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## Winners declared in Wilmot Home Decorating Contest

Gayle Asselstine of Baden and Zehr Insurance in New Hamburg won \$250



Plenty of costumed visitors showed up on Halloween (Tuesday, October 31) to check out Gayle Asselstine's Sleepy Hollow display. (Photo contributed)

By Veronica Reiner

The winners have been announced for the spooktacular home decorating contest held in Wilmot Township - Gayle Asselstine was declared the house decorating winner, while Zehr Insurance was the business decorating winner.

Both received \$250 each. Contestants posted their decorated homes to the Show Us Your Wilmot Facebook page. A panel of judges, which included New Hamburg Optimist Club President Scott

Dunstall and New Hamburg Board of Trade President Lyle Cressman, selected the winners.

Scott Dunstall noted that there were about 20 submissions for the home decorating contest, and just one submission for the business category. "I know there were more [for the business category] but we felt that we couldn't go take a picture of them and submit it on their behalf without getting their permission," said Scott.

He added that Gayle's home was an easy selection as the winner. Displays were judged on creativity, originality, attention to detail, use of materials or items, and overall spookiness.

Gayle's home is on Goldschmidt Crescent in Baden and was decorated with a Sleepy Hollow theme. The \$250 prize money will go towards chocolate for trick-or-treaters.

Gayle's full display has been up for about one week, but planning took much longer

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## Fake flyer irks Oxford County's warden

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Oxford County's social media was quick to publish information about a flyer bearing its name and logo late last week. The post distanced the county from the unknown author or authors of the document which welcomed residents to their "15-minute neighbourhood inside SMART City walls." The paper was delivered to a number of homes across Oxford last week. The county was tipped off by several concerned and puzzled citizens.

The flyer said the implementation of a SMART City begins with a massive installation of broadband surveillance technology and infrastructure. Other content included Oxford residents not having any privacy or land ownership, no access to fuel or cash, along with a forced digital ID. It also included the United Nations logo.

Warden Marcus Ryan said they had nothing to do with it. "Not one thing in this flyer reflects any of the policies or goals of Oxford County. It's that simple." He added that while he doesn't know where the misinformation came from, he does say the content is nothing new. "I can't say I haven't heard these kinds of things from various people around Oxford and adjacent municipalities, frankly from all over the province. I've never seen it done in a way that purports to represent the county."

Ryan said whoever did produce it has zero credibility in his mind if for nothing else than trying to convince people it is an official county document. "It's ironic that they are suggesting Oxford is misrepresenting our intentions, then they are very intentionally misrepresenting Oxford and themselves with this flyer and the use of the logo. If their message is to be careful, the government is

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# COMMUNITY —

## Fake flyer irks Oxford County's warden

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lying to you about what they want to do, this group is explicitly lying about who they are when they put that logo on the front." Ryan added that only if someone were to read every single line would it become apparent the county did not create and distribute the flyer. "I'm not going to lie. It's very frustrating, but it's also very concerning because some people are going to pick this up and, unless they read it carefully, are going to think this is what Oxford County is doing. Someone is going through a lot of trouble and expense, driving around delivering this thing."

The county hasn't discussed whether or not to take legal action or even potentially explore if a crime has been committed, and Ryan isn't sure if they will. "We haven't really looked into that. I suppose it may be a fraud or something like that; somebody is intentionally misrepresenting things. Whether that's a legal matter or not, I haven't looked into it. That may be a possibility, but we haven't explicitly considered that yet."

Here is the message posted by the county's communications team last week upon learning of the brochure:

"Thank you to the many people who let us know about a brochure being delivered to homes across Oxford County today. The flyer bears the Oxford County municipal government logo, but it is not our communication, and use of the logo is unauthorized. None of the initiatives described in the brochure are a part of Oxford County's newly released Strategic Plan, which is available online at [www.oxfordcounty.ca/strategicplan](http://www.oxfordcounty.ca/strategicplan).

Oxford County is committed to citizen engagement

and transparency. We will always work in agreement with local area municipalities and consult with the public on any major changes that affect their community."

Oxford County has just completed its latest strategic plan, which sets priorities and goals until the end of 2026. There are paper copies available, along with an online version on the county's website. Ryan said they have been completely transparent not only in the process of putting the document together but also in making it accessible to anyone wanting to look at it. "For people thinking maybe there are secrets, we have actually gone to quite a lot of trouble to make this all transparently available to residents. It's there. It's published online for people to see what the county's real goals are that their elected representatives debated and decided on."

Among those goals are a sustainable future, housing for all, managing a growing county, and a safe and well Oxford. Ryan said council was very focused and specific right at the beginning of the planning process. "Before it gets into detailed specific policies we are going to try and advocate and fund, it talks about the three pillars. Promoting community vitality, the second is enhancing environmental sustainability, and fostering progressive government." The warden mentioned a number of key ambitions, including improved service delivery, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and housing and sustainable infrastructure.

The Gazette was unable to find out what person, people, or group produced the flyer by press time in order to ask for comment.



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COMMUNITY —

# Local fair contestants attend District 7 Fair AGM



Back row, left to right: Kate Gorman - Arthur; Briar Shepherd - Erin; Nika Gresel - Erin; Chelsea Reid - Erin; Jeneen Overdeest - Embro-Zorra; Nicole Danen - Tavistock; Julia Gray - Harrison-Minto; Grace Piper - Embro-Zorra; and Peyton McBeth - Palmerston. Front row: Katie Musselman - Wellesley; Mary Brander - Fergus; Kylie Vanderhoek - Paris; Maddie Henhoeffer - New Hamburg (Wilmot); Katelyn Bartlett - Wellesley; and Kari Hill - Six Nations.

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff  
The District 7 Fair Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in Arthur this past weekend October 28th. There are nineteen fairs in District 7. Joanne Stewart

and Wendy Richardson routinely organize a hands-on Christopher Leadership public speaking workshop led by Ben Miltenburg for the ambassadors, Junior Ambassadors and runners-up. This year the age range was 13 to 25.

# Winners declared in Wilmot Home Decorating Contest

Continued from page 1

than that. "I started building in August, and I thought about this theme for a couple of years," she said in an interview with the Gazette.

