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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023

FREE

New Hamburg Screaming Eagles holds 50-year reunion



Back row, left to right: Don Pestell (sponsor), Rick Falk, Don Culbert, Tom Pearson, Gary Stockie, Orest Romashyna, Dave Hall, Tom Daniels. Middle row: Neil Harmer, Mark Bender, Ross Bell, Paul Steffler, Bob Ruthig. Front row: Ken Leu, Dave Seyler (executive), Myron Stankiewicz (coach) Savo Vujovic, Ken Best. Missing: Steve Scherer (manager) Keith Bast (executive) Orval Bast, Dave Weber, Bob Hunter. (Photo credit: Veronica Reiner)

By Veronica Reiner

The New Hamburg Screaming Eagles, a former hockey team, celebrated their 50-year anniversary at the New Hamburg Legion on Sunday, October 15.

The event saw players, executives, and spouses attend.

"It was awesome seeing everyone again, for some it was 50 years ago," said former

Screaming Eagles player Don Culbert. "The Legion served us a wonderful meal, and I know everyone was glad they attended and went home knowing they were the champions."

The team was made up of players from New Hamburg, Wellesley, Plattsville and Bright. They were in the Ontario Hockey Association (OHA) Intermediate "B" and

won the All Ontario Championships for the 1972-1973 season.

The final game saw the Screaming Eagles take down the Napanee Comets 5-3.

There are six members of the team who have passed away, including Wayne Weber, Frank Biro (executive), Len Lorentz (trainer), Daryl Graham, Clare Wagler and Brian James.

Wilmot creating task force to run Canada Day 2024

By Veronica Reiner

Wilmot council approved terms of reference for a task force that will plan a township-led Canada Day event for July 2024.

Ward Four Councillor Lillianne Dunstall was appointed to the committee by other council members at a hybrid meeting on October 16. Ward One Councillor Stewart Cressman put Lillianne's name forward, "given [her] personal interest in this and to see it through to successful completion."

The task force will be made up of the Wilmot Township Mayor (Natasha Salonen), one member of council appointed by council (Lillianne Dunstall), up to eight representatives from service organizations operating in Wilmot Township (e.g. service clubs) and up to three members from the community at large (e.g. business owners, community stakeholders, residents, etc.).

"I'm pleased to see this moving forward. I certainly appreciate the work of the previous organizing committee, but... in looking at some of the events that have happened within our region, I look forward to seeing the township putting some sponsorship into this and helping organizing an event that will certainly be for everyone that lives here, as well as everyone in Canada," said Ward Two Councillor Kris Wilkinson.

For those interested in being a part of the task force, an application form will be available on the township website as of October 25, while the application submission deadline takes place on November 27. Council will appoint the task force membership on December 11.

The task force will be required to submit a post event report to council within three months of the Canada Day event taking place. The report will summarize the total

Continued on page 2

TIM LOUIS Member of Parliament Kitchener-Conestoga

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COMMUNITY —

Wilmot creating task force to run Canada Day 2024

Continued from page 1

event donations, revenues and expenditures, event successes, and areas for continued improvement.

Dunstall brought a motion forward in July to investigate what would be needed for the township to lead Canada Day celebrations and increase community involvement. She said some local service groups felt that they were left out of the planning process in recent years.

"As one of the councillors 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," said Dunstall, in a previous statement to the Gazette.

"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."

In 2021, organizers of the Canada Day in Wilmot volunteer group cancelled celebrations out of respect for Indigenous community members grieving those who died at residential schools.

"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," said Dunstall in her statement. "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."

According to a report by Interim Director of Corporate Services Jeff Bunn, township staff met with volunteers involved with the current Canada Day event to ask for their opinion on future events. The volunteers said they were working closely with

local youths, including Indigenous youths, on the content for the Canada Day events, and that they received federal funding based on the event's support of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action.

"The volunteers suggested that those elements of the event should be maintained," wrote Bunn.

There is \$25,000 earmarked for celebrations, which includes fireworks. Council members noted that the intent is for Canada Day celebrations to remain free.

County working hard to create more licensed daycare spots

Asking for help from lower-tier municipalities

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Any parent with young children knows how difficult it is to find childcare be it in urban or rural areas of Oxford County, but the massive wait list continues and there is no relief in sight in the short term.

Kelly Black is the county's director of human services and said the shortage of childcare spaces is an issue that doesn't get as much attention as homelessness and affordable housing, but she believes it should. "I'm quite happy to talk about it. We definitely need to have more licensed childcare providers or even increase the number of spaces with existing providers. We are certainly working to do that." She added her department is having those conversations with municipalities as well as new businesses coming to Oxford about building space for on-site daycare to ensure employees have access to it. "Our team sent an email to all area municipalities about the need for additional childcare spaces. Some of them have engaged in further conversations and some have not. We have been doing a big push

with our licensed home childcare. We have been able to double that this year to about 20 homes which is twice as many as we had last year. We are slowly building on that side." Black added the county is also contacting private developers to include a provision for childcare in requests for proposals where it makes sense. "Whatever we can do to leverage those collaboratives, even considering if there is a long-term care home being built. Does it make sense to include childcare? We are taking a look at what is happening across Oxford County and what we can do to increase spaces."

The Gazette reached out to the Minister of Education, Steven Lecce, and asked what the government was planning on doing to provide more licensed daycare in small communities. Spokesperson Isha Chaudhuri provided the following statement. "To support growing families in Tavistock, our government has committed the allocation of 1,894 additional spaces to be created enabling more families in the County of Oxford to access quality childcare. Our government is utilizing

innovative policy to additionally provide local service system managers in Ontario with \$213 million in funding for start-up grants to support the creation of new, affordable childcare spaces for children under the age of six in targeted locations for communities and populations most in need. We will continue to deliver savings for parents and access to childcare that best suits their families' needs."

Tavistock currently has two licensed home childcare operations providing about 10 spaces and one of those operators is Janet Cundall who welcomes the extra set of eyes that comes with the licensing process. "It's good to have people checking in to make sure everything's good." Cundall has been following her daughter, a locum, around the county and providing daycare where she ends up. She started in British Columbia and was in Stratford before winding up in Tavistock when she opened Tiny Seeds Nature Pre-School and Childcare in June with spaces for five children.

The Gazette also spoke to an unlicensed operator in the county who wished to remain anonymous. They mentioned a few roadblocks to becoming licensed including the red tape involved. "There is so much paperwork that they need you to do. I understand that but being one person, I have to cook, clean, take the kiddos to school, and provide their daily activities." They added there are a lot of extras to do which might be doable if they had an employee, but that isn't feasible. "I would be losing income. Licensed home childcare has set prices. Being private, I set my own daily rates."

10 of 12 eligible Oxford County childcare providers opted into the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Childcare Agreement with the end goal of an average of \$10 a day daycare. "Right now, the goal is September of 2025 to reach that price, but we will see if there is a shift going into 2024. Other provinces have reached that average so if Ontario wants to move up their target, we haven't heard anything yet," said Black. There is a range of what

parents are paying for their children in the federal program based on age, but currently in Oxford, it is between \$19 and \$24 a day. "That represents a 52.75 percent decrease in fees that was applied by December of 2022. We have 1380 spaces across the county at daycare centres and 119 in licensed home childcare. There appears to be a discrepancy in what parents pay for private versus licensed home daycare, and it adds up. Cundall is only able to charge \$42.50 per child per day while sources tell the Gazette those without a license are getting up to \$55 per child per day.

Oxford County does keep a record of kids waiting for licensed spots and the number is staggering. "Right now, we have about 2700 children on it, and they range in age from infants to preschool age. It is a significant gap." Black did add that on a positive note, two upcoming school projects in Woodstock and other new builds will add spots eventually. "We have a school opening in 2025 and another in 2026 which will each have 88 spaces. We have Zorra Township's new office which will add 88 next year and a new for-profit coming to the Woodstock area which is also 88 spaces scheduled for 2024."

Oxford County is also continuing to make a pitch to increase the number of early childhood education workers in the area, something there is also a shortage of. "We are working with employment providers, local colleges, and high schools, to have young people think of the sector as a career. I can't tell you how successful that has been, but it is certainly something we are working on." Cundall said one area that would make an improvement is improved pay for childcare workers. "They are underpaid. House cleaners make more money, and we have the responsibility of taking care of people's children." The unnamed provider echoes those thoughts. "ECEs and any childcare staff are greatly underpaid in Ontario. We are helping to shape these little humans into proactive, humans of society, that may make a difference one day. It's a very important job."



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COMMUNITY —

Spooktacular home decorating contest held throughout Wilmot Township

Two winners to be announced on October 28 and receive \$250 each



Zehr Insurance Brokers New Hamburg on Huron Street decorates their business with ghosts for the contest. (Photo credit: Patricia Roth Piattelli)

By Veronica Reiner

The New Hamburg Optimist Club and the New Hamburg Board of Trade are holding a spooktacular decorating contest in Wilmot Township, with the winners (with two different categories for home and business) to receive \$250 for their efforts.

