be raised in the rafter. The puck drops at 7:30.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR - OCTOBER 2023

October 9th					
Blood Drive	Taking place at 12 p.m. in the Wellesley Community Centre at 1,000 Maple Leaf Street, Wellesley. Community Care Concepts invites you to join the organization for lunch and fellowship. Cost is \$14. Must register by October 6 by calling 519-664-1900 or toll free 1-855-664-1900.	yours at mcc.org/we-own-this-now . For additional information contact ecumenicalworking-group@gmail.com	October 16th	Line in Crosshill at 6:45 p.m. Also streamed on the Township of Wellesley YouTube page.	
Taking place at the Steinmann Mennonite Church at 1316 Snyder's Road West in New Hamburg. Booking times are available on www.blood.ca from around 3 p.m. until around 8 p.m.			Wilmot Council Meeting	October 18th	
October 11th	October 12th	October 14th	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.	East Zorra Tavistock Council Meeting	In-person council meeting taking place at 7 p.m. at 695566 17th Line in Innerkip.
Wilmot Centre Seniors Event	We Own This Now play	Tree Planting at Baden Sandhills Regional Forest	October 17th		
At 1 p.m., Wilmot Centre Seniors are offering a great program plus dessert. This month, Carrie Guse will be featured, a singer from Kitchener. The program lasts until about 2:30 p.m. No fee, just a free will offering to help with costs. Located at 2463 Bleams Road West in Petersburg. Those who need more information can call the office at 519-634-8687.	A play presented by Ted & Company TheatreWorks, is being performed at Steinmann Mennonite Church, 1316 Snyder Rd. W., Baden at 7:00 p.m. It is sponsored by the Mennonite Central Committee; the Wilmot Ecumenical Working Group on Indigenous/Settler Relationships; and local churches, businesses and individuals. It explores the impact of the Doctrine of Discovery, the legal framework that justified European acquisition of the Americas and the oppression of Indigenous peoples. Tickets are \$15 each (\$10 for students). Get	From 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 2733 Sandhills Road. Help create healthy and vibrant communities. Join Let's Tree Wilmot in planting trees. No experience is necessary, but advance registration is greatly appreciated. Instructions and refreshments will be provided. Go to www.letstreewilmot.ca for details and registration or eventbrite.ca/o/lets-tree-wilmot-34384003923 .	New Dundee Women's Institute Open House	October 28th	
October 11th		October 15th	Taking place at the New Dundee Community Centre from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (drop in). Enjoy a social time with like minded women. For over 125 years, the hosting organization is Women Interested, Inspired and Involved in building a better tomorrow. If you have any questions, call Nancy at 519-696-2608 or Emily at 519-696-2097.	Tree Planting - Corner of Gingerich RD & Foundry St., Baden	From 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. or 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Join Let's Tree Wilmot to plant trees at a well travelled intersection in Baden. Help grow a forest and increase Wilmot's Tree Canopy. No experience necessary, but advance registration is greatly appreciated. Instructions and refreshments will be provided. Go to letstreewilmot.ca for details and registration or eventbrite.ca/o/lets-tree-wilmot-34384003923 .
Community Dining Event for Seniors		Screaming Eagles Reunion	October 17th		
		Reunion of the Screaming Eagles hockey team, along with their friends and family members, at the New Hamburg Legion from around 1 p.m. until about 7 p.m.	Wellesley Council Meeting		
			Hybrid council meeting taking place at 4805 William Hastings		

COMMUNITY —

A local award winning mason repointing the historic North Easthope Presbyterian Church

By Gary West

A historic church in Perth County's North Easthope Township was getting a facelift last week. A local mason, who was educated in his early years at the North Easthope Public School (one mile north of the church), was hired to do the job.

Brandon Becker, who has been involved in masonry work for 13 years, had a sense of pride working on repointing the historic church, a short distance from the family farm he was raised on.

According to his grandfather, Arthur Horne, who was once the Reeve of North Easthope Township, seven generations of his family attended the "North East Hope" Presbyterian Church that he was working at restoring.

As he continued his work of repointing the brick on the front of the church, Brandon talked about some of the jobs he has done since he became a certified stone mason.

He stated that one of the most rewarding jobs he had worked on was restoring an old school house in New Hamburg. Others included restoration work on the Stratford City Hall, building custom stone houses and cottages, but there was one that stood out the most to him.

A few years ago, he said he built a 13' x 13' Fieldstone Fireplace, that he had hand split the field stone from an old



Brandon Becker, left, along with his apprentice Eric MacDonald, right, putting the final touches on repointing the North East Hope Presbyterian Church, northwest of Shakespeare.

barn foundation that his customers had taken down on their property.

With some help, they laid a single piece

of natural stone for the hearth, which measured over 14 feet long and weighed approximately 2,200 pounds.

It was a very unique and custom fireplace, a work of art that he was so proud of when finished.

He gives credit to one of his teachers from Northwestern Secondary School, Mark Roth, who helped him pursue an opportunity in masonry through the high school co-op program in grades 11 and 12.

Becker also gives credit to former Northwestern teacher and principal, Martin Ritsma, who is now the Mayor of Stratford, for being a huge advocate for student involvement in technical education and encouraged him to pursue his love of masonry.

To his credit, the young tradesman competed in Skills Ontario in 2016 and 2017 and placed first in both years. He then went on to compete in the Skills Canada competition in Moncton, New Brunswick in 2016, and finished sixth out of a large field of competitors.

In the same competition in 2017, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, he finished in fourth place.

The young mason, who is now recently married and living in Stratford, feels, "it was an honour and a privilege to finish where [he] did to represent his province and his country at such prestigious competitions" in a field that he "loves making a living doing."