Zehr Insurance is located on Huron Street in New Hamburg, and the display featured ghosts with sunglasses on. "Thank you Patricia for always making sure the windows are looking good!" said the company in an online post.

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

Gayle said she typically sees about 500 to 600 trick-or-treaters swing by her house on Baden on Halloween. "When I first moved in here, we didn't get a lot of kids. Being on Goldschmidt, I'm behind a school, so there are lots of kids around, but they were staying on Stuckey and Livingston.

"Over the years, though, word's gotten out about my house," she said with a laugh. Gayle has switched up her theme each year, with a Hansel & Gretel theme last year, and a circus tent theme in 2021.

Her display this year includes a headless horseman, a sign that reads "Sleepy Hollow," skeletons of various sizes,

gravestones, coffins, cauldrons, jack-o-lanterns, an animated zombie, cobwebs, and more. There were three fog machines going at the home on the night of Halloween, Tuesday, October 31.

Gayle said she got some of her spooky decorations from the former Halloween Alley and Costco. Also on display is a food donation box - anything collected there will go towards the local food bank.

Visitors often come by several times to take in the entire display, while others won't go near the house at all. "There are some kids that won't come in, but most will. Some kids come in four or five times, because there's so much to look at," said Gayle.

The display scares some visitors. "There's a candy decoration at the end that I've used for a few years that sits up suddenly when you grab the candy, so there's normally a couple of little kids that will cry," she said, adding her son also scared some visitors with a scarecrow mask last year.

Gayle said that her impressive display will be taken down this coming weekend, and that she's already brainstorming ideas for next year.

"This is just for fun," said Gayle. "This is just about people laughing and smiling and that makes me really happy."



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## COMMUNITY —

# Legions looking for year-round support

## Local Remembrance Day events scheduled

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Royal Canadian Legion's Poppy Campaign is supported by the vast majority of Canadians as we approach Remembrance Day, but the organization is hoping for support 12 months of the year.

The campaign is well underway in advance of November 11 day, where Canadians pay tribute to those who fought for our freedom. The national spokesperson for the Legion is Nujma Bond, who said there are many items available on their website at [www.poppystore.ca](http://www.poppystore.ca) that can be used year-round. "It has things such as lawn signs and ornaments, pins, we have the new poppy center, which is a little pin you can put in your lapel poppy so it's less likely to fall off. The new items we have this year include a gold-rimmed pin and an LED poppy light, so you can plug that in and it will glow from your window or wherever you wish to place it. Those are some of the top items people are interested in this year." Bond added they are grateful for the people who visit the poppy store each year, and there are several clothing items like ball caps and other things that have the poppy image on them. "The important thing to remember is that when people display the poppy on any items, they are reflecting their support for the remembrance of Canada's fallen. That is very much appreciated, not only by the Legion but by veterans themselves," she added.

It has long been a struggle to have the sacrifices made by our war heroes something top of mind 12 months of the year, something Bond said is starting to change. "Many people wear the lapel poppy during the campaign, during the Remembrance period, but there was also interest in things people could use year-round. Many of these items are appropriate for usage during the year when you want to think about veterans and keep them in your mind. You'll see a full range of things that will appeal to many different people." Bond went on to explain that things like coffee mugs, bags, umbrellas, and products not only allow you to show remembrance but also have something useful at the same time.

During the pandemic, there were a number of Legion branches struggling to make ends meet, something Bond said has really turned around as of late, with numbers on



New Hamburg's Legion is paying tribute to local veterans in the form of banners on poles in the town.

the rise. "Since then, most of the branches that were experiencing troubles were able to regain their foothold and membership is growing at many locations across the country. That is a wonderful thing to see. We are welcoming, for the first time in many years, a greater number of new members than we have seen in the past." She added that "Legions would love to see new veteran members, new civilian members, anyone who is aligned with their mission and would like to contribute ideas

and time."

Many of us think of veterans as elderly who are in the final stages of their lives. Bond said that couldn't be farther from the truth as there are veterans of all ages who need our support. "There is no limit to the age range or the mission that they may have taken part in. It includes anyone who has served and is currently serving in the Canadian Armed Forces. It also includes members of the RCMP. The Legion's definition of a veteran includes

both." She added they are seeing the emergence of more veterans from recent missions who are joining them and helping them out. "They come with new perspectives and some changing needs, and they are able to let us know about those. We really encourage people to join their local Legion to find out what that branch does and how they can be of assistance. Even when people are donating during the national poppy campaign, that in itself is an act of support." Bond explained there are many different ways people can show their support for veterans and for their work. "We are appreciative of all the ways people choose to donate or spend their time with us."

### New Hamburg and Tavistock Remembrance Day activities

Branch 532 in New Hamburg, along with Wilmot Township, raised the Poppy flag on Friday at the administrative complex and a total of 91 poppy boxes were distributed across the township. The branch will host a short Remembrance Day service at the Cenotaph in New Hamburg, followed by a parade to the New Hamburg Community Centre and refreshments at the local Legion branch.

Branch 518 in Tavistock is holding a church service on November 5 at Grace United at 10:30 a.m. A service will also be held outside the Legion at 1 p.m. A school service is also scheduled for November 10 at 10:30 a.m., and there will also be a short remembrance at the Tavistock Braves game that evening.

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## COMMUNITY —

# The Community Players ready to bring An Ideal Husband to life

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

New Hamburg's community theatre is a week away from opening night, when the curtain will be raised on an Oscar Wilde classic. The play is based in London, England, in the late 1800s, and *An Ideal Husband* will run at The Community Players (TCP) of New Hamburg Studio Theatre from November 9 to 18.

Brooke Gamble is the assistant artistic director for the performance and said it is sure to be a crowd-pleaser. "An Ideal Husband poses the best of both worlds. It's both dramatic and comedic. There are times when the audience can sympathize with the characters but also laugh along with them. They are both real and relatable. After a four-year hiatus of not performing in the studio theatre, we feel that this show is entertaining, but also filled with many layers that the audience can dive into."