Those participating are asked to decorate their house or business, then post their photo on the Show Us Your Wilmot Facebook page. A panel of judges, which includes New Hamburg Optimist Club President Scott Dunstall and New Hamburg Board of Trade President Lyle Cressman, will select one winning house and one winning business.

When asked what the judges are looking for, Scott said creativity, originality, attention to detail, use of materials or items, and overall spookiness.

"The idea was originally born out of our pumpkin carving contest that we're holding with the Optimists on October the 28th at the fire hall," explained Scott. "So, we wanted to build some community excitement up around it and get people decorating their homes, and also businesses."

Because some of the displays may include moving pieces or lights, Scott encouraged videos to be posted to show the full picture. Businesses are also encouraged to decorate their website to look spooky, and the judges will take that into consideration.

"I recognize that not all businesses are brick-and-mortar - some of them are digital," said Scott.

A similar contest that was hosted by the New Hamburg Board of Trade in the past was the Canada Day Decorating Contest. Participants were asked to decorate their homes for Canada Day, then post the photos to the Show Us Your Wilmot Facebook page. The winners were based on how many virtual reactions the post received. More than 20 people participated.

Scott said that the judging criteria was changed this time around based on some participant complaints.

The winners will be announced at the New Hamburg Optimist pumpkin carving event on October 28 at 6 p.m. at the New Hamburg Fire Hall.

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COMMUNITY —

Local businesses participate in “Cops for Cancer” fundraiser

More than \$14,180 raised for childhood cancer research

By Veronica Reiner

There were several local businesses that participated in a “Cops for Cancer” fundraiser that raised money for childhood cancer research.

More than \$14,180 was raised from this event. Local participating businesses include New Hamburg Home Hardware and Millbank Cheese and Butter. The event took place in the Army, Navy, Airforce Club in Stratford on September 30.

“This marks the first year that Stratford Police Service and Perth County OPP have partnered for a large scale, public, Cops for Cancer event,” said Provincial Constable Bethany Hanlon. “Perth County OPP has previously run the event on a much smaller scale at our local detachment.”

Open to members of the public, the event saw more than 200 attendees participate in a barbecue, raffle and pledge money to individuals shaving their heads. Ten individuals representing the Perth County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and Stratford Police Service are sporting new haircuts as a result of this event.

All proceeds raised support the Canadian Cancer Society in fueling new pediatric cancer research discoveries, sending 600 kids each year to camp Goodtimes, providing support services such as counseling, and advocating to improve the lives of children affected by cancer.

In addition to witnessing members of



both police services cut their hair, attendees were able to explore multiple police vehicles, including the OPP Mobile Command Unit, cruisers and ATV's. Several attendees also took their turn in the barber's chair to support the event.

When asked why this charity was selected, Cst. Hanlon said, “Cops for Cancer started in 1997 with one police officer,

and it has now grown into one of the largest fundraising events of childhood cancer research in the county. Nearly

\$52 million has been raised by first responders to increase survival rates and support children living with cancer and their families.”

When asked whether they will run the event in the future, Cst. Hanlon said, “Given the tremendous success we have had, and the support from our local community members and businesses, we are optimistic that we will be able to run this event again in the future.”

Other participating businesses and individuals included Army, Navy, Airforce Club Stratford, The Stonetown Barbershop, Joan Aitchison, Coca-Cola Canada, Hot Diggity Dawghouse, Ken's Fries, Mitchell Golf and Country Club, Valu-Mart Mitchell, Dick's Barber Shop, BJ's Dairy Bar, GC Financial, Co-Operators Insurance Mitchell, Floral Treasures, Huron Tractor, Dr. Carrah Templeman, Tralee Golf Course, The Scrapbook Shop, Keystone Restaurant, 107.7 FM Radio Station Stratford, Rheo Thompson Candies, Sharon Fisher, Anderson Craft Ales, Kyle McKone (aka Sarge), Urban Barber, Chocolate Barr's, The Black Swan Brewery, Stratford Warriors and Zehrs Stratford.

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The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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COMMUNITY —

Wellesley approves sale of alcohol at licensed outlets on five statutory holidays

By Veronica Reiner

Pop the champagne - Licensed Convenience Outlets (LCO) in Wellesley Township are permitted to sell alcohol on five statutory holidays.

The decision was approved during a hybrid council meeting on Tuesday, October 3. The five holidays include Family Day, Victoria Day, Canada Day, Labour Day, and Thanksgiving Day.

"Staff believe this will contribute to the local economy, with the availability of local retailers on holidays throughout the year," said Wellesley Clerk Grace Kosch.

The LCBO (Liquor Control Board of Ontario) has been authorizing beverage alcohol sales through its LCBO Agency Store program since 1962. The LCBO does not allow sales on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Christmas Day, or New Year's Day.

In 2019, the LCBO program was rebranded and expanded as the LCBO convenience outlets program. The LCO program allows local retailers to sell beverage alcohol, along with other consumer goods. There are four LCOs in Wellesley Township, including:



Wellesley council voted on the matter in a hybrid council meeting on Tuesday, October 3. Councillor Shelley Wagner attended virtually.

- Pym's Village Market, 1192 Queens Bush Road, Wellesley
- St. Clements Food Township IFT, 3650 Lobsinger Line, St. Clements
- Linwood Corner Store, 5190 Ament Line, Linwood
- Stemmler's Meat and Cheese, 3031 Lobsinger Line, Heidelberg

Council directed staff to write letters of intent for Pym's Market and the Linwood Corner Store, who both came forward to the township with a request to sell alcohol on holidays in January and May this year. Pym's Village Market was provided permission in February to open on specific statutory holidays. More requests will be dealt with at a staff level, and will not require a council vote.

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COMMUNITY —

Business Profile: The Garden Stand

By Mercedes Kay Gold

Adam Brenner, owner of The Garden Stand, is a classically trained chef in French cuisine. With over a decade of experience in top hotels and as a head chef, New Hamburg is blessed to have his sensational storefront space on Peel Street. The Garden Stand is the culmination of in-store shopping, custom catering or an online ordering experience. They offer fabulous food fare and one-of-a-kind finds, from artisan chutney to hand-painted greeting cards.

As a holistic nutritionist, I advocate clean nutrient dense eating, but this can prove challenging in today's fast-moving and often stressful world. Chef Brenner has tons of tasty take-out options that are healthy, homemade and comfort food fabulousness. Whether you are vegetarian, vegan or meat-based, oodles of options are available to suit every meal plan or diet du jour.

Busy bees often skip breakfast, and Adam offers energy bites, essential for everyone on the go. The long list of ingredients offers tons of body-boosting benefits. Pumpkin seeds are a key source of zinc, linked to immunity and prostate health. Chia, flax, walnuts, and cashews contain protein and healthy fats. Stabilizing blood sugar and satisfying a rumbling stomach helps promote weight management. A touch of dried berries and a hint of honey satisfies a sweet tooth.

The possibilities for power packed plant-based pick-up lunches are endless, but also stupendous suppertime selections or sides. Chickpea salad is legume love paired with top-notch tofu for a double dose of plant protein. The combination of currants and curry with the crunch of fennel and peppers is a taste bud bonanza. Fall in love with falafels dipped in the beautiful bright, iconic Barbie pink beet hummus. Take a trip to Greece. Carbohydrates, protein and healthy fats tame a growling tummy thanks to tomatoes, orzo pasta, fabulous feta, and olives! The



Chef Adam Brenner outside of The Garden Stand storefront on Peel Street in New Hamburg.

vinaigrette is a synergy of holistic herbs. Chef Brenner's veggie burgers left me speechless. I love the fact they are gluten-free, using rice flour and chia instead of wheat flour. Combining Cajun, cilantro, cumin and curry is a mouthwatering megahit. Topping the black bean patties

with a dollop of Adam's signature salsa is beyond a taste sensation.

Entertaining is in the air. Thanksgiving is a wrap, but Christmas is up next. There's no shortage of pickled beets, green beans, hot peppers, and dill pickles to make a showstopping charcuterie board. Take the stress out of slaving over a hot stove and leave the planning to the experts. I can honestly say, that Chef Adam Brenner's turkey is top-notch and I should have ordered double of his sensationally seasoned gravy. A word to the wise, decadent desserts tends to be dairy-based, and with so many food sensitivities, holiday kindness is a backup plan waiting in the fridge. The Garden Stand offers a creamy cashew based; date sweetened vegan cheesecake with a beautiful berry compote.

The list of delectable dishes is endless, and the adorable store highlights loads of local brands this nutritionist must shed light on. Gut health is more than a trend. If you haven't kicked pop to the curb yet, now's your chance. Live Vibes Kombucha is a fermented drink made from live bacteria and acids called a scoby. Kombucha bacteria works as a probiotic, supporting the microbiome. With flavors from turmeric citrus to raspberry pomegranate, a bottle of bubbly can be healthy. Swap white sugar for Mother Nature's sweetness. Maple Tap Farm is a family affair, producing high-quality sweet amber awesomeness of Canada's beloved maple syrup since 1969. Nith Valley Apiaries handcrafted honey offers a plethora of pure products, and a slew of specialty flavors with holistic add-ins. This winter, go for their elderberry, turmeric or ginger infused honey for flu and cold prevention courtesy of Mother Nature.