Homeschoolers at Brocksden School learning how lessons were taught in the past

By Gary West

There have been many generations of area children who got their education at Brocksden school on what was formally known as the second concession of North Easthope Township, and is now known as Line 37 in Perth East, north west of Shakespeare.

Recently homeschooled classes, from grades 1 to 8 were held in the well-preserved classroom, kept the way it was since the last class was dismissed 56 years ago in 1967.

The teacher on this day was Mrs. Hutchison (Gloria). For the last 20 years, even in retirement, she continues to teach the many young groups when called upon to show area students how classes were taught in days gone by.

Last week the enthusiastic teacher, dressed as teachers did back when the school taught our fathers and mothers, grand fathers and grandmothers, great grandfathers and great grandmothers, and many generations before that, and

showed the student group of over 40 homeschoolers, how classes operated in educating generations from years gone by.

These homeschooled students who were from areas such as Tavistock, Stratford, Kitchener-Waterloo and Cambridge. They were also accompanied by a few parents, who sat and stood at the back of the classroom to also learn of the historical past.

It was interesting and nostalgic to hear Mrs. Hutchison open the morning exercises with singing of "God Save the King", then the "Pledge of Allegiance to Canada" and the repeating of the "Lord's Prayer" in unison.

The day was organized by Scott and Jessie Campbell, who farm on the next concession, also homeschool their children.

The couple felt the day was important for kids to learn how school classrooms were organized in the past, and how children learned in a classroom of 8 grades.



Mrs. Hutchison had a tentative audience of 40 students in the Brocksden classroom last week, to show and teach how schools operated in the past.

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October 12th
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November 25th
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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 Linda Reid at sunrise on September 16 in lower Ratho during her daily walk. The cows were just waking up. (Photo credit: Linda Reid)



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 the northern lights was taken by Lorrie Miller Perko on September 19 at 11:30 p.m. near Amulree. (Photo credit: Lorrie Miller Perko)

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COMMUNITY —

KWSP Humane Society launches urgent appeal for dog in need



Sylvia went in to surgery on Monday, October 2.

By Veronica Reiner

The Humane Society of Kitchener Waterloo & Stratford Perth (KWSP) launched an urgent appeal campaign for a dog in need, and reached their goal of \$5,500 in just four-and-a-half hours.

The campaign was announced at 7 a.m. on Monday, October 2. As of 12 p.m. the next day, the campaign raised more than \$6,730.

"Thanks to our community members who are always here to support animals who need it the most," said KWSP Humane Society spokesperson Nasreen. "We have around 200 animals in our care at the moment between both centres. Any funds raised above and beyond will help support animals at our centres."

The dog, nicknamed Sylvia by staff, arrived at the Stratford centre on September 25 as a stray. She was brought to the Kitchener centre for further treatment and surgery. The physical examination, which included x-rays, revealed a deep laceration on her left hind foot, and her right hip was

dislocated.

She headed into surgery on October 2, and will need several weeks to recover, which will also include extensive physical therapy. The KWSP Humane Society estimated that her medical and care costs could reach up to \$5,500 or more by the time she is ready for adoption.

This amount includes the cost of her surgery, and to spay her, antibiotics and the cost of care. Sylvia will then head into foster care to recover until she is ready to find her forever home.

"Being a self-funded organization that receives no level of government funding, we depend on the generosity of our community members," said Nasreen. "We and the animals cannot thank our community members enough for their support."

Kerri Kendrick, from CIBC Mortgages, matched the first \$1,000 donated towards Sylvia's care.

More information can be found at www.kwsphumanesociety.ca.

Gazette Puzzles

Hockey

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- 2) Woodwind
- 3) False
- 4) Greenland
- 5) 23
- 6) China
- 7) F. Scott Fitzgerald
- 8) Box jellyfish
- 9) New Israeli Sheqel
- 10) Oak tree

COMMUNITY —

105 years old and still active in the community - Esther Priestly, a former Wellesley resident

By Gary West

It is a rare occasion when you are lucky enough to meet an inspiring lady who has just celebrated her 105th birthday on September 18 - and realize she is still "sharp as a tack." She could still pass for someone much younger, and drove a car until she was 100.

Esther Catharine Hohl was born in Lisbon, just outside of Wellesley. Those were the days when there was a hotel in every small hamlet, and Esther's parents owned and operated one, along with running a clay tile yard. She can still remember loading hundreds of clay tiles on a wagon every day.

Her mother, Elmina, was an excellent seamstress and grew up in the house built by her father in Wellesley.

Esther and her husband, Howard Doering, moved into that very house with their only child, Barbara.

She says the big change in her life came when her parents bought a nearby farm, and she became her dad's main "hired helper."

She says, "life was difficult during the depression years of the 1930's, but having the love of horses, dogs, and cats" kept her "well occupied."

Playing the piano, singing, and dancing were her passion, and she met her future husband, Howard, at a local house party. She said back then, you made your own entertainment, since money was hard to come by.

Esther is proud of the fact that she was baptized in the First St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Wellesley and is still a member to this day.

After her daughter Barbara, started school, she herself went to hairdressing school and later started her own career and business, and was a hairdresser till the age of 70, and always loved the visits with her clients.

After the loss of her first husband, Howard, she met and married Bill Priestly years later. Together they would tour the countryside in their antique car, looking for the best places to have lunch.

Barbara says she is a special grandma to her two grandchildren and now four great grandchildren.



105 year old Esther Priestly (Doering) with her daughter Barbara Green, following a birthday celebration with family at Stratford's McCarthy Retirement Residence.

Esther lives in retirement at McCarthy Place in Stratford, and loves watching the Toronto Blue Jays and spending time with her special friends.

I had to admire how her mind was so sharp, and I am sure her friends say she is a feisty lady with a strong faith, who had worked hard all her life, with an endearing sense of humour, even at 105!

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