The amateur acting company is well-known for its attention to detail in putting on a performance, something Gamble said is no different this time around. "The production value itself is outstanding. All of the costumes are hand-sewn with intricate details, the set designed with 1800s accents, and props specially chosen to reflect the time period. Audiences will be immersed in the Chiltern home from the time they enter the theatre." She added the performers have worked with acting and dialect coaches to truly embody characters



From right to left. Lady Chiltern (Kalene Ticknor-Malton), Sir Robert Chiltern (Trevor Middleton) and Lord Goring (Brendan Stehouwer). (Photo contributed)

of the High London Society. "It promises to be a memorable, intimate, and immersive experience. It has taken over six months of planning and 200 volunteers to bring this production to the stage."

This will be the first time in four years The Community Players have performed at the Studio Theatre. "In a time when people are feeling isolated more than ever before, the community of New Hamburg is coming together to entertain and spread happiness through the art of theatre," added Gamble.

Directed by New Hamburg local, Jaime Vandermolten, the production takes a refreshing approach to a classic Oscar Wilde

script. "Our cast has done a beautiful job of diving into their characters, really recognizing their strengths and weaknesses," he said. Trevor Middleton and Kalene Ticknor-Malton, who play Sir Robert Chiltern and Lady Chiltern, are among the 11 cast members who bring this show to life. Audiences are welcomed into the home of these characters to follow their antics and revelations throughout the production. "It is sure to make you laugh, cry, and hold your loved ones dear," added Vandermolten.

Although *An Ideal Husband* is filled with very traditional 1800s dialogue, TCP's version may surprise you. "You have likely

not seen the show performed in this style before," said Vandermolten. TCP's production showcases strong female characters who bring a whole new outlook to the storyline. These women recognize that social status is maintained by couples who practice an equal partnership behind closed doors and present a more acceptable 'accompaniment and obedience' in society."

Artistic director Danielle Guistini-Crouse and Gamble have worked with numerous costume designers, painters, set designers, and props enthusiasts, to bring this production to the community. "The set is beautifully designed with decor and period-appropriate accents that will keep you in awe throughout the production. "It is definitely one of the most intricate productions we have put on here at TCP," says Gamble. All wardrobe pieces have been hand-sewn with intricate details and accessories. Audiences will truly feel they've stepped back in time.

For nearly 40 years, TCP said they have pushed the boundaries of what is possible for an entirely volunteer-run organization. "We continue to create community theatre at its very best, with a team of experienced theatre enthusiasts who mentor the next generation of performers, directors, creators, and production members. If you are interested in volunteering with TCP, head to the group's website. All are welcome," explained Gamble.

Tickets for *An Ideal Husband* are on sale now at [www.thecommunityplayers.com](http://www.thecommunityplayers.com).

## 40th annual Tree of Light ceremony taking place December 1st

By Veronica Reiner

The Wilmot Lions/Lioness Club is holding their 40th annual Tree of Light Ceremony at Centennial Fountain by the post office, kicking off the Christmas season in New Hamburg.

Joining the festivities will be the Waterloo-Oxford Apassionata Girls Choir and the New Hamburg Concert Band. There will be complimentary hot dogs and hot apple cider served, and everyone is invited to sing carols and light the tree. A donation lights a bulb on the tree.

"It's just a feel-good event - and all the money that we raise goes right back to the community," said Joan Bilinsky, a member of the Wilmot Lions/Lioness Club. "It's just wonderful - I have grandkids that haven't missed a year."

She added that there are typically about 300 people in attendance.

"When I think about the Tree of Light, it's the start of Christmas in New Hamburg," said Joan. "Because two days after the Tree of Light, we have our Santa Claus Parade."

All children are invited to enter the snowman colouring contest. Those who filled it out are asked to bring it the night of the Tree of Light ceremony, then drop it in the Christmas wrapped box by the stage. Five coloured pages will be drawn from the box and a cash prize will be awarded to the winners.

The colouring page was distributed to local New Hamburg

and Baden public schools, as well as New Hamburg and Baden libraries, along with post offices.

The proceeds of the Tree of Light campaign will help to support the Wilmot Family Resource Centre, Interfaith Community Counselling Centre, Community Care Concepts, and Aldaview Services, along with many other community projects.

The Wilmot Lions / Lioness Club is also participating in a 12 Days of Christmas event, where they will sell 500 tickets at \$25 a ticket. The organization takes in about \$12,000, where \$8,000 goes toward prizes.

From December 1st to December 10th, they pull one ticket, and that winner gets \$500. On day 11, they win \$1,000, and on day 12, they win \$2,000. The draw takes place at the Wilmot Recreation Complex at noon. The \$4,000 proceeds from this year's event will be handed out to: LYNC - Love Your Neighbours Communities, Food 4 Kids - Wilmot for feeding local children who are experiencing chronic hunger, Meals on Wheels - Community Care Concepts and Camino Wellbeing + Mental Health and KW Counselling Services. "We've changed where the money is going every year - it's nice to spread it around," said Joan.

The Tree of Light ceremony will take place on Friday, December 1st at 6:30 p.m. and the 12 Days of Christmas draw takes place at the Wilmot Recreation Complex at noon.



The Wilmot Lions / Lioness Club tree of light during the 2022 event. (Photo credit: Wilmot Lions Lioness Club)

## COMMUNITY —

# Wellesley Planting Roots program a “huge success”

## 1,200 trees given out to local residents

By Veronica Reiner

Wellesley's Planting Roots program was a “huge success,” according to township staff members.

The program took place at the township office (4639 Lobsinger Line, St. Clements) on Saturday, October 28, as well as Saturday, October 21. There were a total of 1,200 free trees handed out to local residents, including 360 red maple, 360 sugar maple, 300 white spruce, and 180 white cedar.

Cars were starting to line up after 7 a.m. on both days for the 8 a.m. opening.

“Residents came from all over the Township and luckily, we didn't have to turn anyone away who came from outside of the area,” said Jake Redpath, Public Works Technologist at the Township of Wellesley.

“Unfortunately, we don't keep a record of where people are coming from, but the Mennonite community definitely came out this year to be a part of this event with both trees and electronics to be recycled, which is encouraging as they often have larger properties to plant trees.”