Chef Adam Brenner is a local culinary artist and his store a gem, whether you need a snack, healthy take-out or planning to wow guests. Show love on social and follow @thegardenstand.ab.



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COMMUNITY —

Greeting cards at Tavistock's Scotiabank, raising money for the Student Nutrition Program



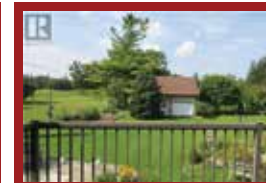
By Gary West

Student nutrition in area schools has never been more important than it is today, and the staff at a local Tavistock institution fully realize the importance of keeping students eating healthy with nutritious food.

The staff at Tavistock's Scotiabank are once again fundraising for the Tavistock Public School Student Nutrition Program.

Local photographer, ML Herlick Photography, has done up greeting cards with pictures of local scenes that would interest area residents.

The cards sell for \$5 each, and all funds raised will go to the school's student nutrition program. Readers are asked to check out the display at the downtown, Scotiabank, with the card fundraiser running from now till Christmas.



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COMMUNITY —

Wellesley Township giving away free trees in Planting Roots program

Wellesley residents can pick up trees at township office on October 21 and October 28

By Veronica Reiner

The Wellesley Township "Planting Roots" program is back once again this year, with 1,200 trees to be given away to local residents.

Planting Roots is a program initiated by Wellesley Township with support from the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA). Trees will be available to township residents to pick up at the administrative office at 4639 Lobsinger Line, St. Clements. There is no cost to residents for these trees.

Jake Redpath, Public Works Technologist at the Township of Wellesley, said this is the fourth consecutive year that the program has taken place.

"Last year's event was another success as years past, as we gave out all 600 trees each day before noon," said Redpath. "We've never had any leftover trees in all the years of running this event and often have people lined up before 8 a.m. to make sure they get their preferred choice.

"The event started with the township wanting to promote tree growth for the future, as well as reduce our carbon footprint and give back to residents."

There are four tree species to be given away this year, including 360 Red Maple,



360 Sugar Maple, 300 White Spruce, and 180 White Cedar trees. All four species are expected to fit in most standard sized vehicles. Each year, the variety and number of trees per species change, but all are native species grown by the GRCA.

Trees are available to every household in the township. Residential properties can receive up to three free trees to plant on their property, while farm properties can receive up to five free trees. The trees are available on a first come, first served basis, so those participating should arrive early to ensure they get the type of tree they

want.

"The maple trees are usually the biggest request, but spruce trees are very popular as well for residents who don't want a lot of leaves to manage," said Redpath. "This year, we replaced oak trees with white cedar and will be looking forward to feedback from residents on this option."

Benefits of planting trees include erosion protection, reduced carbon footprint, noise control, improved air quality and wildlife habitat.

New this year includes the opportunity to

recycle any unused household electronics while on site for the tree giveaway. The township partnered with Recycle My Electronics, a non-profit organization to make this happen. Any electronics that have a cord, battery or plug are accepted free of charge. This may include phones, desktop computers, laptop computers, drones, display devices, and more.

"The Township was looking to make this program bigger and give residents more resources to reduce their carbon footprint and help the environment," said Redpath, as to why this option was added this year.

The event runs October 21 and October 28 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Township Administration office (4639 Lobsinger Line, St. Clements), or until the township runs out of trees. Any household electronics and batteries are accepted that day as well.

"The Planting Roots program has been a success from the beginning, and we're hoping to continually grow this program by giving residents more environmentally friendly resources," said Redpath.

Residents are asked to bring identification to confirm they live or own property in Wellesley Township.

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Call Joan Hergott at 519.655.2344 to arrange a viewing!

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Funeral Director

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COMMUNITY —

Building murals around New Hamburg



This Show Us Your Wilmot photos show building murals around New Hamburg, including at the fire station and grand stand, taken by Mike Grummett. They are “quite stunning and make the walk around town very interesting when you see them up close,” he said. (Photo credit: Mike Grummett)





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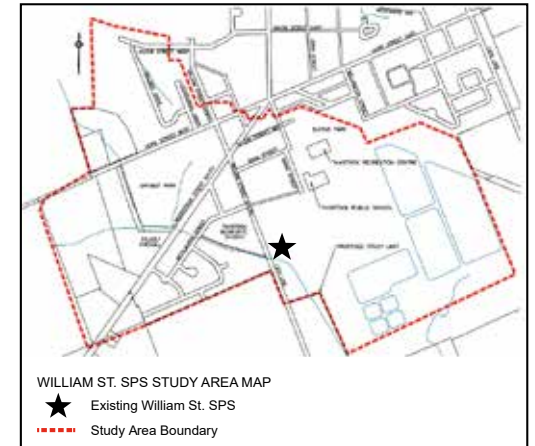
William St. Sewage Pumping Station – Tavistock

Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study

Oxford County is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) study to select the most appropriate design concept for a sanitary servicing solution in the William Street area of Tavistock. The design will support ongoing sanitary servicing needs and anticipated community growth to the year 2046.

About the study

The William Street Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) receives sewage from homes, businesses and institutions within the William Street SPS study area (refer to Study Area map). Oxford County initiated a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study that is considering a wide range of SPS and/or collection system alternatives in order to select the most appropriate conceptual design that will support ongoing wastewater servicing needs to the year 2046.



The Class EA study is being planned in accordance with the planning and design process for Schedule B projects as outlined in the Municipal Engineers Association Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (2023), which is an approved process under Ontario’s *Environmental Assessment Act*.

We want to hear from you

Consultation with stakeholders is a key component of the study process and input will be sought throughout the study.

An in-person Public Consultation Centre (PCC) is being held to provide a project update, present the alternative servicing solutions, and present the evaluation criteria for selecting the preferred servicing solution.

Tuesday, November 7, 2023
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Tavistock & District Recreation Centre, Upper Hall
1 Adam St., Tavistock

The project team is seeking community input on the presented material. Materials will be posted to the project website after the meeting:

www.speakup.oxfordcounty.ca/william-street-sps-tavistock

Comments are welcome and should be submitted by Monday, November 20, 2023. You can submit your comments or questions through the project website or by contacting the project leads, listed below.

To receive project updates, subscribe to the study mailing list through one of the contacts below.

Contacts

Gemma Charlebois, M.A.Sc., P.Eng. Technical Manager, Water/Wastewater MTE Consultants Inc. 519-743-6500 ext. 1227 GCharlebois@mte85.com	Don Ford, BA, CMM III, C.Tech. Manager, Water and Wastewater Services Oxford County 519-539-9800 ext. 3191 dford@oxfordcounty.ca
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Information will be collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

This notice issued on October 12, 2023



COMMUNITY —

2023 edition of the Wellesley Poppy and Afghans Project

By Gary West

Every year at this time, residents in the Wellesley area recognize all the veterans who gave the ultimate sacrifice so we can have the freedom we now enjoy.

Remembrance Day, on November 11, carries special meaning in the Wellesley Township area, with local residents recognizing the Poppy Project.

In 2020 a small group of volunteers initiated the Wellesley Township Poppy Project to create a small display to honour veterans. They painted stones at the Linwood Cenotaph and two cemeteries located there.

Their first big idea was initiated for display in 2021 when it was the 100th anniversary of the wearing of the poppy, as a symbol of Remembrance in Canada.

The group asked folks to knit or crochet 100 poppies to use in a display - and instead of 100, they received a whopping 1,500 poppies!

That then led to a large lawn display at the Wellesley township offices. The group repeated that display in 2022 and again, received hundreds of poppies and instigated "tie one on" work sessions to make swags to cover 12 planter boxes on local bridges.

The group of volunteers also decorated



The Wellesley Committee members showing off the hand made Afghans that will be raffled off to raise money for their local legion. From left, Beth Schlueter, Wendy Richardson, and Barbara Nowak. Absent is Karen Pilecki Weiss.

some railings in St.Clements, a school outdoor display case, and a business window in Wellesley.

There are also veterans banners, sponsored by families, hung in Linwood, St.Clements, and in Wellesley Village.

One of the hard-working volunteers, Barbara Nowak, says "it's a lot of time and work, but it's a "labour of love" and respect to honour veterans."

Local residents appreciated not just the

beauty of the red poppies and the words, but also thoughts about the people who gave their freedom so that we would have ours today.

Another committee member, Wendy Richardson, also helps raise funds for the Legion as part of the Wellesley Township Poppy Project. She crocheted two afghans, the stainless glass and the poppy afghans, with all time and material donated free of charge.

Wendy states that the Legion has a copyright on poppies, so anything with poppies for sale, or in this case, "raffle," must first be approved through the district command, which they have done.

100% of the funds raised on the poppy Afghan raffle, will go to the Legion. Almost all of the funds raised on the stained glass Afghan will also go to the Legion, with a few expenses, held back for the Poppy Project.

