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Wilmot Aquatic Aces member ranks number one in Canada



Vasyl Kruypnin, 10, holding up medals at the Wilmot Recreation Complex pool.

By Veronica Reiner

A member of Wilmot's Aquatic Aces Swim Club has been ranked number one in Canada.

Vasyl Kruypnin, 10 years old, came to Canada with his family in spring 2022 from Ukraine. He joined the team in late May, and, by July 2023, had posted four of the fastest times in Canada for the 10 and under long course.

"Every time Vasyl races he gives his best,

he races to win, he is eager to learn and loves being in the water," said his coach, Joni Maerten-Sanders.

Vasyl was first in Canada in the 50 breaststroke category, as well as 100 breaststroke, 200 breaststroke and 200 Individual Medley. He is also second in the 100 fly.

At the Festival Provincial Championships in Etobicoke in June, Vasyl won gold in 100 breaststroke, bronze in 100 fly, and gold in 50 breaststroke. In July, he raced

in Halifax in the 13 and under age group, finishing top eight in five events. It was at this meet he recorded the number one rankings in all four events and second in the fly.

His proud mother, Tetiana, said that Vasyl began swimming at a very young age.

"When he was two-and-a-half years old, he swam in a small team," said Tetiana. When he was six years, he started swimming in larger waters.

Continued on page 2

Roundabout not recommended, but other solutions are for Punkeydoodles Corners

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The roadways in and around Punkeydoodles Corners could look much different next year, but it would be the first step in what local residents hope will eventually see a roundabout constructed. About 150 people attended a public meeting at Tavistock's Memorial Hall last Thursday to hear a presentation from Aaron Blata, an engineer with R.C. Spencer Associates from Leamington.

Blata gave his professional opinion that a roundabout is not warranted in the area, but residents made it quite clear they won't be satisfied with anything but. The evening was a debate of traffic, planning, and engineering jargon versus heartfelt pleas for change from those affected by accidents and near misses in the area. Blata said closing two intersections in the area will make driving safer. "The problem there is there are so many accesses you don't know where to look, where to check. By consolidating access and improving (lighting), we hope to add deceleration lanes for right and left turns." He added those measures theoretically will increase capacity, flow, and gaps. "Now you've got smoother traffic flows. We anticipate that just the consolidation of access will do wonders for this location."

Despite not supporting a roundabout in the area, Blata did provide three different options for the traffic calming idea. Option one is the most desirable one but would require land acquisition and would likely take the most time to complete if approved. Any of the three options would need input from environmental and Indigenous groups as

Continued on page 2



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COMMUNITY —

Roundabout not recommended, but other solutions are for Punkeydoodles Corners



A large crowd turned out last Thursday to hear what the future of the roadways in and around Punkeydoodles Corners may look like in the future.

Continued from page 1

mandated by law.

Oxford County's Manager of Transportation, Frank Gross, said the first order of business is to provide more information, including costing for the short to mid-term solution, which includes closing two intersections. Gross added he is well aware that residents in the area want a roundabout, but what happens next is really up to elected officials. "We bring these recommendations forth to county council, and that will be the staff's recommendation. We can't recommend a roundabout when the study doesn't warrant it. We are going to share that information with council so they can make an informed decision."

Gross acknowledged there is a lot of community interest, illustrated by members of area councils who attended the meeting. Present from East Zorra-Tavistock were Mayor Phil Schaefer and Deputy Mayor Brad Smith. Schaefer said East Zorra-Tavistock council will not be involved in the process, but he will have an opportunity to provide input as a member of Oxford County Council. "We will be taking all the information we get to decide what solution we are going to put our support behind, as are the other councils. It's not an off the shelf solution because it is such

a unique intersection, so it is going to take a lot of feedback, a lot of experts telling us what their recommendations are." He added he hasn't made his mind up yet on what he supports. "It's too early in the process. I make my decisions around the horseshoe (at County Council), I don't make them here, so I need to get all the data before we make a decision. Not just data, but personal stories as well."

Should the staff recommendation be approved, Gross said odds are good the project will start and be completed in 2024. "Detailed design and construction within the same year. It is an aggressive schedule, but it's doable. We have committed to prioritize the project at a staff level." Gross admitted the entire situation was a difficult one because of the personal stories involved. "We don't want to hear about anyone dying on our roads. We just have to continue to monitor the road network and prioritize movements where needed."

Another politician in attendance was Wilmot Ward 2 Councillor, Kris Wilkinson, who thought he would have heard more from constituents but added he and his fellow members of council have been watching social media posts to gauge how the public is feeling. "This is a contentious issue and one that has been ongoing for years. I think at the end of the day,



Pictured is the recommended solution to improve traffic safety in the Punkeydoodles Corners area. It will soon go in front of area councils for discussion and potential approve for a 2024 construction date.

everybody just wants to get a solution in place that will lead to less collisions and hopefully no fatalities." He the agreed presentations at the meeting were done to meet the engineering requirements from the province. "I think it's a great band-aid solution and I am happy to see that it can be implemented (next year) by the sounds of it. I haven't looked at the financials yet, and I don't know who is sharing the costs and how, but based on what I have seen, I am in favour of implementing this solution immediately. I am hopeful that in the medium to long term, although it may not be recommended by the engineer, I am of the opinion that a roundabout may be the best overall solution that addresses each individual concern."

He added it needs to be discussed and at least get the ball rolling. "It's about time we did something about it I'm thankful for the people who continue to put the pressure on and are driving the point home. It's great to see the involvement. It's unfortunate the reasons involved, but I am happy to see people out there pushing. Truthfully, sometimes it's the only way to get things done." When asked if a proactive meeting between the involved municipalities might be a good idea, Wilkinson said anything to get the ball rolling he's up for. "I don't see how it couldn't be. It

would at least be constructive and open the door to the conversation. I am aware enough that our staff are working in the background to coordinate efforts and get something put together. Outside of what I saw (at the meeting) I haven't seen any fine details, reports, or any shared information amongst the townships and the counties." He added he is hoping to see some financial details before the end of the year as everyone needs to figure out how to budget and pay for the project. "Personally, I am a little budget conscious but for something as important as this I am ready to step up to the plate and help be a vocal proponent of getting something done here. I think cost is something we need to be aware of, but I am willing to bend from my traditional political beliefs on spending a wee bit to try and get this done."

Wilmot Councillors Stewart Cressman, Lillianne Dunstall, and Steven Martin also attended as did CAO Sharon Chambers and Director of Public Works and Infrastructure Jeff Molenhuis.

More information is available at <https://speakup.oxfordcounty.ca/punkeydoodles> where there is an opportunity to provide public input for those who weren't able to attend the meeting.

Wilmot Aquatic Aces member ranks number one in Canada

Continued from page 1

"He loves to swim. He was always in the water. He would rather be swimming than on dry land!"

Vasyl added that there are some differences between swimming in Wilmot and swimming in Ukraine, such as less competitions. "In the Ukraine we have competitions once every three months," he said.

Tetiana added that there are some similarities. "We don't feel large changes in the weather or people or clothes. It's similar in Ukraine," she said.

"Especially for our children - they know English well, they made many friends, they like the calm feeling."

The family of five lives just outside of Kitchener. Vasyl has a younger sister and a younger brother. Vasyl is 10 for another

six months (with an April birthday), giving him the opportunity to post more of the top times in the short course and long course before he turns 11.

The Wilmot Aquatic Aces Swim Club encourages individuals to develop at different levels of swimming performances and enjoyment based on the swimmer's ability and level. In 2016, the Aces helped keep swimmers from Tillsonburg and Woodstock

in the water when their teams folded.

The team has swimmers training in three facilities (currently only two as the Tillsonburg pool is being renovated). Swimmers on the Aces are from Wilmot Township, Wellesley, Kitchener, Plattsville, Stratford, Woodstock, Tillsonburg, Aylmer and many other small townships, helping keep the love of swimming alive in young people across rural Ontario.

COMMUNITY —

Wellesley council defers decision on 12-unit townhouse



The proposed development site at 1060 Queen's Bush Road in Wellesley, across from Wellesley Public School.

By Veronica Reiner

Wellesley council unanimously voted to defer a development for a proposed stacked 12-unit townhouse.

The decision was made during a hybrid council meeting on Tuesday, October 3.

The developmental lands are located at 1060 Queen's Bush Road, which is currently a property with a detached home and garage, proposed for demolition. The 12-unit townhouse building was to have the height of a two-story building (nine metres) and an off-street parking area with 18 spaces. The project was proposed as condominium ownership units.

Therefore, the applicant proposed to change the zoning from Urban Residential to Urban Residential 2, with site specific exceptions, to allow the development.

A public meeting was held on the matter on May 16, with about 45 people in attendance. The township also received 36 written comments about the development, along with one petition. The comments addressed density, setbacks, design, compatibility, privacy concerns with neighbouring properties, traffic and pedestrian safety, parking, tree removal, stormwater management, snow removal and salt management, climate change mitigation and intensification of Wellesley.

Mayor Joe Nowak asked staff about affordability, and whether this development would address "the missing middle," an urban planning concept that focuses on the gap in housing between single family dwellings and apartment buildings.

Wellesley planner Tim Van Hinte said that it would "partially" address the missing middle.