All trees were given out before 11:30

a.m., before the 12 p.m. deadline, noted Redpath. The event worked on a first come, first serve basis.

Residential properties could receive a maximum of three free trees to plant on their property, while farm properties could receive up to five free trees.

“The spruce and cedar trees were very popular this year with a lot of people requesting the cedar as a new option that we haven't handed out before,” said Redpath.

The township partnered with Recycle My Electronics this year to give residents the opportunity to recycle any unused household electronics, while on site for the tree giveaway.

“We collected a total of seven skids of electronic waste that will be sent to Recycle My Electronics for safe and responsible recycling,” said Redpath. “This worked out to almost a skid an hour of electronics being donated, including a lot of older TVs, speakers, printers and power tools, to name a few.”

This is the fourth year in a row that the Wellesley Planting Roots program has taken place.



Some of the free trees given away to residents for the Wellesley Planting Roots program. (Photo credit: Township of Wellesley)

XXX

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## COMMUNITY —

# County Council hears the bare facts on doctor shortage in Oxford

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

It may not be something unique to Oxford or anywhere else in Ontario, but two delegations at last week's County Council meeting provided facts and figures regarding just how dire the shortage of physicians is locally.

Some of the facts are, to say the least, worrisome for the future of primary care in the county as illustrated by Brad Hammond, Chair of the Oxford Physicians Recruitment Group. "I don't think the statistics on this screen are a surprise to anyone in the room. There are 5.4 providers (physicians or nurse practitioners) per 10 thousand residents. There are currently close to 20,000 people who don't have access to regular primary care. The statistics not caught there is that there have been many people move to Oxford County from other areas of the province and those people have tended to hold on to their family physician in the GTA." Hammond added that 28 percent of patients are rostered with doctors who are greater than 60 years old. "Retirement is imminent at some point in the not-so-distant future. It's estimated we need 12 primary care providers just to fill the gap we have today. We are a growing community so every year that number goes up."

There is also a shortage of suitable office space in many parts of the county which is particularly concerning since the current provincial model is for Family Health Teams operating in group practices which includes after-hour services. The volunteer committee has done very little to



actively recruit physicians in recent years and in fact, spent just 25 percent of its budget so far in 2023. "Our best work was hosting a medical discovery week event to host visiting medical students. We held an event at Sixtythree here in Woodstock and Warden Ryan was invited. Due to the busy schedule of the recruitment group, we weren't successful in undertaking any additional activities. It was difficult to get meetings together." Hammond added the committee has met two, maybe three times throughout the year.

The Oxford Ontario Health Team (OHT) is asking for funding from county council to the tune of \$30,000 to beef up efforts to recruit new family doctors. The total cost for a full-time recruiter would be \$120,000. The organization's Executive Project Lead is Teresa Martins who said they know that having access to primary care is one of those issues that requires more than one organization at the table. "We know that for many community members their first link into the health care system and to stay healthy is through

primary care and for too many of the equity-deserving populations are the first not to have that support." Martins would like to establish a full-time coordinator role who would report to the OHT in order to have a more cohesive recruitment strategy. If successful, that person would be responsible for developing, executing, and reporting on a robust recruitment for the county. Currently, there are a total of eight different efforts ongoing in the county including hospitals in Woodstock, Ingersoll, and Tillsonburg.

EZT Mayor Phil Schaefer, the township's representative on county council, said East Zorra-Tavistock is not directly involved in any type of physician recruitment. "I believe the decision made 20 years ago to convert the clinic to community ownership was the right one as it retained the five physicians we had and on their inevitable retirements, it aided in recruiting efforts, letting physicians be physicians, while the community made sure they had an up-to-date facility to do so. We now have four physicians, a nurse practitioner, and dedicated staff." He added the province is experiencing a primary care physician shortage, and EZT is no different. "When I was on the Tavistock Community Health board, I remembered the clinic having a very heavy patient load, and I imagine that has not changed. Additional physicians and nurse practitioners would help to serve these patients as well as our growing population."

Oxford County Council will decide on the OHT's budget ask during its 2024 deliberations.

## Letter to the Editor:

Ontario's scary proposal to streamline environmental permissions must be stopped

Ontario's proposal to "streamline" environmental permissions is a thinly veiled attempt to further privatize and/or abolish what should be public services.

Citizens are justifiably suspicious of practitioners, no matter how well trained or credentialed, who are hired by firms to give opinions and advice. It's only common sense that hired experts will tell the person hiring them what they want to hear, if they want to get re-hired or paid for their work.

Instead of outsourcing advice previously supplied by public servants, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks should increase its workforce.

If we need faster approvals, we should replace the staff who have been cut by this government's many public service layoffs, and fill positions frozen five years ago by the hiring freeze imposed by this government.

Our environment is too precious, and already too threatened, to take the chance that purchased advice or no advice at all is good enough for stormwa-

ter management, hazardous waste transportation and management systems, construction site dewatering, aggregate operations, etc.

Especially here in Waterloo Region, where 80% of our drinking water comes from groundwater, we can't take the risks.

That's why I'm sending my comments on [ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-6951](http://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-6951) to [permissions.modernization@ontario.ca](mailto:permissions.modernization@ontario.ca). Please join me.

Kae Elgie,  
Waterloo

Letter to the editor: 100-Year-Old Veteran Remembers the Fallen

Dear Editor,

I lost my right arm on October 18, 1944, while serving with the Loyal Edmonton Regiment in Italy. I was staked at a farmhouse that had a children's treehouse located nearby. In the treehouse was a sniper who kept shooting at our boys. A tank then came which

shot out shells, the shrapnel hitting my right arm.

When I returned home from the war, I joined The War Amps and have been a member ever since. This Association was started by First World War amputee veterans to help each other adapt to their new reality as amputees.

Having just recently turned 100, I am reflecting this Remembrance Day upon all those who served in my regiment and never returned home. Their absence weighs on me and it is essential that we keep their memory alive. I take comfort in knowing that The War Amps and its young members will continue to keep spreading the message long into the future.

The sacrifices of those who served (and continue to serve) deserve to be remembered and honoured. Each Remembrance Day serves as a poignant reminder of the tremendous price paid by these brave individuals. Their selflessness and courage continue to resonate, and it is our duty to ensure that their legacy endures.