Four years ago, Beth Schlueter created a "poppy tower," which was used for Remembrance Day at Linwood. From there, it expanded the beautiful poppy tradition by knitting and crocheting, a number of poppies to create some beautiful installments throughout the township.

According to committee members, they have a growing number of people supporting this initiative, with many making hundreds of poppies for them. This year, St. Clements will create their own installments through the Paradise Lake Lions Club. The committee consists of Karen Pilecki Weiss, Beth Schlueter, Barb Nowak, and Wendy Richardson. They say they all have different abilities, which seem to work nicely together.

For those interested in more info, contact wrichardson@bell.net.



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Wilmot Family Resource Centre

The Board of Directors and Staff of Wilmot Family Resource Centre extend our gratitude to all the local businesses, corporate sponsors, individuals and families for their support of our 2023 Poor Boy's Luncheon.

We are also inspired by the many volunteers who helped prepare over 600 servings!

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Waterloo Oxford D.S.S.

*MUSIC generously provided by John Wiebe
Kitchen Lead: MaryJo Leggo & Tamara Robinson
If we missed anyone, please accept our apologies.*

FAMILY MILESTONES —

OBITUARY

HALLBERG, Agnes



Agnes "Nancy" Hallberg born October 3, 1931 in London ON passed away at Park Lane Terrace, Paris, ON, October 14, 2023, at the age of 92 years, spending many of her last days with family by her side.

Predeceased by her husband Carl and son Jim. Beloved mother of Tor and (Shelley) Hallberg of

Mildmay, Janet Brueckner and (Larry Luckhardt) of Drumbo, and David Hallberg of St. Clements. Loving Grandmother to Jessica (Chad), Carl, Paul, Britta, Jemica (Jordan). Great grandmother to Calvin and Hendrick, Chanelle and Zander, Memphis and Noah, Haven and Nova. She was the daughter of Jim Cowan and Janet McIntyre.

A calling to the nursing profession, led her to meeting her husband, Carl at K-W Hospital. They were married for 61 years, residing in the New Hamburg area. Family was her life, which she prayed for and gave thanks for daily.

Nancy was a long-time member of Trinity Lutheran Church in New Hamburg where she volunteered in many ways. She was a great story-teller with an amusing sense of humor. Nancy loved animals and treated pets as family. She could often be seen with knitting needles or a book in her hands, while wearing the perfect piece of jewelry, of course.

Nancy will be remembered as a good friend to many.

Thank you to Park Lane Terrace which she called home and considered the caring staff family.

A private family service will be held as Nancy requested.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations to Juvenile Diabetes, The Humane Society or Trinity Lutheran Church would be appreciated.

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

Funeral arrangements entrusted to the Mark Jutzi Funeral Home, New Hamburg.

OBITUARY

BAER, Beth Edna (Herner)



Passed away peacefully with her loving family at her side on Saturday, October 7, 2023, at the Grey Bruce Hospice, Chapman House in Owen Sound, On.

Beth was born 61 years ago in Kitchener, Ontario, a daughter of the late Harley and Ruth (Leiskau) Herner. Beloved & cherished wife of Ken Baer, whom she

cherished 41 years of marriage with. Loving mother of Brandon Baer & fiancée Michelle Thompson, Mark Baer, & Kyle Baer & wife Danielle Baer. Proud & devoted grandmother of Kingston Baer & Harley Baer. Beth will be missed by her brother David Herner & wife Colleen, sister Gail Herner. Brothers-in-law & sisters-in-law Rick Baer, Sharon & Jim Reitzel, Dan Baer & Jin-Mei, & Jean & Cliff Klassen as well as by her many nieces & nephews.

Beth was a loving wife, mother & grandmother. Family was very important to Beth & spending time with one another is what she cherished the most. Beth enjoyed her gardens, bird watching, hiking, writing poetry & baking for her family & friends.

Cremation has taken place at Beth's request. You are welcome to visit with the family on Saturday, October 28, 2023, from 1 - 4 p.m. at the Mark Jutzi Funeral Home, 291 Huron Street, New Hamburg.

Beth will be laid to rest at a later date in the Fairmont Cemetery, Baden. As expressions of sympathy, donations would be accepted to Grey Bruce Hospice, Chapman House & can be done through the funeral home website or by contacting the funeral home 519-662-1661.

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

IN MEMORIAM

Ray Steinmann



In memory of Ray Steinmann who left us on October 21, 2022.

A year has passed since you left us with fond memories of the wonderful years we shared together. We love you and miss you dearly, but your spirit and legacy lives on.

Your loving wife, Anna; children, Val (Brent), Rosie (Chris), Don (Tanya), Rebecca (Jeremy); and grandchildren.

CELEBRATION



70th Wedding Anniversary

on October 10th Wilma & John Irvin of Tavistock celebrated 70 years of marriage

Special Congratulations were sent to the couple from King Charles & Queen Camilla, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, the Governor General of Canada Mary Simon and Premier Doug Ford

IN MEMORIAM

Jack Wettlaufer

In loving memory of a dear husband, Father and Grandfather, who left us suddenly 1 year ago on October 17th, 2022.

Precious memories how they linger.

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WORSHIP IN WILMOT TOWNSHIP

St George's Anglican Church

Corner Waterloo St. and Byron St., New Hamburg
In-person service and online worship Sundays at 10:15 a.m.
Programs each Sunday for children during service.

St James Chapel of Ease

4339 Huron Rd. Wilmot Township
Sunday Oct. 1, at 3:00pm - We will be celebrating our Harvest Festival.
Special guest preacher will be The Venerable Dr. Neil Carver.

All Welcome

Rev. Margaret Walker; Office: 519-662-3450
sgacnewhamburg@gmail.com

Current health and safety protocols are followed.

St Agatha Mennonite Church

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

Pastor Jim Brown

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

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OBITUARY

KOENIG, Joan



Surrounded by her family, Joan Koenig passed away on October 3, 2023, at 80 years of age after a short and sudden illness.

Born in Mount Forest, Ontario, to the late Stanley and Mabel (Wagner) Maude, Joan was predeceased by her husband of 58 years, Carl Koenig. Loving mother of Lee Koenig (Wendy Knepper), Chris Koenig-Woodyard (Adrienne), and Jacqueline Klee (Greg Muratore). Joan was a doting and supportive grandmother of four grandchildren: Andrea, who passed away in 2019, Amanda, Owen, and Matthew. She is survived by five sisters, Florence Nickolson, Verna Bean, Elva Pertl, Dorothy Spaans, and Laura Martin, and was predeceased by her sister Marjorie Cockerill.

A caring and attentive daughter, sister, and mother, Joan was always ready to help and support her loved ones. She was a generous and caring person who readily took in her grandchildren for extended stays and was quick to create care packages for those in need or who were sick. Everyone who Joan met instantly recognized her generous, lively, spontaneous, and playful personality. She was always laughing and smiling, and appreciated a good joke more than anyone.

Family was paramount for Joan. She was a loving and devoted mother and grandmother, always game for frisbee, hula-hooping, hide-and-seek, jumping in leaf piles, and rolling down hills with her grandchildren. She was always open to trying new things – she recently learned how to throw a football, though had yet to master the perfect spiral. She was also devoted to animals: dressing up the farm dog, Teddy, as a young child, rescuing cats throughout her life, and doting on her rambunctious grand-dogs. She loved nature, including the chipmunks, squirrels, and birds that visited her feeders, which led her to coin a new verb – “binoc” – meaning: “to watch something feathered/furry in your yard through binoculars.”

Joan enjoyed adventures, big and small, and loved to socialize. Her home was always open for people to visit; her love of people and her sweet tooth meant visitors were offered at least five dessert options. Joan was an avid tea drinker, always popping up to put the kettle on. In her pantry, her children have discovered a quantity of tea that will take at least three generations to finish, along with a secret stash of After Eight mints.

An avid and supremely talented gardener, Joan loved flowers and spent many happy hours researching and designing her gardens as well as shopping for plants and supplies. Into her seventies, she planted extensively, weeded, and mowed the grass on her riding lawnmower. She proudly hosted numerous garden clubs, fellow gardeners, friends, and neighbours, and only rarely did anyone manage to leave without a trunk full of plants and clippings.

Joan was a tremendously hard worker, from her upbringing on the family farm north of Mount Forest to her days co-building a sewing business with Carl, where they worked tirelessly, on many weekends and evenings, to build a life for their family.

Joan also traveled extensively. She and Carl spent many summers travelling across the U.S. and Canada with their children in the family’s RV. She continued to travel after Carl’s passing, recently returning from a trip to Boston, Cape Cod, and Martha’s Vineyard with friends, where she was thrilled to go whale watching for the first time. We never did find out what kind of whales she saw – she was so excited that she forgot to ask.

Joan brought her enthusiasm for hosting with her when she moved to the Stonecroft retirement community in New Hamburg in 2020 - her back deck quickly became the gathering place for friends and neighbours.

Joan took joy in beautiful things: she loved clothing, shoes, and beautiful fabrics and decorations. She liked to look her best, accessorizing her carefully chosen outfits with matching shoes, the perfect lipstick, and something sparkly. Her love of fashion made her the best shopping partner – she’d hover outside the dressing room, offering to pop out “lickety-scoot” (Joan-speak for “quickly”) to grab a different size or colour – and she was genuinely excited when someone found something chic.