"I keep thinking, in the back of my mind, that a young family, such as a single mother - they're not going to be able to afford a condominium because there's so much

upfront money that you have to have for that," said Nowak. "I'd rather see something on this property where people can get started. And that's not happening here, in my opinion."

Councillor Shelley Wagner said that she understood the neighbours' concerns.

"I don't have faith in the development - the developer and the planner that are doing it, because I feel like there's a lot of wishy-washy back and forth stuff, with getting some answers, but not answers, and I understand that we're going through a process, but it's not leaving me with any confidence to make a decision," said Councillor Wagner.

According to a 2021 Census in Wellesley:

- 46 per cent of dwelling units are occupied by one or two people,
- 94 per cent of homes are single and semi-detached,
- There are 190 homes other than single and semi-detached,
- There are about 1,090 residents aged 70 or older.
- By 2051, there is expected to be 5,035 additional residents aged 70 or older.

Wellesley staff recommended proceeding with the proposal, stating that the proposal meets the policy requirements for the growth plan, regional official plan, township official plan and provincial policy statement.

Mayor Nowak said he would defer and "have the developer come back to address some of the affordability issues mentioned.

"At this point, he's suggested that he's not sure how many he's going to build, so I'd like to have those things cleared up before we go ahead with it."

There was no specific date scheduled to return to the matter.

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COMMUNITY —

Punkeydoodles Corners residents want roundabout despite what experts say

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A traffic engineer hired by Oxford County may not feel a roundabout is warranted at the hamlet east of Tavistock, but the people who live there say they won't give up the fight to get one.

Many of the 150 people who attended last week's public meeting were area residents who were shaking their heads while listening to the results of a recent traffic study. Ed Danen is the leader of the Punkeydoodles Corners community group and lives a little outside the area. He said he doesn't feel the stress as much as those who do. "There have been six accidents in the last seven weeks. They relive it. There are families where their kids go somewhere and say they just saw the police go by and call home to say they're safe. When one woman calls 911, she just says her name and they say uh-oh. They understand where we are all too well. Everybody is scared of who is going to be next and that's why the anxiety is so raw."

He added that if the long-term solution, a roundabout, isn't taken off the table, he is satisfied with the short to medium-term solution. "As long as there is a commitment to a long-term solution and long-term monitoring of the situation and recognition that if something is not working that we need to correct it."

The engineering firm's research showed that 15 percent of the traffic going through the area is driving at or over 105 km/h in a posted 80 km/h zone, something he believes

should be getting the attention of area police forces. "I don't know why police aren't there all the time. That would be a pretty easy cash cow in my mind, but which police force would be there, and what police officer would want to be sitting on the side of the road at that curve?" Because Oxford County, the Region of Waterloo, and Perth County all border the area, there are three different police forces who respond to calls, although it isn't clear what the criteria is for who attends. "Because of the jurisdictional issues and challenges and the lack of policing, I think that is one of the reasons the community is heavily leaning on the roundabout as the solution to calm the speeds. Nothing else has at this point, and there is no current willingness from area councils to lower the speed limit or create a community safety zone," added Danen.

He added he understands that the experts and the planners come to their conclusions while working under certain rules and regulations within their industry and are bound by that. Because of that, he said his job now will be to attend area council meetings to get their point across to area politicians. "Where we need to get flexibility to those rules and designs is by going through councils. And we will be paying attention to those council meetings and be there to make presentations if we need to."

No one lives closer to where accidents have taken place than Shannon Snyder and her family. The fatal collision that killed a young Wilmot Township woman just over a year ago is a stone's throw from her home.

Snyder, one of several area residents met with by the engineering company, said she wasn't surprised by the options presented and felt the aim isn't in the right place. "The focus of this rework doesn't necessarily appear to be safety driven. It seems to be more geared towards ensuring goods and travel are flowing at a good speed. We are wondering where the data is that this is actually going to be a safer area. That's where our concern is." She added she doesn't see the point in spending a lot of money on the short-term proposal if the real resolution that would fix the problem is a roundabout. Snyder said she is also skeptical a roundabout will be taken seriously because it could take up to 10 years for it to happen. "It's almost like it isn't worth discussing because it's going to take so long. We all know things take time, but if there is enough priority given to it, it could happen quicker. I don't know if they are saying it's going to be five years to get us to quiet down about it. That is my feeling."

EZT Mayor Phil Schaefer said the decision-making process is not something for lower-tier governments to decide on, but Snyder said any help would be appreciated. "Any support would help I would think. The lower tiers may be focused on more local feelings on what the upper tiers are. Everything is number driven. It is very frustrating to see what happens out here and then to have a meeting like that and have (the consultant) say over and over again that the numbers don't warrant this, they don't warrant that. It just doesn't correlate to what we see happening. You can

get lost in the numbers." She added all levels of government can rely on what the engineer is saying, but to her, it is hard to believe seeing the amount of traffic that goes through the area. "With them (potentially) closing the two intersections, it is forcing us to use one spot every time we go in one direction or the other and to navigate four lanes of traffic."

She added her 18-year-old son is now driving, and she worries about his safety. "He usually avoids that spot and goes on one of the sideroads they are going to close down, but it makes you really nervous to know how much traffic is going through there and the speed that people are travelling at. How hard is it going to be to pull on and off of that road?" The vast majority of area residents want to see reduced speed limits in the area, something also not recommended by the experts. Snyder said the idea that lower speeds aren't enforceable is ludicrous. "Then we are thinking why do we have speed limits anyways? I'm not sure why there isn't a push to do something more."

Snyder said she and her family worry every day about what might happen. "Our kids are older now but when they were younger it wasn't an option to play in their front yard. Cars end up in our front yard and in our driveway. It is a bit traumatizing. You hear the collisions, the sirens, you feel like you want to go out there and help, but you don't want to see what has happened. I'm shocked there haven't been more lives lost out here. One is enough."

Wilmot Township hosting event for National Fire Prevention Week

By Veronica Reiner

The Township of Wilmot will be hosting a community safety day event on October 14 at the New Hamburg Community Centre.

This is to commemorate National Fire Prevention Week, which takes place from Sunday, October 8 to Saturday, October 14 this year. The week is observed in Canada and United States.

The free event will feature live interactive

demonstrations, a mini fire fit challenge, truck displays, popcorn, movie and colouring station, a Wilmot Heritage Brigade display, emergency preparedness education, educational and fun for all ages.

In addition, there will be an ultimate rush obstacle course, the chance to meet your local firefighters, and Erick Traplin performing at 11 a.m.

"This years theme is Cooking Safety," said Andrew Mechalko, Chief Fire Prevention

Officer at the Township of Wilmot, when asked about township initiative's for National Fire Prevention Week.

Cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries, according to the National Fire Prevention Association. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of cooking fires and deaths.

Some safety tips include:

- Turn pot handles toward the back of

the stove. Always keep a lid nearby when cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner.

- Watch what you heat. Set a timer to remind you that you are cooking.

- Have a "kid-free zone" of at least three feet (one metre) around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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COMMUNITY —

New Hamburg's Erb Group raises money for Stratford charity

By Veronica Reiner

The Erb Group, a New Hamburg based refrigerated transport service, participated in a five kilometre charity run/walk in Stratford.

The event took place on October 1 at the Upper Queens Park in Stratford, and brought together businesses, Stratford community members and individuals from across the Waterloo Region.

This year, the charity run raised \$20,000 for The Local Community Food Centre, and brought in over 300 participants. About 62 per cent of participants were from outside of the community.

The Erb Group's Chief of Operations, Greg Tuckwell, and Senior Director of HR, Alyssa Couvillion, created the team of employees.

"We were a team of six employees who participated in the event, either through running or through volunteering on the race day," said Briona Lahti, spokesperson for The Erb Group.

"Some of our other employees were helping the runners keep cool throughout the race by handing out water refreshments."

The Local Community Food Centre is a non-profit organization that aims to empower those with barriers to accessing



Briona Lahti, Public Relations Coordinator, Rob Galeckas, Regional Sales Manager, Greg Tuckwell, Chief of Operations, Alyssa Couvillion, Senior Director of Human Resources, Dan Rajagopalan, Race Director, Alexandra Ureche, Communications and Marketing Manager and Luke, another Race Coordinator.

and benefitting from good, healthy food, by offering opportunities to cook, grow, share and advocate for good food for everyone in the community.

The charity offers a range of services including cooking classes, community gardens, low cost markets, advocacy,

education programs, and more.

"Along with the great work they do, we admire the charity's commitment to community and people-first culture," said Briona. "We believe that our business's success is directly linked to the support of the community, and partnering with the Local

Community Food Centre is one way of giving back."

After its second year of being in motion, the event brought in more donations through word of mouth than through race registrations. The biggest impact was felt from the participant's fundraising or donating, which increased 201 per cent compared to 2022. One participant raised \$2,000 for the event alone.

"Every year, we are delighted to see the wheel turn closer toward driving change for individuals in the Stratford neighbourhood and beyond," added Chief of Operations, Greg Tuckwell.

The Local Community Food Centre Board Member and Race Director Dan Rajagopalan said, "Seeing community members come together for a good cause at this level is an overwhelming and rewarding experience. It is very encouraging for the work we do and the individuals we support at The Local. It's the local community plus the running community coming together for a great cause."