Lloyd Brown, 100

Member of The War Amps

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COMMUNITY —

# Business Profile: Wilmot Shawarma



Owais Khan, a 22-year-old local resident, officially opened Wilmot Shawarma on September 30th. (Photo credit: Mercedes Kay Gold)

By Mercedes Kay Gold

New Hamburg, get ready to take your taste buds on a global adventure. Owais Khan, a 22-year-old local resident officially opened Wilmot Shawarma on September 30th. Inspired by his mother's home cooking, mealtime table talks and the full support of his proud family, this part-time business student turned his dream into a takeout restaurant reality.

"People ask what shawarma is every day," says Owais. Shawarma is a popular street food in the Middle East originating in Turkey. Seasoned, marinated meat is stacked onto a skewer to slowly cook. Owais marinates the chicken for 24 hours for maximum flavor and tenderness. The inverted meat-covered cone continuously turns at a turtle's pace while the fat melts slowly, dripping onto the meat. Traditionally, the meat of choice was lamb, but chicken, beef, turkey, and even veal or pork is used throughout the world.

Shawarma meat is juicy and flavour filled thanks to a slew of spices. Paprika, turmeric, cumin, cardamon, and cinnamon is common but Baharat is often used as well. This reddish coloured spice with a sweet yet smokey, peppery and even earthy

taste contains the same basic ingredients as a traditional shawarma spice mixture, but depending on the region, a few other herbs are added. Cloves, black pepper, sumac, saffron, chili peppers, dried mint and dried rosebuds may all add to the exotic flavor profile. Wilmot Shawarma's spices are superb but, unfortunately, top-secret.

Once cooked, shawarma is sliced thinly, and typically served in a pita with a wide variety of produce, piled high on basmati rice or raw veggies. Flavors fuse together with sauces, and each region has its own flavour flair. Shawarma is typically topped with toum or tarator, a garlic sauce mixed with tahini, hummus or a spiced pickled mango condiment called amba.

Say no to takeout dishes high in sugar, oil and a long list of additives, preservatives and a slew of unpronounceable words. Say yes to local ingredients and fantastically fresh food, customary at Wilmot Shawarma.

On-the-go? Wrap it up with a shawarma or gyro. Literally the same cuisine, but with a different origin. Gyros are Greek, and slow cooked using various meats, again on a rotating spit. Gyros are traditionally topped with lettuce, tomatoes,

onions, fried potatoes, and tzatziki sauce. Owais uses beef and lamb, and incorporates French fries for fun! Are you plant-powered? Choose from a veggie wrap or falafels, fast food of the Middle East. These small patties are made from chickpea flour and heaps of herbs. Did you give bread the boot? Don't worry, there are platters with a choice of basmati rice or salad. There are nine fresh veggie toppings, adding a rainbow of body-boosting

benefits and eleven sauces to go crazy for. Wilmot Shawarma is protein packed whether you are meat or plant-based and there are tons of veggies to fuel the body with vitamins plus carbohydrates for energy. It's a breeze to customize the cuisine or embrace food fusion and order their popular poutine! Wilmot Shawarma is perfect on-the-go, takeout or simply Skip the Dishes!

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COMMUNITY —

# Wilmot Fire Department receives 222 smoke alarms to give to local residents

By Veronica Reiner

The Wilmot Fire Department partnered with Enbridge Gas Inc. to bring 222 combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms to local residents.

The effort is part of Safe Community Project Zero - a public education campaign with the Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council that will provide more than 10,000 alarms to residents in 50 municipalities across Ontario.

This is the first time that Wilmot has been involved with Safe Community Project Zero. Wilmot Fire Chief Rod Leeson said that the Wilmot Fire Department is "working on strategies" to get the smoke and carbon monoxide alarms into the homes of people with expired alarms.

"Only working alarms will save lives," said Leeson. "By working alarms we mean alarms that are less than 10 years old and beep when the test button is pressed."

"Many residents don't realize that their smoke and CO alarms expire typically after 10 years."

This past summer, the Wilmot Fire Department learned (through their door-to-door program) that a local resident had alarms that were more than 20 years old.

"Our goal is to have working smoke alarms in all homes," said Leeson. "We can help by



Left to right, Wilmot's Chief Fire Prevention Officer Andrew Mechalko; Fire Chief Rod Leeson; Public Education Officer Nicole Schnurr; Wilmot Mayor Natasha Salonen; Ward 1 Councillor Stewart Cressman; CAO Sharon Chambers; and Kyle Kemp, Enbridge Gas Supervisor of Operations, Southeast Region.

offering these free alarms to people who have an existing battery-operated alarm in need of replacement or to those residents who want to increase the current

level of protection in their homes."

Leeson recommended that people add these free smoke and CO alarms in their

bedrooms. The Wilmot Fire Department offers a loaner alarm program that provides alarms to residents with expired or defective alarms. "This loaning of alarms bridges a gap that allows residents time to purchase alarms and/or arrange for an electrician to replace them while maintaining a level of safety," said Leeson.

When properly installed and maintained, combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms help provide the early warning to safely escape from a house fire or carbon monoxide exposure. Carbon monoxide is a toxic, odourless gas that is a by-product of incomplete combustion of many types of common fuels.

Enbridge Gas invested \$315,000 in Safe Community Project Zero. Over the past 15 years, the program has provided more than 86,000 alarms to Ontario fire departments.

"Properly maintaining fuel burning equipment is the best way to reduce potential exposure to carbon monoxide, and an alarm is a critical second line of defense for protection. When we implement these strategies together, we protect our loved ones from carbon monoxide poisoning, also known as the silent killer," said Kyle Kemp, Supervisor Operations, Southeast Region, Enbridge Gas, in a release.

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## COMMUNITY —

# Compassion Knows No Borders

By Scott Dunstall

I first met Ed Penner when I joined the New Hamburg Optimist Club. For those that don't know Ed, he leads the service team at Pfeil Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram located on Huron. One of the hardest working members of the New Hamburg Optimist Club. Barbecue event? Ed is often in the mix of Optimist volunteers making magic to get our delicious food to our hungry customers. He currently sits as a director of the club as well. Extremely knowledgeable about community minor sports, particularly softball.