In keeping with her taste for all things sparkly, Joan’s favourite season was Christmas. Every year, on November 1, she would fill every available space with decorations and put up a gorgeous Christmas tree, with a box of Pot of Gold chocolates tucked underneath. Her home always looked spectacular at the holidays – warm, welcoming, and luminous, just like Joan herself.

At Joan’s request, cremation and a private family funeral have already occurred. In lieu of flowers and as an expression of sympathy, donations would be accepted to the Autism Society of Ontario and the Kitchener-Waterloo Humane Society. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the Mark Jutzi Funeral Home, New Hamburg. Personal condolences and donation information available at www.markjutzifuneralhomes.ca

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COMMUNITY —

"Schwetzfescht" - a festival of talking

By Gary West

There is a group of local residents from the Tavistock and New Hamburg areas that are planning an event at the end of October called a "Schwetzfescht," which literally means a "festival of talking."

For the most part, the program will use the Deutsch language, often called Pennsylvania German, or Pennsylvania Dutch, and will include prayers, singing, poems, humorous stories, and a presentation by guest speaker Dr. Mark Loudon.

Mark is a professor of Germanic linguistics and Director of the Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

He is a fluent speaker of Pennsylvania Dutch, and most of his published research and public outreach, centres on language, and its speakers past and present.

His award-winning book, Pennsylvania Dutch: The Story of an American Language, was published in 2016.

Aside from his teaching and research, Mark serves as an interpreter, cultural mediator, and a patient navigator for Amish and Old Order Mennonite groups, in the healthcare and legal systems.

In recent years, he studied the



The children of Raymond and Mary Ramseyer, along with their father, who participated in Dr. Mark Loudon's online zoom class. Speaking PA Dutch reminds the family of their mother, Mary Ramseyer, who passed away in 2021.

here-to-fore undocumented Wilmot, Tavistock, Wellesley, and Milverton, a variety of Deutsch, and in October 2022,

gave the Bechtel lecture at Conrad Grable University on this language.

The title of his presentation was Restructuring Linguistic History: what did Ontario's earliest Amish speak?

Dr. Loudon's lecture sought to answer the question, what language did Amish-Mennonites speak when they began migrating to southern Ontario from dialectically diverse regions in German-speaking central Europe?

It's interesting to note that he analyzes the speech of their descendants from East Zorra-Tavistock, and Wilmot Township's, comparing it with what Amish and Old Order Mennonites speak elsewhere, and explores important implications for the understanding of the linguistic history of Anabaptists in North America more generally.

Although heritage languages are often lost by the third generation, and English is fast becoming the dominant language in the world, some communities seek to retain their heritage language.

If interested in the event called Schwetzfescht, come to the East-Zorra Mennonite Church on the 16th Line on Saturday, October 28th, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

For more info, contact Fred Lichti at fritzith@hotmail.com.

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COMMUNITY —

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Weekly Quiz

- 1) What is the main ingredient in toothpaste?
- 2) Who was the Prime Minister of Canada during WW1?
- 3) What year was the first Tim Horton's established?
- 4) Which scientist developed the theory of relativity?
- 5) How long can an olive tree live for?
- 6) What is the capital of Russia?
- 7) In the show Family Guy, what is Peter's last name?
- 8) Who was the first band to play at the Las Vegas Sphere?
- 9) Who painted the famous artwork "The Scream"?
- 10) Who played Brent Leroy in the sitcom Corner Gas?

Answers found on page 26

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

October 19: Happy birthday to Shelby Wettlaufer (21) and Brandon McIntosh, and anniversaries for Bob and Lynda Lichti (32nd) and Mark and Jerlene Halliday (10th).

October 20: Happy anniversaries for Brian and Darlene Swartzentruber (45th), and Ron and Rosalie Bender (40th).

October 21: Happy birthday to Brayden Hohl (13) and Heather Darlington (22), Rockwell Schultz (1) and anniversaries for Rick and Deb Lange (45th), Doug and Dianne Sparling (28th), and Brian and Lisa Miller (17th).

October 22: Happy birthday to Matthew Bartlett (18), Lauren Gillis (21), Zachary Gillis (21), Romy vanRooyen (22), and Terry Gladding, and anniversaries for Steve and Cheryl Gummerson (35th), and Will and Ana Loewen (18th).

October 23: Happy birthday to Chayse Zehr (23), Shannon Hobson (47), Robert Trachsel (81), and Frieda Schmidt (94).

October 24: Happy birthday to Sheppard MacDonald (9) and Shelby Rhodes (18)

October 25: Happy birthday to Scarlet Helm (11), and anniversaries for Adam and Esther Roth (20th), Andrew and Shannon Hobson (20th), and Timothy and Lindsey Ramseyer (9th).

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 17-24, 2018 Edition (5 years ago)

The municipal election results are in. In the race for Mayor of East Zorra-Tavistock, Don McKay earned 1,234 votes versus Maureen Ralph with 871 votes. Don Edmiston edged Shirley McCall-Hanlon 1,025-1,012 for Deputy Mayor, while Phil Schaefer (774) and Margaret Lupton (610) earned spots as Ward 1 Councillors over Tom Murray (267). Scott Rudy was acclaimed as Ward 2 Councillor and Matthew Gillespie and Jeremy Sith were acclaimed in Ward 3.

The first snow of the season fell last Wednesday, October 17th.

October 15-22, 2008 Edition (15 years ago)

Both the Oxford and Perth-Wellington ridings are once again Tory blue following the federal election held on October 14. Incumbents Dave MacKenzie for Oxford and Gary Schellenberger for Perth-Wellington regained their seats in the third minority Conservative government since 2004.

Tavistock Ward 1 Councillor Dave Olipha-

nt says he believes the County is doing the right thing when it comes to expanding the Tavistock sewage lagoons. "I don't think they (the people) have all the information," he said last week when asked about the growing controversy over Oxford County's proposal to expropriate 79 acres of land for a sand filter and lagoon cell.

October 14-21, 1998 Edition (25 years ago)

Bell Canada recently announced that the local calling area for Tavistock customers is expanding. Beginning November 6th, all customers in the Tavistock (655) exchange will be able to call the telephone exchanges of Baden and Kitchener-Waterloo – and they will be able to call Tavistock – without paying long distance charges.

The Tavistock Royals notified WOAA "AA" hockey league officials last week to announce they would be unable to ice a team for the 1998-99 season. Team president Stuart Bender said the action will be termed "a one-year leave of absence". "We were unable to have at least fifteen players committed to play every game", Mr. Bender said. "The executive decided that without fifteen players, they could not proceed with providing a competitive senior hockey team this season."

"No task is too big if we have God as our

partner." These were the words of Pastor Dean MacDonald of Tavistock Evangelical Missionary Church on Sunday afternoon as the congregation gathered for a ground-breaking ceremony at the site of their future church building in Tavistock.

October 17-24, 1973 Edition (50 years ago)

The Tavistock Bantams brought their 1973 season of softball to a successful close Friday evening with an overall 37 wins, 9 losses and 1 tie, and their second consecutive Western Ontario Championship. Pitcher Joe Yausie recorded 63 strikeouts and yielded only 7 hits in all 3 of the final games.

Roy Schlegel, son Robert Schlegel, Walter Schaefer and councillor Kenneth Lichti were followed by about thirty others on Sunday afternoon as they pulled a plow to turn the sod for a new 60 bed nursing home. The present Don-Ro Nursing Home on William Street will be entirely separate from the new building, which will be F shaped.

The Ministry of Transportation and Communications has instituted GO A NEW WAY, an urban transportation program to develop modern transit systems in our towns and cities and to support them financially.

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COMMUNITY —

GRT records busiest month ever

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

Grand River Transit (GRT) recorded its busiest month ever in September, with ridership peaking at 2.9 million customer trips. Ridership is up 33 per cent over September 2019, and 44 per cent over 2022.

Boardings have also increased. In September, boardings were 43 per cent higher than the average month this year,

hitting 3.8 million. An average month for GRT is 2.6 million boardings. A boarding is counted when someone steps on a GRT bus or ION train for a trip.

"Residents rely on GRT to get to medical appointments, social events, work and home," said Regional Chair Karen Redman. "As our region grows, transit plays an essential role in creating a more affordable, liveable, and sustainable community."

With more people riding transit than ever, GRT is making adjustments and taking steps to plan for the future.

"We're closely monitoring customer counts and overcrowding to see how we can manage the transit experience for our customers," said Doug Spooner, Director of Transit Services. "Each day we're working with our operations and fleet teams to make sure every available bus is on the road and any spares are helping with busy

routes and locations."

Service adjustments are also being planned for next year.

"We'll be bringing our plan for 2024 service directly to our customers to weigh in on in the coming weeks, including a service expansion plan of more than 50,000 hours," said Spooner.

The plan, subject to regional council approval, will be part of the budget process.