The Erb Group was founded in 1959 and is one of North America's largest privately owned refrigerated transportation providers. The Erb Group is a family-owned business, hosting over 1,500 employees, 1,100 trailers and 750 power units.

Wellesley Fire Department buys new truck

By Veronica Reiner

The Township of Wellesley Fire Department purchased a pick-up truck from Voisin Motors for \$73,119. The truck will be used for firefighting and will include a space cap body with custom fabricating. It will be equipped with e-draulic rescue tools, along with lights, sirens, electronics and decaling. The budgeted amount total is \$225,000.

The matter was discussed during a hybrid council meeting on Tuesday, October 3. "I believe this is a very good replacement," commented Fire Chief Paul Redman.

Wellesley staff received three quotes for trucks (all 2024 crew cab, eight-foot box) and went with the lowest quote. Other quotes included John Bear GM for \$74,824 and Parkway Ford for \$73,324.

The purchase is part of the Wellesley Fire

Department that will replace full sized trucks with walk-in bodies with these pick-up trucks with custom fabricated boxes. Chief Redman said this would lead to significant cost savings down the road, as the average full sized rescue walk-in truck costs more than \$800,000 at current prices.

"By the time we put our third rescue in, we'll have saved at today's prices approximately \$1.6 million dollars in apparatus without a change in levels to our service," said Redman.

"This actually helps us out our younger firefighters - which at this point are probably more than 50 per cent of our firefighters. Either don't have their DZ [truck] license yet or have not been on long enough to actually drive the bigger apparatus - they can drive these with a regular G license. We can get the trucks

out the door when the calls come in."

"I think it's well planned out and a very astute way of saving the taxpayers some money in the long run," commented Wellesley Mayor Joe Nowak.

The custom fabricated space cap bodies are removable and can be removed and replaced on a new pick up when the trucks are retired at the end of their

lifespan. They are not brand specific.

The custom fabricating will be done at C-Max Custom Fabrication in St. Jacobs and Innovative Printing in Millbank. The expected build time for the truck is six to 12 months.

The current rescue will be sold on GovDeals and proceeds will go to the fire equipment reserve account.

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COMMUNITY —

Business Profile: The Garlic King



Garlic King is family owned business proudly producing their fresh and fabulous spread in New Hamburg.

By Mercedes Kay Gold

In case you missed Ontario Garlic Week this past September 22 to October 1, let me introduce you to New Hamburg's Garlic King. It's never too late to celebrate the garlic harvest, and start 'spreading' the news, but first, a few fast facts. Garlic belongs to the Allium family, closely related to onions, leeks and shallots. It's one of the first herbs to be cultivated, approximately 4000 years ago. Egyptians led the holistic way, incorporating garlic into everyday life, as a sensational seasoning and herbal medicine.

Not much has changed, garlic may be stinky, but holy heaps of health. Whether you chop or crush, garlic cloves are a bevy of benefits due to the formation of sulfur compounds. Allicin, the most famous

all-star compound found in garlic, is unstable and short-lived. Fresh is key to really reap the rewards. With winter fast approaching, grated garlic in hot water is this holistic nutritionist's top anti-viral and all-star immune-boosting vitamin C go-to. Get grating! Garlic is also linked to improved blood pressure and cholesterol. Learn to love garlic breath! Consuming garlic at least once a week is linked to longevity.

Shmear some garlic, and tickle your taste buds. Garlic King is truly king of the garlic spreads, and one powerful palate pleaser. This awesome artisan garlic spread starts with local gown garden goodness, approximately 12,000 pounds of garlic every year. The spread uses a variety referred to as music. Legend has it that Al Music, a garlic enthusiast and taxi driver in the city of



Andrew Block and Monica Wilczek.

Toronto brought back garlic bulbs from Italy in the 1980's. Apparently, Al planted the garlic on his farm in Norfolk County, and overtime he shared the collection, making the 'Music' variety a community favorite.

Garlic King is a first-rate flavorful garlic spread containing over 30 spectacular spices and hotshot herbs. All the spreads are dairy and gluten-free. There's no added salt or sugar, plus amazingly cholesterol free. If you follow a keto diet, then you are in luck. After almost fourteen years, owner Shawn Moody still hand-crafts, mixes and packs each container with tender loving care. If you haven't tried the sensational spread yet, what are you waiting for? Shawn is right! Garlic King is a "highly addictive chef-in-a-container." There are gobs of great ways to

get garlicky. Power up potatoes. Slather the spread pre-roasting, dress up baked or make mashed magical. Add pizzazz to popcorn and pasta. Take corn on the cob, hamburgers and sandwiches from hum-drum to heavenly. Bring bread to a whole new level and turn Brussel sprouts from yuck to yum. It's a marvelous meat marinade and savory sauce swap in the crock pot and rice cooker.

Garlic King is a family-owned business proudly producing their fresh and fabulous spread in New Hamburg. Garlic King is stocked on shelves throughout the region and is a favorite find at St. Jacobs Market all year round. Order online at GarlicKing.ca and follow on social @the_garlic_king for upcoming events and great recipes.



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COMMUNITY —

Former Tavistock area farmer Ken Nicklas loading his John Deere tractors for Australia



The enthusiastic group of local farmers who helped load vintage tractors and household belongings in a sea container for the Ken Nicklas family to be shipped to Australia. Left to right, Ken Bethlehem, Derrick Schumacher, Maris Nicklas (Ken's daughter), Gordon Stock, Matthew Lockwood, Dave Lockwood, Becky Davis, Don Davis, Eric Ruby (not pictured). Behind on the tractor is Ken Nicklas.

By Gary West

The last month has been a busy time and one to remember for a former farm family of East-Zorra Tavistock, who now, and for the last 10 years, have been residing in Queensland, Australia.

Ken Nicklas was back at his former farm on the 16th Line, southeast of Tavistock, at the end of August and September recently - but first, a little history.

Ken and Janis Nicklas moved to Australia in 2013, along with their son Kyle and daughter Maris. This is when Ken decided to accept a position at a Chesterfield, Australia, John Deere dealership. He was a service technician with Tavistock's John Deere/ Premier/Agraturf for six years.

Since the winter weather was starting to affect his health, they decided to pursue the warm climate of the county down under.

The couple and their family now reside in East Australia in Beaudesert, Queensland, 60 kilometres (km) from the Pacific Ocean, which, at one time, was a major dairy farming community.

There was a butter factory in town, and a railroad connected the factory to the city of Brisbane, which is 70 km to the northeast.

The factory and railroad are now history, and many of the dairy farms are also gone.

Most of the dairy cows left the area due to the loss of the Australian dairy supply management system in the 1990s. Milk prices dropped substantially, and smaller farmers couldn't afford to stay in business.

Most farms are now in the 300-700 cow range.

Ken does say, "there are now many horses in their area, mostly retired

thoroughbreds due to several race tracks in the area of Queensland." He refers to his area as "Little Kentucky" since there are so many horses. He also says another strong agricultural business in the area is chicken broiler farms. Many farms around Beaudesert supply chicken for the highly populated areas of Brisbane and the Gold Coast.

After spending nine years as a field service technician and doing repairs on tractors, combines, cotton pickers, sugarcane harvesters, along with hay, golf and lawn equipment, most of his working time was on customers' farms, but some jobs were repaired in the dealer workshop.

Then, on July 20, 2020, Nicklas accepted a role with R.D.O. Equipment as a John Deere agricultural training instructor. His role includes training the company's technicians, parts, sales, and support people on the various models of John Deere equipment.

When the Nicklas family moved to Australia in 2013, they left with four suitcases, entered Australia on a four-year skilled work labour visa. Meanwhile, all their Canadian household belongings were stored on their former farm south-east of Tavistock in rented sheds.

Nothing was sold when they left for Australia, as they were unsure if the move would be temporary or permanent.

In Australia, after being in the country for two years, they decided to stay and progressed through the permanent visa status, and after four years in the country, they took the government citizenship test. They attained their Australian citizenship and were sworn in as citizens in July 2019.

Nicklas was back in Oxford County recently, to their former farm, in late August, to deal with their household belongings



Loading two John Deere tractors in the shipping container destined for Australia is neighbour Dave Lockwood.

and his 10 vintage Ford and John Deere agriculture and lawn tractors parked in the rented sheds.

He worked out a plan with an importer in Brisbane, Australia, to load a 40 foot sea container full of vintage tractors, personal and household belongings. The importer worked with an exporter in Brampton, Ontario to get the process going. To finance the project, four of the antique tractors he owned here had to be sold to help pay for the shipping.

On September 15th, they loaded three vintage John Deere Tractors, strapped them to the floor, and packed numerous boxes of household belongings around them, building shelves for more storage area, to use up every square inch of container space. They did this with the help of many friends and neighbours, with numerous

obstacles that had to be overcome.

Ken Nicklas says the sea container's path was to Toronto by truck, then by rail to Philadelphia, onto a ship at a port in Baltimore, Maryland, then through the Panama Canal, and to its final destination in Brisbane, Australia.

He will probably never forget the experience after he took four to six weeks of his time to organize and, disperse and ship all of their family's effects. He said it was a massive project with many helpers and neighbours and friends that he could not have done without them.