At one of the first business meetings I attended for the club, Ed got up and put his case forward for the Optimist Club to consider supporting an event called Jay Freeman's Cancer Crushfest. He started to explain what Jay's Crushfest was, and then his voice started to crack. Jay's Crushfest is an annual adult co-ed softball tournament held in memory of Jason Freeman, who lost his life to germ cell cancer in 2019 at the young age of 26.

Ed's connection to the tournament is that his youngest daughter, Stephanie, is married to Jason's older brother, Kevin. Jason's fiancé, Victoria, was Stephanie's roommate in college and introduced Stephanie to Kevin. This is an important day for Ed and his family. His request to the membership was for the use of the club's tent and the club's food service grade BBQ for the day. Ed has been committed to working the BBQ and serving food at the tournament and is a task that serves the participants, the community, and helps to raise money for this great cause.

The first Jay Freeman's Cancer Crushfest Softball Tournament was held in 2020 and has been held each year since at Trafalgar Sportspark in Georgetown, Ontario. The tournament originally began with eight teams and has since expanded to 14



Ed Penner, a New Hamburg Optimist Club member, has a personal connection to Jay Freeman's Cancer Crushfest.

teams and continues to grow every year. All proceeds from the one-day event are donated to the groundbreaking, testicular cancer research program at the Princess Margaret Hospital where Jason received the majority of his treatment. Over the past four years, the tournament has raised over \$70,000 in support of leading-edge research. This past August, the tournament had its most successful year to date and was able to raise approximately \$25,000 through team registration, food sales, home run derby, raffle, and 50/50 draws.

This is a tournament that is organized by Jason's family and is supported by volunteers that have continued to generously

dedicate their time each year in support of the event. The money raised through the tournament is only one gratifying aspect of this special day. Equally important is the comradery and experience that the day itself brings. It is a day focused on playing the game of baseball and celebrating the joy that Jay received from playing it.

Baseball was Jason's passion from a very young age. His hard work and determination enabled him to secure athletic scholarships at schools in Texas and Oklahoma. He earned an honours bachelor's degree in business administration while playing the game he loved. He returned home in 2016, a self-assured, goal oriented and disciplined young man who was ready

to take on the world. In 2018, just a few weeks after his 25th birthday, Jason was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer called non-seminomatous germ cell cancer. This is a form of testicular cancer, but in Jason's case, it was a tumour found in his chest. He approached his cancer journey with a calm, unwavering resolve to beat it. Jason received the best treatment available at Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto and at Indiana University Hospital in Indianapolis. He endured a great deal during the months of chemotherapy and surgery, but there was no quit in him, even after the cancer returned following a short period of remission. Jason consistently exemplified perseverance throughout his 14-month battle with cancer. He was determined to win the battle and will forever be an inspiration to those who followed his journey.

Hosting the Cancer Crushfest Softball Tournament each year is one way that Ed and his family can continue the fight for Jason and support leading-edge research that will help to find a cure for young men diagnosed with this disease.

This story is both heartbreaking but also uplifting. Sadly, we have all been touched with similar sorrow. So, when a member of our club and community came to us to help him and his family heal we said a resounding yes—no matter where the tournament is held. Compassion knows no borders. Coming together for Jason's Cancer Crushfest is a renewal of the heart for these players each year. While celebrating the game that Jay drew so much joy from, there is added fulfillment, knowing each year they are putting one more brick in the wall to eradicate this monster.

For more information on the tournament, you can visit [www.crushfest.ca](http://www.crushfest.ca) or follow @jayscrushfest on Instagram.



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2:00-4:00 PM



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## Upcoming Events

**September 24th**

**BBQ Party**

**2:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.**

**October 12th**

**OctoberFest**

**2:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.**

**November 25th**

**Christmas Bazaar**

**11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.**

Call Lisa to RSVP or schedule a personal tour

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\*This promotion cannot be combined with any other promotional offer or applied to any previous rental agreement. Promotion is only valid on Cedarview in Woodstock rental agreements signed during the promotion date, and new residents under this promotion must move in by 11/30/23. First free month rent applies to the 3rd month. This promotion ends 10/31/23. Cedarview in Woodstock reserves the right to change, alter or discontinue the promotion at any time without verbal or written notice. Please check with an authorized Cedarview in Woodstock representative for details.

# FAMILY MILESTONES —

## OBITUARY

### SHILLIDAY, Robert “Bob”



Passed away peacefully surrounded by his loved ones, on October 29, 2023, at Grand River Hospital, Kitchener, Ontario. Bob was born 81 years ago in Northern Ireland, a son of the late Robert and Sarah (Monaghan) Shilliday.

Cherished and loving husband of Rachel (Warnock) Shilliday. Devoted father of

Sam and wife Sherry Shilliday and Lorraine and husband Ian Spencer. Proud Pa to Shannon and Shawna Shilliday, and Manman to Justin (Hayley), Savannah & Stella Spencer, Leanne (Greg) and Seth Abrams. Bob will be missed by his brother Norman and wife Mary Shilliday, sisters-in-law Roberta Shilliday and Mary Warnock and by his many nieces and nephews.

Predeceased by brother Alex Shilliday, brothers-in-law Bobby and his wife Nora Warnock and brother-in-law Alan Warnock.

Bob was fleet manager at Gerth Transport (Celadon) from 1980 until his retirement in 2012.

Bob was an outstanding bagpiper who served in the Ulster Special Constabulary (USC), Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) as well as Pipe Major for the Ulster Defence Regiment (UDR) Pipe band. He played for the Late Queen at the Royal Albert Hall, London England as well as many events in Northern Ireland, Scotland, New Hamburg and surrounding areas. Bob emigrated from Northern Ireland to Canada in 1980 and enjoyed gardening, travelling and cheering on his grandchildren at many various sports they were playing.

Relatives and friends are invited to the Mark Jutzi Funeral Home, 291 Huron Street, New Hamburg on Thursday, November 2, 2023, from 2 – 4 & 6 – 8 p.m. A Funeral service will be held in the chapel of the funeral home on Friday, November 3, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. with pastors Marilyn Bernard and Bob Thaler to officiate. Private family Interment to follow in Riverside Cemetery, New Hamburg.