Thanksgiving Long Weekend traffic campaign results

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

The local results from the "Operation Impact" long weekend traffic campaign are in. It was conducted by the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and Waterloo Regional Police Service. The OPP campaign ran from October 7 to October 11, while the WRPS campaign ran from October 6 to October 9.

The focus of the campaign was safety and the "Big Four," which includes distracted driving, alcohol/drug - impaired driving, speeding/aggressive driving and lack or improper use of seatbelts.

Across Perth County, officers laid 138 charges during the initiative including:

- 93 speeding charges,
- 2 stunt driving charges,
- 4 seatbelt charges,
- 6 impaired driving charges,
- 4 insurance-related charges.

The WRPS Traffic Services Unit and Neighbourhood Patrol officers engaged with more than 500 motorists as part of Operation Impact, and laid 152 charges which included the following:

- 50 speeding charges,
- 2 dangerous driving charges,
- 3 impaired driving charges,
- 5 stunt driving charges,

- 1 distracted driving charge,
- 1 seatbelt compliance charge,
- 90 "other" road safety charges (including Highway Traffic Act and Compulsory Automobile Insurance Act charges).

"While most drivers this past holiday weekend chose to take zero risk and arrive at their destinations safely, WRPS did arrest and charge numerous drivers for dangerous driving behaviours, such as impaired driving," said Staff Sergeant Scott Griffiths of the WRPS Traffic Services Branch.

"Road safety remains a priority for Waterloo Regional Police and we will continue to conduct enforcement aimed at reducing aggressive, distracted, and impaired driving."

Across the province, four people lost their lives in separate vehicle collisions, and one boater died over the Thanksgiving long weekend. The OPP laid a total of 7,953 charges throughout the campaign.

Speeding was the most prevalent traffic violation, with 4,829 speeding charges and 86 stunt/racing charges laid. Drivers (and some passengers) were fined for 283 seatbelt offences. 131 impaired driving and 70 distracted driving charges were among the serious offences for which drivers were held to account over the four day campaign.

"Traffic safety is everyone's responsibility," wrote the Perth County OPP in a release. "Please do your part to keep our roadways safe for all users."

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COMMUNITY —

State of the Wellesley Township Recreation Centre



The state of the Wellesley Township Recreation Centre as of Saturday, October 14. The facility is expected to open on or about November 17, which will include ice, eight dressing rooms, and main floor washrooms. The rest of the facilities, including the gym/community centre, seniors and youth centre, fitness centre and walking track, are expected to be open by the end of this year or early 2024. The construction of the complex was awarded to Ball Construction and cost about \$27-million. (Photo credit: Veronica Reiner)

Queen's Bush Road and Molesworth Street reopen to traffic



Queen's Bush Road and Molesworth Street in Wellesley village have reopened to traffic in both directions after the first phase of the Queen's Bush Road reconstruction project is complete. New asphalt has been installed on both streets, along with concrete curbs. Sidewalks appear to be completed, with a "Sidewalk Closed" sign still up on Molesworth as of Saturday, October 14. There will be two more phases of the Queen's Bush Road reconstruction project, taking place in 2024 and 2025. (Photo credit: Veronica Reiner)



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COMMUNITY —

Indoor simulators being installed at New Hamburg Lanes



Three GolfZon TwoVision+ state-of-the-art indoor golf simulators are in the process of being installed at New Hamburg Lanes, off Union Street in New Hamburg, as of mid October. They are planned to be opened sometime in November, located to the left of the main entrance when first walking into the Union Street building. These simulators have a moving swing plate with different hitting mats, allowing for realistic play with auto ball return and teeing. (Photo credit: New Hamburg On Par Golf)

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SPORTS —

Hockey Helps the Homeless Waterloo Region reaches 10 year milestone

By Craig Herner

Hockey Helps the Homeless (HHTH) Waterloo Region is on the verge of surpassing \$2 million in funds raised and granted to our local homeless shelters over its ten year run. The annual tournament, where regular hockey players skate alongside NHL Alumni and female Olympians, has grown substantially since its inception in 2014.

This year, all funds raised at the tournament are granted to six homeless shelters in the region; the House of Friendship, oneROOF Youth Services, YW Kitchener-Waterloo, Lutherwood Safe Haven, Cambridge Shelter Corporation, and The Working Centre.

All of the shelters rely on third party fundraising events to fund the shelter bed spaces they provide, along with other services to help get the individuals the support they need.

"We're incredibly grateful for Hockey Helps the Homeless," said John Neufeld, Executive Director at the House of Friendship. "Because we can count on caring community members

to come together to volunteer, participate in, and support this tournament, year after year, men in our ShelterCare program are receiving the 24/7 care and support they need to get healthier and housed. It's incredible to be part of something that shows how much Waterloo Region cares about individuals experiencing homelessness, and to see everyone come together each October to address this challenging problem in our community."

The 10th anniversary tournament takes place on October 27th from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at RIM Park in Waterloo. The public is encouraged to come out and watch some of the hockey games.

16 teams will take to the ice, each having a NHL Alumni or female Olympian joining them for the day. Some of pros joining us this year include Shayne Corson, Raffi Torres, Gilbert Dionne, and Jocelyne Larocque.

To learn more about the HHTH Waterloo Region event, check out wr.hhth.com, or follow on social media @HHTHW.



Canadian Olympian Sarah Nurse at a past HHTH Waterloo Region tournament. (Photo credit: Ivan Leung)

Applejacks home game versus Braves suspended

By Lee Griffi

For the second time during this Provincial Junior Hockey League season, Wellesley has had a home game in St. Clements suspended due to poor ice conditions.

The most recent incident occurred Saturday night with one minute and fifty-four seconds remaining in the first period, with the Applejacks and Tavistock Braves tied at one. Jacob Reid-Brant had given the Braves a 1-0 lead before Logan Crans tied it up two minutes before the officials called it. The game will need to be replayed in its entirety, as will Wellesley's home game from September 23, when they led Hespeler 1-0 with a little over eight minutes left in the first frame.

Tavistock came up with a key win on Friday night, a 4-2 road victory against New Hamburg. A pair of goals in the first period to Stephen Peppas, his third and fourth of the season, gave the Braves a 2-0 before markers by Firebirds' Keegan Metcalfe (4) and Owen Bruder (6) tied the

game at two after 40 minutes. Tavistock dominated the third, with Cullen Derry picking up the game-winning with a minute and 22 seconds remaining, and then Ryan Suljack added an insurance marker in the final minute. James Hopper stopped 35 of 37 shots to earn the win between the pipes. New Hamburg's Tony Theodoropolous stopped 31 shots in a losing effort.

"Yes, I would say it was certainly our biggest win of the season. I don't think we started the game particularly well, but we managed to clean things up a bit as the game went on. I really liked our team's competitive level. We played with a much higher sense of urgency from games in previous weeks, so I was happy to see we got the results," said Braves General Manager Jordan Zehr. He added while it was disappointing to have Saturday's game canceled, it was the right decision. "Definitely some unfortunate luck in St. Clements. There were a few sizable ice chunks popping out in the corner. Both

teams and the refs agreed, with player safety in mind, the best decision was to postpone the game and give the arena appropriate time to get the issues fixed." General managers are constantly taking stock of how their team is doing all season long, but after the first 10 games, Zehr said there are a lot of things he likes. "Almost a quarter of the way through the season, I am very happy with the direction we are headed. Obviously, we wish we could have a couple of games back from earlier in the season, but I think we were able to learn some valuable lessons from them. We have a very talented team with a lot of skill and speed, however, we have also been able to improve on our intensity and grittiness." He added there are always ways to improve all areas of the team's games throughout the season, but the key for now is to keep things simple. "We have a lot of new faces on the team this season and, like I said, a lot of speed and skill. Right now, it's a matter of finding that chemistry and getting everyone on the same page."

The Firebirds bounced back on Saturday with a 7-3 win over lowly Paris. Carter Niall led the attack with a three-goal, one-assist performance. Keegan Metcalfe added three assists and Jack Nell a pair of helpers. Graeme Noye stopped 34 of 37 shots to pick up the victory in net. New Hamburg outshot Paris 68 to 37. Wellesley opened the weekend with a 5-1 road loss in Norwich on Friday. Carson Wicke scored the lone Applejacks goal.

Notes: The Woodstock Navy Vets are one of four undefeated teams in the PJHL. The Thamesford Trojans, Hanover Barons, and Essex 73s are the others. The 73s have a dominating goal differential of plus-58... The Doherty Division's leading scorer is Ingersoll product Davin Gray who has four goals and 19 points in nine games... The league's Top Prospects Games will be held on Saturday, November 4. The games, sponsored by the Dairy Farmers of Ontario, are scheduled for 1 p.m. in Wingham and Uxbridge.

Royals split a pair of weekend road games

By Lee Griffi

The Tavistock Royals ended the weekend in Lucknow Saturday on a winning note, downing the Lancers 5-1. Rookie goaltender Frank Boal kicked our 29 of 30 shots to earn the win. Boal played for Jeff Zehr's Plattsville (now Woodstock) Lakers of the WOSHL and before that spent two

seasons with the Wellesley Applejacks of the PJHL.