He says he will keep in touch and hopes the sea container arrival on November 18th will be one day he can look forward to, as their warmer weather arrives, for their upcoming growing season.

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COMMUNITY —

Shakespeare Pies, a busy Thanksgiving stop for homemade pumpkin pies



The Plett family offering free apple cider at the stores entrance at Thanksgiving, and includes parents Kenton and Bethany at the rear, with children Donovan, Tiffany, Jalissa, and Cody out front.

By Gary West

Thanksgiving is a busy time of the year for most families in a good way, and no one is busier at Thanksgiving than Shakespeare Pies. If you can imagine making 1,000 pies for Thanksgiving, besides all the other buns and pastries, then you can imagine how busy it must be for the Kenton and Bethany (Wagler) Plett family at Shakespeare Pies.

The flourishing Perth County business was started almost 20 years ago by Gerry and Susie Wagler, Bethany's parents. It is now into the second generation of pie making.

Kenton says, "the Saturday of Thanksgiving

weekend is always the busiest of the year, where of course, pumpkin pie is the favourite followed by apple and the many fruit pies their family is known for."

Besides other bakery treats and bread and buns, they also sell lots of ice cream and whipped cream to make the dessert for the Thanksgiving meal complete.

With the large parking lot overflowing with vehicles, their staff kept pies moving with very little time to wait. The family has been grateful over the years that the buying public from near and far has supported their business in a most appreciative way. The family hopes to be baking pies and baked goods for many years to come.



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Region of Waterloo

2024 Regional Plan and Budget

Meetings for the 2024 Strategic Plan and Budget Committee for the Regional Municipality will be held on the following dates:

October 04 2023	Budget Committee Meeting (2024 Plan and Budget Overview)	1:00 PM in Council Chambers, 150 Frederick St. Kitchener
October 18 2023	Climate Aligned Growth: Budget Committee Meeting (2024 Operating Budget and 2024-2033 Capital Program Review)	1:00 PM in Council Chambers, 150 Frederick St. Kitchener
October 18 2023	Plan and Budget Public Input Committee #1	6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 150 Frederick St. Kitchener
November 01 2023	Equitable Services & Opportunities: Budget Committee Meeting (2024 Operating Budget and 2024-2033 Capital Program Review)	11:00 AM in Council Chambers, 150 Frederick St. Kitchener
November 01 2023	Plan and Budget Public Input Committee #2	6:00 PM at 100 Maple Grove Rd. Cambridge
November 08 2023	Homes for All: Budget Committee Meeting (2024 Operating Budget and 2024-2033 Capital Program Review)	11:00 AM in Council Chambers, 150 Frederick St. Kitchener
November 29 2023	Resilient & Future Ready Organization: Budget Committee Meeting (2024 Operating Budget and 2024-2033 Capital Program Review)	11:00 AM in Council Chambers, 150 Frederick St. Kitchener
November 29 2023	Plan and Budget Public Input Committee #3	6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 150 Frederick St. Kitchener
December 13 2023	Budget Committee Meeting and Final Budget Approval (Final Budget Day: Approval of the 2024 Operating Budget, 2024-2033 Capital Program, and 2024 User Fees and Charges)	10:00 AM in Council Chambers, 150 Frederick St. Kitchener

If you wish to appear in person or electronically as a delegation during a Public Input meeting, please visit the Region's website for more information and to complete and submit an online form:

www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/regionalgovernment/communicate-with-council.aspx

You can watch any of the scheduled budget or Council meetings on the Region's website at

www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/regional-government/live-webcast.aspx.

For a copy of the budget schedule or for more information about the Regional budget, please visit our website:

www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/regionalgovernment/budget-and-finance-archives.aspx.

Notice of these meetings is being given in accordance with the "Municipal Act", as amended, and the Region's Notice Policy.

COMMUNITY —

Demolition of the century old Gads Hill Hotel



The Gads Hill Exchange Hotel was demolished last week, by order of the Township of Perth East, after sitting empty for many years. (Photo credit: Gary West)

By Gary West

The facade in the village of Gads Hill in Perth East, north of Stratford, has changed dramatically recently. The large hotel (known as the Exchange Hotel) on the main corner of Highway 19, in the village, which has been vacant for years, has been demolished.

Perth East Mayor, Rhonda Ehgoetz said the building had been empty for years, and deemed unsafe in June of this year by the Oxford County's chief building inspector. She said the property owners made no effort to remedy the order, so the township proceeded with demolition.

Stratford's Ellston Inc. (formerly Joe Leyser Demolition) was being paid by the township to take the empty relic down, as safety around the building became a priority.

The hotel was built and used in the day when travellers could rest and rent a room on the way to or from Stratford.

In the North Easthope Township history book, it was noted that the hotel was

owned in 1899 by William F Miller, and was used as a hotel for close to a century until George Malcho turned it into a private residence.

It was noted that in the Jack and Alice McKenzie years, from 1909 through to 1942, the Exchange Hotel was a showplace, with a ladies waiting room, rich velvet drapes, a dining room, with spotless linen, sparkling silverware, and gleaming glasses. It also had a kitchen and pantry where fruit was canned and bread was baked, and had one of the classiest bars in the area.

Mike Ellston, whose demolition company was busy last week, had the building down in a matter of hours. His 89-year-old grandfather, Joe Leyser, was still helping to set up safety fence before the demo began.

Leyser says his life was in demolition and still wants to be involved in the industry with his grandson, just like he had been for decades before. He was happy doing the important job he loved and on the request of the township.



Mike Ellston of Ellston Inc., along with his grandfather Joe Leyser, worked together last week with crane operator Ken Krantz, to supervise the demolition of the derelict Gads Hill Exchange Hotel. (Photo credit: Gary West)



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POLICE REPORTS

Theft from business in Wilmot

A police investigation is underway after a theft from a business in Wilmot Township.

On October 3 at about 5:30 p.m., the Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) received a report of a shoplifting incident. An unknown man attended a business in the area of Waterloo Street and Victoria Street and stole merchandise. The man then fled the area in a gray SUV.

Anyone with information is asked to call police at 519-570-9777 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

Two vehicle collision in Wilmot Township

A Kitchener man was injured and a Brampton man was charged after a two-vehicle collision in Wilmot Township on October 4.

The WRPS received the report at around 7:30 a.m. Investigation revealed that a dump truck exiting Highway, stopped at Trussler Road and proceeded to turn left, struck a motorcycle that was stopped on Trussler Road, waiting to make a left turn on the highway on-ramp.

The motorcycle driver, a 60-year-old Kitchener man, was transported to a local hospital with minor injuries. The truck driver, a 25-year-old Brampton man, was charged with "careless driving" under the Highway Traffic Act.

Listowel man charged after Perth East collision

The Perth County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) charged a Listowel man after a single vehicle collision

in Perth East on October 4.

Just after 7:30 a.m., the Perth County OPP and Perth County Emergency Medical Services responded to a report of a vehicle in the ditch around the area of Line 36 in Perth East Township.

No serious injuries were reported.

A 27-year-old resident of Listowel was "careless driving."

Anyone with information about this or any incident is asked to call the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or online at www.opp.ca/reporting. Those who wish to remain anonymous can call Crime Stoppers or leave an anonymous online message at www.P3tips.com.

COMMUNITY —

Mrs. Folino Brings Sunshine to St. Mary's Hospital



Artwork by Mrs. Folino. "As the world mourns, these hands heal."

"For Better or For Worse."

The artwork was displayed at St. Mary's General Hospital.

By Sarina Loschmann and Hailey Antoniou

**Previously published in the October Issue of the W-O Say-So Student Newspaper*

On July 27, Visual Arts Teacher Mrs. Carol Folino unveiled a commemorative art installation at St. Mary's General Hospital to honour hospital staff and their contributions and ongoing resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic. The title 'Here Comes the Sun': A COVID-19 Commemorative Art Installation, plays alongside the hit Beatles song Here Comes the Sun every time a COVID-19 patient was discharged from St. Mary's. This inspired piece includes 37 unique portraits of healthcare workers and can now be found in the hospital lobby.

When the art piece was first revealed to the community, Mrs. Folino described a burst of emotion— excitement, nervousness, relief, and heavy-heartedness knowing that this fulfilling experience had ended.

Mrs. Folino shared that the journey toward creating this piece was ultimately gratifying. The whole process - from interviewing staff to unveiling the final display - required over six months to complete. For Mrs. Folino, the most rewarding part of this project was "Being able to interview the staff at St. Mary's and hear their stories about what it was like to work during COVID." She further described how many hospital personnel simply don't get the appreciation they deserve, so she enjoyed highlighting their formidable efforts.

When asked what the most challenging part of the project was, Mrs. Folino admitted it was "Hearing some of the painful memories of staff being separated from their families and having to isolate when we didn't really know what COVID was about." Many of the employees she

interviewed went through lengthy periods without seeing their family and experienced immense levels of burnout.

Mrs. Folino explained that through this process, she learned the importance of every hospital role and how immensely the traumas from COVID still affect hospital staff (from doctors and nurses to housekeepers and the maintenance team). Despite this, she often felt moments of peace - sometimes not realizing until much later that she was actually painting for hours on end. "That's how you know you love what you do," she remarked.