As expressions of sympathy, donations would be accepted to Grand River Hospital ICU – and can be done through the funeral home.

Personal condolences and donation information available at [www.markjutzifuneralhomes.ca](http://www.markjutzifuneralhomes.ca)

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE



for Larry & Brenda Ehnes

**Saturday, November 4th**

1:30 - 4:00 - Stratford Legion Hall - 804 Ontario Street

BEST WISHES ONLY, PLEASE

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## WORSHIP IN WILMOT TOWNSHIP

### St George's Anglican Church

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### 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

## CORRECTION:

The Gazette would like to make two corrections from last week's edition. In the front-page story 'New Hamburg counselling centre receives federal funding' Tim Louis was referred to as the Kitchener-Conestoga MPP. Louis is the federal member of parliament for the riding. On page 16 the 'Oxford County participated in Waste Reduction Week' story said the county would transition to the producer-responsible recycling program in 2020. It should have said 2026. The Gazette apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused

## 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 —

The Wilmot-Tavistock  
Gazette Weekly Quiz

- 1) What rock musician played in both Nirvana and Foo Fighters?
- 2) What is the birthstone of November?
- 3) True or False. Antarctica has a national sport.
- 4) What children's book did Forrest Gump keep in his suitcase?
- 5) What bird, extinct by 1681, was named after the Portuguese word for "stupid"?
- 6) In what continent is 4 considered an unlucky number?
- 7) What are the 3 primary colors?
- 8) In what year did Roman Empire fall?
- 9) What type of race is the Melbourne Cup?
- 10) What is the last letter of the Greek alphabet?

Answers found on page 34

BIRTHDAYS &  
ANNIVERSARIES

**November 2:** Happy birthday to Isaac Brenneman (11), Gracie Neumeister (11), Barbara Hallam (98), and Deanne Gladding.

**November 3:** Happy birthday to Cassie Brenneman (11), Simon Keller (16), Jack Beauvais (16), Cassandra Zehr (23), and Cindy Herold, and happy anniversary for Eric and Larissa Nicholls (5th) and Larry and Brenda Ehnes (50th)

**November 4:** Happy anniversary for Dave and Theresa Bowman (7th).

**November 5:** Happy birthday to Lauren McKay (8), Calleigh Bontaine (16), Drew Brenneman (20) and John Bender, and anniversary for David and Shirley Wilhelm (46th).

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

## The Old Gazettes

By 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 31-November 7, 2018 Edition (5 years ago)**

This November, in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the end of WWI, the Oxford County Archives is releasing a new book entitled "Honouring Oxford: The Cenotaphs and Memorials of the Great War" to commemorate our local communities that chose to honour their fallen sons, fathers, brothers and friends through the creation of lasting memorials and monuments.

When the bells toll 100 times on Remembrance Day 2018, we will recall the symbolic meaning of the ringing to signify peace after war. As part of a nationwide initiative, the Royal Canadian Legion in partnership with Veterans Affairs Canada has asked churches to ring their bells 100 times at the setting of the sun on November 11, 2018. The Bells of Peace will create a unified and memorable act across the country.

**October 29-November 5, 2008 Edition (15**

**years ago)**

"It's not about a single person getting their way... it's more important how we make the decision," said Mayor Don McKay at the lagoon public meeting last Wednesday evening. About 140 people packed the Tavistock Men's Club Hall for a public meeting called by members of the Tavistock Improvement Association (TIA) who are seeking answers in the lagoon expansion debate.

**October 28-November 4, 1998 Edition (25 years ago)**

Tavistock students played an important role in the 43rd Annual Commencement Exercises at Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School on Friday evening, October 23. The valedictory address was given by Scott Robert Zehr who has been involved in all aspects of student life in the years he attended W-O - from athletics and music to student council and mentoring programs.

Need scoring punch? Put the call in for Chris Weitzel! Chris connected four times on the weekend, scoring two in the Braves' 4-3 win over Delhi on Friday night and then added two more in Tavistock's defeat

of Burford Sunday night.

**November 7-14, 1973 Edition (50 years ago)**

The Tavistock Bantam boys softball team won trophies this past season. Members of this team are Rob Heinbuch, Clare Schlegel, Dick Lupton, Joe Yausie, Jim Currah, Gary Pearson, Ross Yantzi, Philip Roth, Jim Ramseyer, Kevin Ramseyer, Nolan Wettlaufer, Bill Zehr and Mark Fuller. Coaches were Brian Hohner and Ron Becker.

In keeping with a request from Ontario Hydro to conserve energy, the Christmas Lighting of Homes will not be urged for prizes, the content being dropped for 1973.

About 50 head of cattle and 125 pigs were killed last Tuesday night in a barn fire on the farm of Alex Lupton in South Easthope Township. It was the second time in seven years that Mr. Lupton has had a barn destroyed by fire.

The Rotary Club of Tavistock is proud to announce the induction of three new members: Ray Dietrich, Earl Gowdy, and Ronald Gohl. This brings the membership to a total of 32, a new high.

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Pastor Rev. Michael Mayer

**Cemetery Decoration Service is on  
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Pastor Hugh Rutledge 655-3611

Email: [office@tavistock.church](mailto:office@tavistock.church)

[www.tavistock.church](http://www.tavistock.church)

# Lest We Forget - REMEMBRANCE DAY 2023



## LEST WE FORGET



Today, as we should every day, we remember those who volunteered, sacrificed, served, fought, and died, for our freedom. We thank you, and we salute you as we salute those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. We will never forget. We will remember you.

## The man behind today's New Hamburg Legion

By Scott Dunstall

I only met Ross Eichler in the last two years and have been part of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 532, New Hamburg, for less time. The Legion is largely misunderstood in our community. I believed it was a place where old vets came to drink the afternoon away. When I talk to people about their perceptions of our branch, many have the same belief. To really understand what "The Branch" is all about, you should talk to Ross. Now that the Royal Canadian Legion has formally kicked off the 2023 Poppy Campaign and Remembrance season, I thought this would be the perfect time to chat with him.