Tavistock jumped out to a 4-0 lead after 20 minutes thanks to a power-play goal from Jeremy Munro and unassisted markers by Drew Gerth and Sean Leslie. Matt Zilke rounded out the scoring on a goal from Munro and Gerth while Zilke and Cam

Leslie picked up helpers on the opening goal. After Lucknow made it 4-1 Sean Leslie scored his second of the game on a feed from Collin Hartwick.

On Friday night the Royals traveled to Saugeen Shores and let a 3-2 first-period lead slip away in a 7-4 loss to the Winterhawks. The Royals trailed 5-4 after

40 minutes before the home team scored the only two goals of the third period. Trevor Sauder led Tavistock's attack with two goals and an assist. Callan Christner had a pair of goals and Devin Kropf chipped in with two assists as Tavistock was outshot 32-27. Next action for the Royals is Saturday night in Creemore as they face the Coyotes.

COMMUNITY —

Shakespeare Optimist Club makes a major donation to the Stratford General Hospital Foundation

By Gary West

Recently, members of the Optimist Club of Shakespeare invited the Executive Director of the Stratford General Hospital Foundation, to obtain information on the needs of the hospital going forward. Their motto continues to be “people caring for people.”

The Foundation’s present Executive Director, Cheryl Hunt and retiring executive director Andrea Page explained the many areas in need of new updated medical equipment at Stratford General, along with planning and ways to finance future projects.

With the Ontario government continuing to only supply bricks and mortar and staffing, the realization of club members is help was needed from the area community, for the purchase of updated new medical equipment going forward.

The “In Our Hands” capital campaign is in the final stretch, currently reaching \$26.8 million, which is 88 per cent of their goal in cash and pledges. Diligent and hard-working members of the Foundation realize the final push to the finish line will be the toughest.

With this in mind, Shakespeare Optimist President Mike McNeil presented a \$10,000 cheque on behalf of the club’s membership to the Hospital Foundation, where the money has been earmarked to be used in the Maternal Child Unit in support of children and youth healthcare.

Jean Smelski, who is a board member on the foundation, and also in attendance, was most appreciative of the help and support going forward the area Optimist Club was willing to provide. The funds will help to ensure that medical needs of area youth will be taken care of, for years to come.



Presenting a cheque of \$10,000 to the Stratford General Hospital Foundation is, from left, Shakespeare Optimist Club President Mike McNeil, Foundation Executive Director Cheryl Hunt, and Foundation Board Member, Jean Smelski.

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- 9:00 - 9:15 am Opening Remarks
- 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
- 1:30 - 2:00 pm Vendors



COMMUNITY —

Theatre Wellesley presents: All's Fair

By Veronica Reiner

Theatre Wellesley is proud to present their fall show, the family comedy "All's Fair" written by Pat Cook. The performance will mark the group's last show at the Wellesley Community Centre on Maple Leaf Street before moving to the new Wellesley Township Recreation Centre.

All's Fair tells the story of an annual fall fair in the small town of Flat Rock, Texas. The story celebrates not only all the familiar foibles of life in a small town where everyone knows each other, but also the bonds of love, family and community that stretch across the generations in a place that may feel a little bit like home.

"I think that Wellesley can relate because we are a small community," said assistant director Rhonda Caldwell, on why this play was selected.

She added that the fair theme honours the 170th annual Wellesley Township Fall Fair, which recently took place on September 11 and 12. The cast took a break from rehearsals, just to watch the celebratory fireworks.

"Even though this is a comedy, and there are really funny things going on, it's also about the relationships with the people in the community," said Rhonda. "So you might come to it and think it's going to be light and it's going to be fun, but the thing that's really growing on us is to watch the relationships develop between the characters."

There are many characters introduced in



Left to right sitting: Karen Reger, Gabrielle Murray, Mary Beth Jantzi, Olivia Cook. Left to right standing: Renee Murray, Al Cook, Ingrid Fast, Grant Chapman, Aidan Tessier, Al Strong, Nicole Laroque, Dave McNorgan, Rhonda Caldwell, Jodi VanNoord. (Photo contributed)

All's Fair - the mayor is trying to co-opt the event to stump for his re-election, the ladies all have a jar in a fierce jelly competition, and the garden club is aiming to raise funds for a hedge around the courthouse.

All the while, another group is running a fortune-telling booth to try to raise money to get the school bus painted yellow again, and the local drama teacher is trying to

bring a little culture to the proceedings with a bit of old William Shakespeare. Stir in some young love, older love, competition for the mayor, a prize pig and a freak show, spice it up with a little local gossip, and you have a recipe for an evening of big laughs and warm smiles.

The cast members consist of familiar faces along with five brand new actors.

"The first time I read this play was about five years ago, but it didn't quite seem like the right time," said Rhonda. "And now, I just feel like it was a really good time to do this play."

She added that watching the set come together has been exciting.

"A lot of the shows that we've done in the past either take place in a living room or they take place in a store. This one takes place at a fair - every booth is a different colour, the booths have awnings, there's a Ferris wheel in the background. Watching the set evolve has been really fun, because it's a very different set and a very different location than what we've done in the past."

Theatre Wellesley's All's Fair is directed by Mary Beth Jantzi with assistant director Rhonda Caldwell. Shows are Thursday and Friday evening, November 16 and 17 at 8 p.m., with matinees Saturday and Sunday afternoons, November 18 and 19, at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$20, available at Pym's market in Wellesley village and online at the-atrewellesley.com.

Theatre Wellesley is a local amateur theatre group that has been part of the community for more than 25 years. The group produces two shows each year - an all-ages comedy in the fall, and a more intimate dramatic work for mature audiences in their studio space above the Wellesley Public Library in the spring. Theatre Wellesley is open to anyone interested in the theatre, onstage or behind the scenes.

POLICE REPORTS

Theft in Wilmot

A Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) investigation is underway after a theft from a vehicle report on October 11.

The incident occurred on Mannheim Crescent in Mannheim, with the value of the items stolen listed under \$5,000.

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

Barn break in

The WRPS is investigating after equipment was stolen from a barn in Wilmot.

Sometime between October 4 and October 12, unknown suspect(s) gained entry to a barn on Huron Road in Wilmot Township. Suspect(s) stole various gas powered equipment.

Anyone with information is asked to call police or Crime Stoppers.

Woman charged after Wilmot collision

A woman was charged after a collision in Wilmot Township on October 13.

At about 11:20 a.m., the WRPS responded to reports of a collision in the area of Notre Dame Drive and Carmel Koch Road in Wilmot Township. Minor physical injuries were reported as a result of the collision.

As a result of the investigation, a 29-year-old woman was charged with "careless driving."

Perth East resident charged

The Perth County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) charged a Perth East resident after an investigation on October 16.

At about 2:30 a.m., the Perth County OPP responded to a residence in Perth East Township and initiated an investigation.

As a result, a 30-year-old Perth East resident has been arrested and charged with "assault - spousal" and "mischief." The accused was held in custody pending a bail hearing.

LOCAL MATTERS.



Remember that time when **Amazon** sponsored your church fundraiser?



Remember when **Facebook** bought a case of Girl Guide cookies to support your daughter?



Remember when **Google** provided free pizza to your child's soccer team when they won the championship?

COMMUNITY —

Men's Club Sauerkraut supper is almost here



By Gary West

Well known longtime Tavistock resident, Jane McKay (pictured), was the first to buy a ticket for this year's sauerkraut supper.

Members of the town's Men's Club are pleased with sales so far. They encourage those interested should get their tickets soon as the number is limited to 900 in sales for this year.

As their sign says, tickets are available at their "Kraut House" behind their hall on Woodstock Street North on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The event will surely be another sell out.

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

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

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

More information is available at www.facebook.com/TNTBerries, or by calling Nadia Walch at 519-625-1468.

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 Luigi Laudano, shows trees reflecting off the water while boating on the Nith River. (Photo credit: Luigi Laudano)

Gazette Puzzles

Weather

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Pet of the Week

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Our Pet of the Week is Stella, a six-month-old American corgi. She loves morning snuggles and to hiding bully sticks in the furniture and the backyard.

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



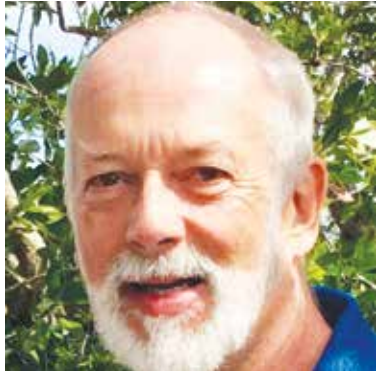
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TRAVEL —

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Getting prepared for the "airport experience"



By Paul Knowles

Once upon a time much closer to the days of my youth, I was checking out of a bed and breakfast in Broadway, England. My host knew that I was flying home to Canada later that day. She noticed my jacket and dress slacks, and said, "You're dressing for an upgrade!"

She was right. In those days, if you showed up dressed in "business casual" attire, you might get moved up to the elite seats.