She shared her appreciation of her family's support while working on this endeavour away from home. She said her husband and children regularly encouraged her through "Words of affirmation, asking questions, and being curious about what I was working on."

Additionally, Mrs. Folino is thankful for the W-O Technology Department, who were instrumental in helping with her initial proposal to St. Mary's, and for building the foundational structure that the art is mounted on.

Overall, Mrs. Folino aspires for her piece to provide encouragement for healthcare workers and the community. "I hope that it recognizes their contributions to the hospital and that it also highlights that all positions and departments contributed to the well-being of the community," she explained.

Mrs. Folino is an inspiration to W-O students, demonstrating that the unique passions they have can lead to encouraging and long lasting impacts with their art. If you're lucky enough to see this amazing Art Teacher around W-O or the community, remember to congratulate her on this stunning accomplishment.

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FAMILY MILESTONES —

OBITUARY

HOUGHTON, Jean



Jean Walton Houghton, of Tavistock, passed away in Stratford General Hospital on Thursday, October 5, 2023, in her 103rd year.

She was born in Downie Township, Perth County on April 29, 1921, a daughter of the late John and Elizabeth (Hanson) Dunbar.

Jean was a "Paul Harris Fellow" of Rotary International and a member of Grace United Church in Tavistock.

She married Russell Carson Houghton at St. Marys on January 5, 1943. He predeceased her on June 30, 1993. She was also predeceased by her son, Richard Houghton on July 29, 2008.

Jean is survived by five children, Sylvia Shackleton (Gavin Smith), Vernon Houghton (Diane), Mary Gatt (Theodore Lenssens), Thomas Houghton (Karen), William Houghton (Brenda Lee); her daughter-in-law, Cynthia Fowler-Houghton; eight grandchildren, Ryan Norrington, Destiny Shackleton, James Houghton, Benjamin Houghton, Lucas Houghton, Catherine Houghton, Emma Houghton, Bentley Houghton; four great grandsons, Jack, Logan, Frederick, Connor.

She was predeceased by her brother, Thomas Dunbar; her sisters, Mary Dunseith, Sarah Ham, Clara Arnold, Margaret Pearson, Anna Hardie-McCullough.

A funeral service to celebrate Jean's life will be held in Grace United Church, Tavistock on Sunday, October 15, 2023 at 2pm. The Rev. Marg Smith will officiate. Reception following. Interment in St Marys Cemetery at a later date.

As expressions of sympathy, donations to the United Church, Camp Bimini 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

OBITUARY

ZEHR, Ronald



Passed away peacefully with his family at his side on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at the Village of Winston Park, Kitchener at the age of 92 years. Ron was born in East Zorra Township, a son of the late Daniel Zehr and former Annie Brenneman.

Now reunited with his beloved wife of 62 years Ruth Lorraine (Bender)

Zehr (2019), cherished and loving father and grandfather of Bob and wife Connie Zehr and their children Celene and Eric (Kayla); Don and wife Wendy Cressman Zehr and their children Tess (Jake) and Michaela; Lynn and wife Julie Jutzi and their son Blake; Will and wife Shannon Regan and their son Liam; Kathy Zehr and her children Elisabeth, Malcolm and Sheldon; and Mike and wife Denise Maurer and their children Mike, Matthew and Marc. Ron will be missed by several great-grandchildren. Ron is survived by his brother, sisters-in-law and brother-in-law; Glenn and Mary Ellen Zehr, Joyce Zehr, Cleo and Joan Bender and Marj Kaethler, as well as by his many nieces, nephews and extended families.

Predeceased by brothers, sisters, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; Vernon and Katie Zehr, Art and Dorothy Bender, Olive and Orville Bender, Katie and Armand Bender, Lillian and Sam Lichty, and Daniel Zehr.

Ron was a founding member of Hillcrest Mennonite Church, New Hamburg, and he worked on the church construction in 1964 and addition in 1991. He was a career volunteer of the Mennonite Relief Sale, Wilmot Horticultural Society, Tri County Mennonite Homes, AM Fire and Storm Aid and the early years at Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp. Ron was a Partner in Nith Valley Construction in New Hamburg and a part time farmer. In his retirement years he enjoyed driving for Meals on Wheels and was a faithful Wilmot Coffee Club Member.

The family would like to thank the staff in the Sandhills neighbourhood of Winston Park and Assisted Living at Nithview Home for their care and compassion in Dad's last years.

Family and friends are invited to the Mark Jutzi Funeral Home, 291 Huron Street, New Hamburg, on Friday, October 13, 2023 from 4 – 7 p.m. for a time of memorial visiting. The funeral service will take place on Saturday, October 14, 2023 at Hillcrest Mennonite Church, New Hamburg at 11:00 a.m. with Pastors Kevin Peters Unrau and Kathryn Cressman officiating. A private interment in the 19th Line East Zorra Mennonite Cemetery to take place.

As expressions of sympathy, donations to Hillcrest Mennonite Church or Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp would be appreciated and can be done through the funeral home.

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

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COMMUNITY —

The Wilmot-Tavistock
Gazette Weekly Quiz

- 1) When did the Berlin Wall fall?
- 2) Who directed the movie "Jaws"?
- 3) What is the capital of Peru?
- 4) How many vertices does a cube have?
- 5) What is the 6th color of the rainbow?
- 6) What is the name of the princess in "The Princess Bride"?
- 7) In what U.S. state would you find the Grand Canyon?
- 8) What animal appears on the Lamborghini logo?
- 9) Who was the first Blue Jays pitcher to win 20 games in a season?
- 10) Who is the Roman goddess of love?

Answers found on page 22

BIRTHDAYS &
ANNIVERSARIES

October 12: Happy anniversary to Dwayne and Karla Becker (21st).

October 13: Happy birthday to Kayla Bowman (12).

October 14: Happy birthday to Maisy Moore (12) and Nathaniel Cook, and anniversary for Paul and Katherine Brenneman.

October 15: Happy birthday to Nola Seibel (17), Reid Forthuber (20), and Gary J. Yantzi, and anniversary for Adam and Lauren Kocher.

October 16: Happy birthday to Branden Gerber (19) and Aaron Gerber (23).

October 17: Happy birthday to Sienna Hamilton (5), Adelynn Zehr (11), Landen Douglas (14), Brennan Adamson (14), Bill Eekhof, and Mary Nicklas, and anniversaries for Keaton and Tamara Trachsel (8th), Jay and Sarah Ferguson (14th), Dustin and Naomi Mogk (14th).

October 18: Happy birthday to Jillian Sommers and to Muriel Wagner and her great granddaughter Rorianna Ivey, and anniversaries for Darren and Kendra Hazeleger (9th), and Dean and Jane Brown (15th).

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 9-16, 2013 Edition (10 years ago)

Ken and Janis Nicklas have arrived in Goondiwindi, Australia where Ken has taken a job with a John Deere dealership there. The dealership in Goondiwindi is located 360 km or about 4 hours south-west of Brisbane.

On Wednesday, October 9, the staff and students at Hickson Central Public School celebrated their amazing fundraising success from this year's Terry Fox Run with a fun period of outdoor activities. With a goal of \$800 (\$2 per student), the school actually raised more than \$1,500 for the Terry Fox Foundation.

October 8-15, 2003 Edition (20 years ago)

Freda Jutzi has had quite a year. In June, she and her husband, David H., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary and a month earlier, fifty years in business. On Monday, September 29, she was welcomed into a distinguished area of Rotary International by receiving the Paul Harris Fellow award presented by District Governor Mike Knell.

Estimates suggest from 750 to 1,000 people attended the Brenneman Barn Dance on Saturday night just south of Tavistock to raise funds for the Tavistock Firefighters' "Jaws of Life" campaign. And when the night was over, the tables cleared and the last guest safely home, it was estimated that some \$15,500 was raised through private donations and from local businesses and organizations. The Brenneman's barn was destroyed by a fire on March 27, 2003, and they have erected a new, 48,000 sq. ft. broiler chicken barn directly behind the former site.

October 12-19, 1983 Edition (40 years ago)

The Tavistock Minor Ball Association held their annual Banquet and Awards Night last Monday, October 3rd at the Tavistock Memorial Hall. Guest speaker for the event was Lori Sippel, pitcher for the Milverton Ladies Championship team. Lori told of her experiences coming up in the Minor Ball system and of the great feeling of accomplishment in reaching the national and international championships. This year in Tavistock Minor Ball, the best all round boy and girl awards were earned by John Pellow and Lisa Kalbfleisch.

At the opening home game of the Tavistock Braves on October 21, OHA president Pat Doherty will be presenting the Ontario

Championship banner to last year's Captain, Paul Albrecht.

Pletsch TV has returned to its old location in the Masonic block on Hope Street West. Following 18 years in their Woodstock Street North location, which has become known as the Pletsch block, the TV repair and sales business re-opened on September 29th in the store formerly operated by Seltzers dry goods.

October 9-16, 1963 Edition (60 years ago)

A change in the head of the Tavistock Council was made at the meeting of that body on Monday night, when Harold A. Wilker was named Reeve of Tavistock for the balance of 1963. The change followed the acceptance of the resignation of Robert Rudy as Reeve after more than 15 years in office.

During the meeting of the board of the Waterloo-Oxford District High School, held last Tuesday night, it was reported the enrolment was 787, with 396 boys and 391 girls.

The number of persons in Canada under 15 years of age at June 1 was reported by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics as 6,399,500. This is slightly more than one-third of the estimated 18,896,000 total population.

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COMMUNITY —

Record numbers of Holsteins from area competed in a strong show in Stratford



Left to right, the Grand, Reserve and Honourable Mention champions, displaying their award winning mammary systems at the recent Perth-Waterloo Holstein Show. Kevin McGriskin, on the right, judged the large number of entries while on left is ringman Doug Green, who helped the judge in lining up his classes. (Photo credit: Claire Swale Photography)

By Gary West

Large numbers of Holstein dairy cattle were shown recently at the Agriplex in Stratford.

According to show organizers, it was one of the highest quality Holsteins shows to be held in recent years in the city, to compete in front of a large rural crowd at the Rotary Complex.

The Perth and Waterloo County show committee members opened the show to outside counties which made for stiff competition.

In the end, two Oxford County cows took home Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion honours, while a Waterloo County cow was named Honourable Mention champion at the annual show.

Roesbett SK Risky for Roesbett Farms Ltd. of Lakeside was Grand, Brentridge Lambda Dixie for Bettridge Farms Ltd and Marthaven Holsteins from Ingersoll was Reserve, and Extra Mile Intense Doorman for London Dairy Farms was Honourable Mention.

Regional Chair Karen Redman joins national leaders at growth summit

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

Waterloo Regional Chair Karen Redman joined colleagues from industry and government in Ottawa for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) Municipal Growth Summit.

The event focused on strategies to address the challenges and opportunities facing Canada's fastest-growing municipalities, including the need for a new municipal growth framework that better links municipal revenue with demographic and economic growth.

In a release, the Waterloo Region stated it is facing population growth with infrastructure and service needs that outpace

revenues to deliver them.

"The Region of Waterloo and our partners are expanding services to meet the growing needs of residents. This includes increased paramedic services, 30 per cent increase in transit ridership, doubling of shelter spaces, and building more affordable housing in the last three years than in the last decade," said Regional Chair Karen Redman in a release.

"Local taxpayers fund over \$150 million of services that should be funded by provincial or federal governments. This is not sustainable for our community. Like other growing municipalities across Canada, we need a new funding framework."

Christ Church Huntingford's A.C.W September meeting

By Margaret Webber

The September Meeting of Christ Church Huntingford's A.C.W. (Anglican Church Women) was held in the Church Hall at 1.30 p.m. on Thursday, 21st September.

The President, Barbara Bruce, welcomed ten ladies to the meeting. The meeting was opened with the singing of a hymn; Judy Birtch accompanied us on the piano.

The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Our strawberry tea, which was held on June 21st, was a successful event. Sixty two adults and a few children and young people attended. We served strawberries with cake and ice cream, tea and coffee and lemonade. We also had frozen one person meat and fruit pies for sale. We sold 60 beef pies, 46 turkey pies and 50 assorted fruit pies. We also sold fresh berries.

We are planning to make more meat pies on Monday and Tuesday, 30th and 31st October. We are also planning to make more fruit pies in the near future.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to planning our future meetings. There is a possibility that we will have an Indigenous speaker at one of our future meetings. Barbara Bruce is in communication with Reverend Katherine Loynd concerning this.

Our October 19th meeting will be held at Quehl's Restaurant in Tavistock following lunch at 12 noon.

We made tentative plans for the meetings from November 2023 to June 2024.

The meeting was closed with the saying of the A.C.W. Prayer.

A delicious lunch was provided by Anya Donaldson and Margaret Webber.

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Shop Local: Mountainoak Cheese



Mountainoak Cheese representatives at the 47th ABC Festival on September 30. From left to right: Adam Van Bergeijk, Isabelle Claassen, Greg Conlon and Lynn Conlon. (Photo credit: Wellesley Apple Butter & Cheese Festival)

By Veronica Reiner

Mountainoak Cheese, a cheese shop and state-of-the-art processing plant based in New Hamburg, recently won three awards at the SIAL International Cheese Competition.

They won 1st place for their Smoked Cheese, as well as 1st for their farmstead 3-year-old. The farmstead 3-year-old became the champion artisanal cheese. The competition took place in Toronto. The jury was composed of 18 cheese industry professionals, who evaluated 231 cheeses from eight different categories in 25 categories. For a category to be eligible, three cheeses were required to be presented.

The Mountainoak farmstead 3-year-old is aged naturally, and also won grand champion at the 2017 British Empire Cheese Competition. The Mountainoak smoked is naturally applewood smoked at their own facility. They take their smooth and creamy farmstead milk, and give it an enjoyable smoky flavour.

The founder of Mountainoak Cheese, Adam Van Bergeijk, said that it was nice to win. "We have a couple of decorations up on our wall that we call our Hall of Fame," said Adam. "We have all of our awards and medals, and everything on there. It's nice to see that."

It was the third year that this SIAL International Cheese Competition took place, and the second year that

Mountainoak Cheese has participated. Adam added that the business has participated in international competitions in the past, including three in England, U.K, one in Rome, Italy, and one in Wisconsin, United States.

"This year, we had a great growing season," said Adam. "This resulted in an abundance of feed for the cows so they can produce high quality milk for making our cheese."

Locally, Mountainoak Cheese was recently a food vendor inside the Wellesley Community Centre at the Apple Butter and Cheese (ABC) Festival. The event took place on September 30 this year.

"It went very well - it was busy and it's always nice to connect with customers," said Adam. He added there is plenty of planning, such as packing and arranging for testers, that goes into participating in this event. Mountainoak Cheese has participated in the ABC Festival since 2012.

Mountainoak Cheese is located at 3165 Huron Road in New Hamburg. The business is a true farm-to-table experience - from beginning to end. They begin from planting the seed, harvesting the crop, preparing it, feeding the cows, looking after the cows, along with processing cheese to putting it on the shelf. Currently, they have milk, quark and spread in store.

Mountainoak Cheese will soon be offering their Christmas gift baskets.

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SPORTS —

Royals win season opener as former captain honoured



Former Royals captain Geoff Killing, his wife Erika, and their daughter Raemi drop the puck before the team's opening game Saturday night.



Killing and his family after accepting the framed jersey as a thank from the Royals for his seven years with the team.

By Lee Griffi

This past Saturday marked the home opener and first game of the season for the Tavistock Royals, but there was much more on the program than the game on the ice.

The team paid tribute to long-time Royals captain Geoff Killing before the game as he dropped the ceremonial puck and was presented with a framed jersey. The seven-year veteran may play in a part-time

role this season as he puts his family ahead of hockey. The Embro native and his wife Erika live in Woodstock with their two young children. Tristan Hohl was named the Royals new captain before the game as the championship banner from last season was unveiled. The team was then a part of the WOAA.

On the ice, Tavistock blanked Georgian Bay 4-0 in the first game ever played by the expansion team and the second game played in the new Ontario Elite Hockey

League (OEHL). Erik Robichaud opened the scoring near the halfway point of the first period on a setup from Greg Noyes. At the 14:29 mark of the second Sean Kienapple scored a powerplay marker from Mike Noyes and Robichaud. Two third period goals rounded out the scoring, the first an unassisted shorthanded effort by Sean Lantz and the second Kienapple's second of the night from Lantz and Drew Gerth.

Tavistock goaltender Zach Shomphe

kicked out all 34 shots he faced to earn the shutout victory. He was particularly sharp in the third period when the Royals were outshot 15 to 8. Next action for Tavistock is Friday night when they travel to Saugeen Shores to battle the Winterhawks. Their next home game is November 2 when they host the Seaforth Centenaires. The first OEHL game was played on Friday night in Saugeen Shores as the home team downed the Milverton Four Wheel Drives 4-2.



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SPORTS —

PJHL commissioner looking forward to off ice happenings

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

With over 60 teams in the Provincial Junior Hockey League thousands of fans line the seats in arenas across Ontario to watch a really good on-ice product. But for Terry Whiteside the 2023-24 season will be just as exciting for what's happening on the sidelines.

The league will be livestreaming games this season and the league's commissioner said the necessary hardware is being installed. "We are in the process of working with teams, municipalities, and Hockey Technology Partners to get cameras in 61 arenas which is quite a task." Whiteside added they worked with a different company last year to have games broadcast, but it just didn't happen. "A lot of the things we had talked about wanting weren't being delivered when we were looking at it last year, so we regrouped and went back to the drawing board." He said there have been a few hiccups in implementing the plan including dealing with local governments. "Municipalities have a lot of concerns with liability and privacy that we are having to overcome 61 times." The service will be branded as PJHLTV.ca where fans can pay for a subscription and watch their favourite team's games. The site NAHLTV.com was created by the same company and will look very similar to the PJHL's and teams will have the option to have someone do the play-by-play. Whiteside said there are close to 15 cameras installed so far. "We are looking at turning the system on and making it free until we are up to speed with everyone so probably after Christmas the paid subscription will come into play. A lot of fans have been reaching out asking where the service is, so they are looking for it."