That was all part of an era when air travel was, if not exactly fun, at least tolerable. Not a word I would use to describe the experience today.

Today, it's tough and demanding. It's like going to the dentist, a good idea, and often necessary, but seldom all that much fun.

I was thinking about these things during a layover in Dublin last month. I flew on Aer Lingus, and I would have to say I enjoyed the flight as much as any in the past year. I was bound for Bristol, England, then by car to Wales. The folks who arranged my trip had

scheduled a lengthy layover in Dublin airport, and I had seven hours to kill. It irked me when I discovered there was a flight to Bristol leaving shortly after our arrival in Dublin. Why was I destined to sit for a full working day in an airport, awaiting my next, one hour twenty minute flight?

Turns out, there was a very good reason. Arising from which, and departing from my usual approach of highlighting a great travel destination in this space, I am offering three or four tips for travellers.

One: when they offer a longer layover, take it. Flights seldom arrive on time. In my case, our flight landed about half an hour late. But even if you were catching a connecting flight, you had to pass through Customs. At 6 a.m., or so, there was exactly one Customs officer on duty, and one problem passenger had bunged up the whole system.

I was surrounded by people whose connecting flights were leaving or had left.

So don't mess with short connecting times. You may make your flight, but more probably, you may lose hours or days because your arrival was later than your departure. Schedule a few hours at the airport and you have a much better chance of arriving at your eventual destination as planned.

Two: Be careful with carry-on. All of my travel-writing colleagues share one conviction... it is better to go carry-on. There are just too many stories of lost, checked luggage. But when you do use

carry-on only, remember that airlines are getting tougher about sizes. My favourite carry-on no longer qualifies as a carry-on. When I got it, it matched acceptable measurements but it no longer fits in those metal frames they can use to reject over-sized baggage. So yes, carry-on only, but keep it small and, if possible, soft-sided.

Three: Prepare for your airport experience. Staffing is an issue. This applies to everything from security to customs to baggage handlers to ground crew. I sat on a plane in Bristol for at least twenty minutes until a bus finally arrived to take us to the terminal. Again, I heard several fellow travellers commenting that this wait had disconnected their connections.

You never know what part of your trip is going to take a lot of time – check-in, security, customs, flight delays, or all of the above. So when they say be at the airport three hours early – in the case of a big airport, like Toronto – do it. Of course, given what the Brits call Sod's Law, if you do arrive three hours early, you'll probably be at your gate 20 minutes later. I was, both ways on this most recent trip. So be sure you have something to occupy you while you languish in the waiting area: a book, or an e-book, or your favourite digital game, or a list of 100 emails you have been meaning to reply to. Please, though, do not take this opportunity to phone your deaf Uncle Henry. Or find an empty lounge before you start yelling into your phone.

Four: Please avoid Layover Hang-



Having a pint can be quite pleasant; having seven before boarding a plane leads to what the author (shown) calls "Layover Hangover", to be avoided for your own good – and the good of your fellow passengers. (All photos by Paul Knowles)

over. In Toronto, in mid-afternoon, I was seated across a table from a very nice gentleman. He was extremely pleasant, if more conversational than I was hoping for. Very conversational in fact. Because he was also very tipsy. He was chugging back glasses of red wine like water on a hot day. And he was dedicated to the task to the point where, when they began to board our plane, he ordered yet one more glass to down before he headed for the gate.

I know that airline staff are supposed to reject drunks, but this dude was somewhere between quite mellow and inebriated, and managed to make his way onto the plane. Where, I am guessing,

he had another drink or two.

On the plane, I wasn't seated anywhere near him. But I would not have wanted to be. So, as much as I personally enjoy a drink (or two), please avoid setting yourself up, and those seated near you, for a layover hangover.

Flying isn't as much fun as it once was but if we want to travel (and I do, I do!), it's usually the only option. So, be sensible and proactive. And bon voyage!

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.



Making it all worthwhile: while flying is often challenging, the destinations (here, the Brecon Beacons in Wales), make it all worthwhile!



The author flew on Aer Lingus, Toronto to Dublin, then Dublin to Bristol, on a plane accessed by bus and then a stairway.

COMMUNITY —

Progress at Nithview

By Steven E. Harrison

With the inevitable change in season comes a change in how we are functioning at Nithview and across Tri-County Mennonite Homes in general. We have implemented masking requirements at all our sites as we are seeing a rise in RSV, COVID and other respiratory infections, which will at this time be in place until mid-January 2024. We will evaluate the situation frequently, but to ensure the safety of those in our care, as well as those providing that care, we were compelled to put this in place.

At Nithview, in particular, you may have started to see some changes occurring. We have begun the preliminary site works and planning for the development of our new long-term care home in New Hamburg. A date for the commencement of construction has not been set, but preparation is prudent for the build when it occurs. You can check our website at www.tcmhomes.com for updates as they become available, and how you can be involved in the future at TCMH. Progress takes time, and delays from the pandemic have certainly stood in our way of moving as quickly as we would have

liked, but with a new normal being established, we are not pushing forward with much of our site design and development, planning for construction, and design for what could be into the future. In the coming months, we hope to be sharing this in more detail with the community, including timelines for commencement of the project.

Staffing has been improving, albeit slowly, and as such, we are taking on a new initiative in global recruitment of staff, with our goal to be recruiting and relocating staff from outside of Canada to provide care and supports within the next 6-12 months. This new initiative will be one of the first of its kind in our region, and of very few across Ontario, giving us access to highly skilled and credentialled individuals to come and live and work in our community. We will provide more insight into this work in the coming months, however TCMH as a whole is committed to exemplary care, the well-being of those who live and work for us, and to a sustainable future for us all. Making Every Day Matter is more than a tagline for us and includes thinking creatively about how to achieve this goal – our

new work and partnerships will be part of this. With an expansion and new build on the horizon, this is part of a strategic decision to start now and build for our future.

One final note: our team members, our families and those in our care are the heart and soul of our organization. The last few years have been quite difficult, there is no question about this, but the

work we are doing today is in preparation for tomorrow. Please take good care of yourselves and extend kindness and courtesy to those around you. We are all working to meet ever changing needs and rapidly shifting expectations in a world where what is stable today can be unstable tomorrow. We look forward to being your community partner, as we have always been, for many years to come.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR - OCTOBER 2023

October 27th	<p>Youth Dance</p> <p>Wellesley & District Lions Club presents a Youth Dance, the first dance of the 2023-2024 school year. From 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., at the Wellesley Community Centre, doors open at 6:45 p.m. For students in grade 5 to grade 8. Music by DJ Brent, family friendly costumes welcome, snacks and drinks available to purchase. \$5 admission.</p>	October 28th	<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>	October 30th	<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>	October 31st	<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>	November 1st	<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>	November 4th and 5th	<p>Wen-Do Women's Self Defence Class</p>	November 5th	<p>Wilmot Ecumenical Working Group on Indigenous/Settler Relationships</p> <p>Taking place from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Steinmann Mennonite Church, Baden for a conversation about Traditional Indigenous Tobacco led by Ashley Hynd. All are welcome but space is limited so please respond to ecumenicalworkinggroup@gmail.com if you would like to register.</p>	November 15th	<p>Mental Health Breakfast</p>	<p>Taking place at Puddicombe House Restaurant at 45 Peel Street from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., with breakfast served at 8 a.m. Come join for a delicious breakfast and intentional conversation about mental health, relationships, human resiliency and the strength of community. \$35 per ticket. Hosted by Wilmot Family Resource Centre and Interfaith Counselling Centre.</p>
October 28th	<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. Instruc-</p>	October 30th	<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>	November 17th	<p>Men's Rib & Tail Stag</p> <p>Sponsored by the Optimist Club of Shakespeare at the Shakespeare Community Centre. Catered by Kennedy's. Takeout 6 p.m., dinner from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 including door prizes. Refreshments and games of chance. For tickets call Murray at 519-276-1039 or Gary at 519-272-9140.</p>											

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| 1)Fluoride | 6)Moscow |
| 2)Sir Robert Borden | 7)Griffin |
| 3)1964 | 8)U2 |
| 4)Albert Einstein | 9)Edvard Munch |
| 5)500 years | 10)Brent Butt |

COMMUNITY —

High noon luncheons, hosted by area churches, are back at Grace United Church



Over 60 area residents attended the high noon luncheon last week at the Grace United Church auditorium.

By Gary West

The churches in the area are again hosting high noon luncheons, and last week the fellowship lunch was hosted by the Tavistock Mennonite Church.

The luncheon was the first event in a regular schedule, which takes place at the Grace United Church Hall throughout the fall and winter on the second Thursday of the month.

The next luncheon is planned for November 9, and the meal will be hosted by Grace United Church, followed by games in the afternoon.

The high noon program was initiated by the Tavistock and area ministerial group, and is organized by a committee of volunteers from the various area churches around Tavistock.

The mandate for the program is to offer a delicious home-cooked meal, once a month, followed by some form of entertainment or a guest presentation on various topics. The intention is of creating a setting to socialize with friends and neighbours.

The cost of the meal is by donations only.

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