The league has also taken a conscious approach to its



brand as of late, calling itself a 'Destination League' which Whiteside said shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone. "It's really just saying what we are. The average age in the league is 19-plus and for the players who come, it's a choice. They are pretty much at the end of their playing career so it's a new start in life." He explained they are working with trade unions along with small independent electricians to help players get that next start in life. "Hockey in the PJHL is probably second or third on a player's priority list. School or a career or whatever else may be ahead of it and we recognize that and try and help players into the next step of their lives." The league has also had two meetings with the Ontario Provincial Police and have developed relationships with trade unions who are looking for workers, something Whiteside said they can help with. "We've got 1500 players in our league so if we can be a conduit and help our players, help these trade unions, that's a good thing."

The league is also in hiring mode, looking for a Coordinator of Marketing and Partnerships who, when hired, will

have a number of duties including strengthening current relationships and looking for new ones. "We dabbled into it a bit and had a university student volunteer with us for four months who was working toward that type of a role doing some of the things we are looking for." The job description to say the least is a long one but Whiteside added the role will develop over time. "You sent me an email about it being fairly lengthy and I think it is what you might call aspirational. I think anybody who's been in business long enough realizes that these roles morph and change as the business dictates. We think it might change a little bit as we move through it, and it depends on the skillset of the person we are able to hire."

The Wellesley Applejacks took home the Schmaltz Cup last season and for Whiteside that is another indication of the parody seen in the PJHL, something he expects to be no different during the 2023-24 season. "You talk about parody and the teams that played Wellesley probably thought they aren't that far off where the Applejacks were. There is a lot of parody among the top 35 teams. As a group if we can help lift each other and every night there are competitive games it's better for fans, players, officials, everybody."

PJHL Weekend Scores

The Tavistock Braves split their weekend games, dropping a 2-1 decision to Wellesley then defeating Paris 6-1. The Applejacks made it a weekend sweep with a 3-1 home victory over Hespeler. New Hamburg also won their two games downing Norwich 4-3 and the Shamrocks 3-0. The Woodstock Navy Vets lead the Doherty Division with a perfect record of eight wins against no losses putting them four points of the second-place Firebirds.

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- 9:15 - 10:30 am Guest Speakers
- 10:30 - 11:00 am Stretch Break/Coffee/Vendors
- 11:00 - 11:20 am SMART Exercises
- 11:20 - 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
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COMMUNITY —

WRPS seeking feedback for 2024 police budget

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

The Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) Board is encouraging members of Waterloo Region to provide their input into their WRPS 2024 budget.

With a growing Regional population and increasing level of service demands, the Police Services Board is looking to hear thoughts from residents on law enforcement, community safety and wellbeing, and crime suppression.

The police services board will host two public input sessions:

October 26, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

November 6, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"Budget consultations provide residents in Waterloo Region with a great opportunity to convey their priorities for the Police Services Board's forthcoming budget," said Chair Karen Redman in a release.



"Our hope is to hear a diverse range of perspectives from our community partners with the goal of strengthening public

safety and community well-being."

The WRPS board said they are committed

to building a better, safer, and more equitable Waterloo Region for all our citizens.

How to Register to Delegate:

To register to delegate, those interested are required to fill out a form, available online

Delegation sign up will be on a first come first serve basis prior to the deadline of October 20.

Each delegation will have up to a maximum of five minutes, followed by an opportunity for questions from board members.

Written Submissions:

The Police Services Board welcomes written submissions for those unable to attend the in-person session. The limit for a written submission is 2,000 characters. Please send your written submissions to board@wrps.on.ca.

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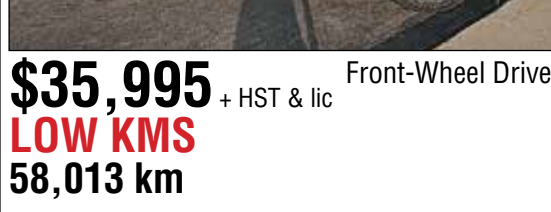
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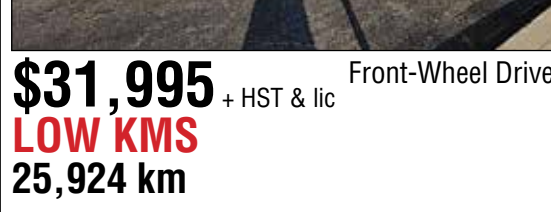
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COMMUNITY —

Perth South East Dairy 4H Club Achievement Day



Grand Champion Showperson left to right, Judge Micheal Lupton, Hounorable Mention Showperson Gracie Weitzel, Reserve Grand Champion Showperson Addison Hyatt, Grand Champion Showperson Meaghan Weitzel. Grand Champion Calf left to right, Judge Micheal Lupton, Hounorable Mention 4H Dairy Calf - Spring View Venus Jellyfish shown by Brooklyn Hyatt, Reserve Grand Champion 4H Dairy Calf - Spring View Maverick Shyanne shown by Addisson Hyatt, Grand Champion 4H Dairy Calf - Carldot Delta Lambda Lilah shown by Gracie Weitzel.

The Perth South East Dairy 4H club held its achievement day recently at the Stratford Fall Fair in September. After several months of training and caring for their 4H calf project kids show their calves in two classes and are placed.

The Showmanship class judges how well trained the calf is and how the 4H member presents the calf to the judge. The second

class is a Conformation class, where the judge ranks the calves by type or how the calf looks.

We would also like to wish the best of luck to two of our members that were selected to represent Perth County at the 4H Classic show at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto - Emily Danen and Meaghan Weitzel.

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, taken by Sandy Hinschberger, depicts a beautiful sky the morning of September 28. (Photo credit: Sandy Hinschberger)

Gazette Puzzles

Pizza

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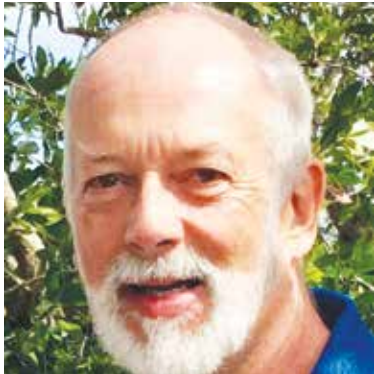
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TRAVEL —

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Should I travel to Florida?



By Paul Knowles

A lot of Canadians travel south to avoid the cold winter months. Many of us are planning our visits right now. I don't spend all the colder months somewhere warm but we do try to head south for a month or so and I know a great many snowbirds who skip Canadians winters entirely.

Most head to warm parts of the United States although that has become increasingly fraught with concern in recent years. I know many people who own property in the US but who are thinking of selling out and finding a warm alternative.

I also know Canadian travel writers who are reluctant to encourage people to visit the US, given the current social and political climate.

This was on my mind when I met Ronny Maye, one of an international group of travel writers, during some recent travels. Ronny, an American who lives in North Carolina, describes herself as "a solo traveler, female traveler, plus size traveler and Black traveler." She recently wrote a piece for Fodor's Travel,

responding to a travel advisory cautioning people of colour and LGBTQ2+ folks, to beware of travelling to Florida.

Her conclusions, I think, can apply to all concerned travellers.

Ronny wrote in part, "I believe the travel advisory was necessary to keep people abreast of the current climate in Florida towards Black residents and travelers. But it's equally important to acknowledge that the beliefs of [Governor] DeSantis (and his following) are not the beliefs and feelings of the entire state. There are places within the state that are welcoming to visitors of all races and lifestyles."

She cautions that, "A decrease in tourism will negatively impact the communities the advisory wants to protect. Numerous Black and LGBTQIA+ Floridians work in hospitality, restaurants, and other service industries directly served by tourism."

But she is careful: "What's happening in the state should not be overlooked. Much like traveling internationally, travelers should enter the state erring on the side of caution..."

Ronny's analysis mirrors my own thoughts about travelling to parts of the world, including the United States, where social and political challenges exist. But Ronny's carry far more credibility than mine because of who she is and what she has experienced.

I know this is a lengthy introduction to what follows but I have felt for some time that I should make some comments on the issues facing travellers to the U.S. Ronny's thoughtful article gave

me that opportunity.

And so... it will not surprise regular readers of this weekly feature that I am a fan of the Florida Keys. This is unlike any other destination in the U.S. Most of the people of the Keys are laid-back, welcoming and entirely inclusive.

And so, as we hit the time of year when Canadians are thinking about heading somewhere warm for a while, let me suggest Key West.

We visited the town earlier this year and stayed at Opal Key, a terrific resort right on the harbour.

Opal Key is the reincarnation of a resort that has existed under several brands but now flourishes as a family-owned complex of hotel, restaurant and retail space. It's where cruise ships dock in Key West, and so when you stay there, all amenities are immediately at hand. Plus, you get the secret pleasure of watching all those cruise folks board their ship to leave Key West in the late afternoon. The boats have to be gone by sunset so they don't block the view of people celebrating sundown on Mallory Square while you get to stay in this magical town for an entertaining evening.

While staying at Opal Key, we dined at their Bistro 245 and the food was terrific. I loved the truffle encrusted grouper, and this being Key West, I finished of course with key lime pie.

My favourite thing about Key West is the live music, sundry styles performed in dozens of bars all day and most of the



Maggie Montoya, at the fabulous restaurant, Milagro. (All photos by Paul Knowles)

night. I also love the sunset celebrations, the Conch tour train, the museums and galleries. But on this trip, we also discovered how wonderful the foodie scene is. Visitors could dine in a different, excellent eatery every day for months.

A quick shout-out to three. First, the Half Shell Raw Bar is the place to go for seafood, a casual waterfront diner on the historic Key West Seaport.

Blue Heaven is one of the finest breakfast establishments ever. You sit outside, surrounded by tropical plants, and accompanied on occasion by the ubiquitous Key West chickens. And yes, you can have key lime pie for breakfast.

And a wonderful surprise is Milagro, owned and run by Maggie and Kevin Montoya. Maggie is in the right job as host: warm, friendly, engaging. Kevin is a su-

perb chef. My meal, a starter of perfectly prepared octopus with a mango sauce and polenta, and then hogfish and shrimp as the main was over-the-top delicious. Don't knock it 'til you've tried it!

All of this is to say: I understand and share your caution about visiting some of the more right-wing American states right now. But I think Ronny is right. We can do more good than harm in supporting the tourism business and its people, and more specifically, once you get to the Florida Keys, you are in a safe, secure – as well as entertaining, welcoming and delicious – environment.

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



The quirky, unique Half Shell Raw Bar on Key West's historic waterfront.



Opal Key resort in Key West.

COMMUNITY —

Bean Harvest continues in Perth County



The Townsend Brothers, taking off coloured beans near Shakespeare, on a hot, dry and sunny day in ideal harvest conditions.

By Gary West

Crop farming in the tri-county area of Oxford, Perth and Waterloo has been taking place at a fast pace as of the week of October 4 due to super weather and dry conditions for harvest.

During that time, there have been soy-bean, white and coloured bean combines running steady, corn silage harvest continuing, and fall wheat planting continuing with farmers, trying to take advantage of the beautiful, warm weather and dry conditions.

Oxford County Library monthly book review

The Faceless Old Woman Who Secretly Lives in Your Home by Joseph Fink and Jeffrey Cranor

By Oxford County Library Staff

In this one little town in the middle of the desert, there is a faceless old woman who secretly lives in everyone's home – this is her origin story. Told in a series of flashbacks going back to the early nineteenth century, we watch the woman navigate adventure, love, and betrayal from her Mediterranean Estate, to the criminal underworld, to the high seas, death, and beyond.

Part historical fiction, part adventure thriller, part satirical horror, this story is one of a kind. It will have you laughing out loud, gripping the edge of your seat, and will keep you guessing until the very end. This is the third book in a series, however it is only loosely connected to the other two novels and can easily be read on its own. It is also a part of the Welcome to Night Vale universe (for those familiar with the Welcome to Night Vale podcast). If you're looking for a seasonal read but find the horror genre to be a bit too much for you, this may be a fun alternative!



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR - OCTOBER 2023

<p>October 12th</p> <p>We Own This Now play</p> <p>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 yours at mcc.org/we-own-this-now. For additional information contact ecumenicalworking-group@gmail.com</p> <p>October 14th</p> <p>Tree Planting at Baden Sandhills Regional Forest</p> <p>From 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 2733</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>October 14th</p> <p>Community Safety Day</p> <p>Takes place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the New Hamburg Community Centre at 251 Jacob Street. Features live interactive demonstrations, mini fire fit challenge, truck displays, popcorn, move and colouring station, Wilmot Heritage Brigade display, emergency preparedness education, and live music by Erick Traplin at 11 a.m.</p> <p>October 15th</p> <p>Screaming Eagles Reunion</p> <p>Reunion of the Screaming Ea-</p>	<p>gles hockey team, along with their friends and family members, at the New Hamburg Legion from around 1 p.m. until about 7 p.m.</p> <p>October 16th</p> <p>Wilmot Council Meeting</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>October 17th</p> <p>New Dundee Women's Institute Open House</p> <p>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, Informed, 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.</p>	<p>October 17th</p> <p>Wellesley Council Meeting</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> <p>October 18th</p> <p>East Zorra Tavistock Council Meeting</p> <p>In-person council meeting taking place at 7 p.m. at 695566 17th Line in Innerkip.</p> <p>October 28th</p> <p>Tree Planting - Corner of Gingerich RD & Foundry St., Baden</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>ed. Go to letstreewilmot.ca for details and registration or eventbrite.ca/o/lets-tree-wilmot-34384003923.</p> <p>October 28th</p> <p>Grand Ole Opry Philipsburg Style</p> <p>The Zion Lutheran Philipsburg presents the Grand Ole Opry Philipsburg style, featuring Dianne Ditner and Gary Moser. From 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., admission is \$10. With special guests: Minnie Pearl and the Hee Haw Gang. Grab your cowboy hats, don some western gear and join for the toe-tappin' afternoon full of country music.</p> <p>October 30th</p> <p>Blood Drive</p> <p>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.</p>
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Weekly Quiz Answers

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| 1)Nov 9, 1989 | 6)Buttercup |
| 2)Steven Spielberg | 7)Arizona |
| 3)Lima | 8)A bull |
| 4)8 | 9)Jack Morris |
| 5)Indigo | 10)Venus |

OPINION —

EXPERT ADVICE: *BAY DAYS ARE COMING! Are you ready Freddy?***By Scott Dunstall**

First of all, before I get off on this tangent, did you know that The Bay now has a Zeller's section in their bricks and mortars as well as an additional tab on their website menu bar? There are clothing options for you here that are tailored to meet the needs of cost-conscious men. I would put these items in a range above Walmart due to their purchasing department's fashion pedigree.

Back to Bay Days. They come twice a year, once in the spring (April) and once in the fall (October). What I usually start doing around this time is looking at my wardrobe and figure out what gaps I have at the moment. Either I want something to match a new piece I purchased since the last BAY DAYS, or something wore out since then. And in October, I am thinking fall/winter (shut up with the fall/winter Scott) and not spring (duh!). So here are the two things I am looking for during this sale.

New jeans:

I often get compliments on my

clash (outfit), and usually, it is about something that I'm wearing. "Nice coat." "Nice Boots." And while those pieces might be the centerpiece of the flash (outfit) it is the complementary things that I am wearing that make those centerpieces stand out. And usually, the unsung hero of that flash (Outfit) are my jeans. At the end of the day, I have some pairs of dark jeans and light jeans; dark jeans usually go with my winter flashes (outfits), and light ones for the summer. I will be looking for another pair of dark jeans during the sale as I am down to two workable pairs after I fell down at the bottom of an escalator and ripped the knee out of my third pair. Don't ask.

For me, I want my jeans to taper towards the ankle, so I am usually looking for words on the label like "tapered" or "skinny" or "slim." These terms do not mean you have to have that body style to wear them. Good lord, if that was the case my jeans would be defined as "Lard Butt" or "Paunchy." They simply mean how those jeans shape to your body. I firmly believe that a crucial part of your flash is the way your jeans or pants or slacks flow seamlessly into your shoes or boots. That is why I preferred tapered. And I also will not wear jeans unless they have only a very slight break at the bottom. That is, there is no bunching up where the pants hit the shoes. The flow of the jeans does not flare (because of the tapered cut) or bunch up at the break (pick the right in-seam and get tailored if necessary), I have often bought a pair of jeans, and before I do anything, I will get

the length adjusted to eliminate the break. One other thing about jeans. Because I do buy tapered jeans, I bet you wonder how I get the aforementioned lard butt into them. I always make sure I get jeans with a small amount of spandex mixed into the fabric.

New Winter Coat:

I have a number of them, but I am always on the lookout for something new. This is not a need based purchase but more of a 'would be a nice addition to the closet' piece. The types of winter coats I normally wear are waist length puffer jackets or mid length dress coats. Two things to remember with any kind of coat. Make sure there is no bagginess in the shoulders (make sure both sides fit snug). The other thing is to try and get one that is just short of your wrist. That way, your pieces under the coat (like a sweater over a shirt) will pop at the wrist. At the moment, I am hoping to find a sand-coloured mid-length dress coat. I have some matching boots that I purchased at the end of last winter that need to have a coat matched to them.

That's it. I guess the takeaway from this is to plan your purchases so that you never buy articles of clothing at full price. In this case, plan to do some homework and then some shopping!

"Style Is Just Fashion Filtered Through Your Personality"

Scott Dunstall is a local writer who has been on a stylistic journey for more than 10 years. His belief is that every guy has a style of their own.

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CLARIFICATION:

We have learned that last week's headline on page 21, "EZT denies senior hockey team's alcohol policy exemption ask", may have led readers to draw incorrect conclusions about the status of the Tavistock Royals' ability to sell alcohol at their hockey games this year – particularly if readers had not read the article in its entirety.

While the team has not received an exemption for its fans to consume alcohol in the standing room area at the top of the tiered seating at the Tavistock & District Recreation Centre, East Zorra-Tavistock has indeed provided two temporary options for the team to consider, including an exemption to have alcohol consumed in the tiered seating area of the arena until the end of October in addition to the upper hall where the current blueline club is situated. This option, which the Royals accepted, provides a capacity of 732 people.

The Gazette apologizes for the confusion and potential misinformation caused by the October 5th page 21 headline.

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