Ross joined the branch in 2007 when Jane's father, Cameron Shantz, passed. He served on the HMCS Star from 1942-1945. When I spoke to him, he kept telling me that he did not want me to talk about him and to speak only about the Legion. But I have to. Ross is the current President of the New Hamburg branch, having just begun his second term. Prior to this, he was the Poppy Campaign Chair and Co-Chaired the Youth Education program with his beautiful wife, Jane. Oh, did I mention. that he was voted Citizen of the Year at the opening ceremonies of the New Hamburg Fall Fair this year? Did I also mention that he presented the case for supporting the Legion's annual poppy campaign in Wilmot to the 100 Men in Wilmot Who Give a Damn? He did and the Legion won the evening's competition, giving the branch nearly an additional \$13,000 - all going to this year's Poppy Campaign. Ross said it will make a huge difference in the donation amounts they typically distribute. For example, three local hospitals each receive \$2,000 each year, but because of this win, it most likely will be doubled. Those hospitals are St. Mary's, Grand River and Stratford General. Other benefactors from the Legion's Poppy Campaign include:

- a.) the annual youth education program, which awards local students with prizes and certificates who have submitted poems, short stories or posters reflecting the sacrifice our fallen and wounded service members have made. Those winners can advance to the provincial



New Hamburg Legion President Ross Eichler.

- round and then the national finals.
- b.) Service dogs. These are highly trained animals that cost upwards of \$3,500.
- c.) A program that many people equate with the Legion's

Poppy Campaign is called "Leave the Streets Behind." Key features of this program include housing, financial aid for rent and furnishings, medical needs, assistive device, emergency transportation and addiction and recovery programs.

The branch does an amazing amount of work in the community outside of the Poppy Campaign. Included in those are providing kitchen services for many local agencies, such as the Community Care Concepts annual Christmas breakfast, the Wilmot Family Resource Centre's Coldest Night of the Year, and the monthly New Hamburg Optimist dinner meetings. They also provide a space for the Family Resource Centre's Coffee House Talks that meets the last Wednesday of the month and offers subject matter of interest the 55+ members of our community.

A little bit of Ross's backstory: He was a graduate of the New Hamburg Hahns Junior C hockey team back in the mid 60s. From there, he was drafted by the St. Catharines Black Hawks of the OHL. He spent two years playing there and back then, there was no entry level draft as there is today. Once he was signed by St. Catharines, he became Chicago Black Hawks property. After two years in Saint Catherines, he found himself on the ice in the old Chicago Stadium taking passes from Bobby Hull and Stan Makita at the Black Hawks 1968 training camp. While he didn't break into the Black Hawks line up he did end up playing for their farm teams in St. Louis and Dallas. Around this time in June 1967, he was best man to the groom of his future wife's sister's wedding. She was the Maid of Honour. The following June in 1968, those two lovebirds, Ross and Jane were married.

Finally, Ross said that we would be remiss if we did not mention the Legion's hard-working executive and the team of regular volunteers who make The Branch so recognizable in the community. Remembering and helping out veterans is the ultimate goal. I, along, with Ross and all the members of the New Hamburg Legion, hope to see everyone at this year's ceremony at the New Hamburg Arena on Jacob Street.

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# Lest We Forget - REMEMBRANCE DAY 2023

*Thank You Brittany, David and Hannah!*

Say hello to Brittany, David and little Hannah Hufnagel. When you are walking around New Hamburg and enjoying the crisp quality of the Memorial Banners you can thank this team. Their state of the art Scanner has recreated the most precious and sensitive of photographs. And they did it only for the love of veterans and their families.



## REMEMBRANCE DAY SCHEDULE

On November 11th join us along the parade route to the New Hamburg Arena.

**Saturday, November 11**

- 10:05 - Colour Party Steps Off and proceeds to Cenotaph
- 10:15 - Cenotaph laying of wreaths and dedication
- 10:55 - Parade Arrives New Hamburg Arena
- 10:59 - O Canada
- 11:00 - 11:15  
Last Post (Colours are Dipped)  
The Silence  
Lament
- Reveille (Colours are Raised)
- The Act of Remembrance  
Prayers
- 11:15 - 11:30 - Wreath Laying Ceremony  
(Choir or Band performs)
- 11:25 - 11:30 - God Save The King
- 11:30 - Colour Party Dismissed  
Ceremony Ends



The New Hamburg Legion Poppy Campaign Launches **Friday October 27.**

To show your support, 91 poppy boxes will be placed throughout Wilmot



**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION NEW HAMBURG REMEMBRANCE DAY DETAILS**

**SEND US YOUR PICTURE!**

**COLOUR PARTY PARADE ROUTE**  
IF YOUR LOVED ONES BANNER IS ALONG THE PARADE ROUTE WE ENCOURAGE YOUR FAMILY TO STAND BELOW AND HAVE SOMEONE TAKE A PICTURE AS THE COLOUR PARTY PASSES BY. PLEASE SEND THOSE INTO US! WE ARE CREATING A VIDEO!

This page generously sponsored by:

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*The Act of Remembrance*

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.  
We will remember them.*

*- The Imperial in New Hamburg*

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# Lest We Forget - REMEMBRANCE DAY 2023



## 209 Memorial Banners hung up in New Hamburg

By Veronica Reiner

The New Hamburg branch of the Royal Canadian Legion memorial banner program picked up traction, with 209 memorial banners hung up around town in New Hamburg.

Last year, there were a total of 74 banners displayed, so there are more than double the amount this year as there were last year. Each banner has the name of the veteran, photo, the era of service, branch of the military, the years served, and sponsor of the banner. They can be spotted all around New Hamburg.

Marie Voisin, a member of the New Hamburg Legion, said that the locations were selected intentionally, with each one chosen based on who the pictured veteran had a personal connection to - for example, where they lived or worked.

"When people see banners, and they see the men and the women, I think that it really hits home," said Marie. "I think my favourite thing is when people will let me know that they saw the banner. Usually they're walking, looking forward, they come upon it, and they just break down in tears."

Marie added that the program is bringing in people from all across Ontario, who wish to see the banners of their family members. "There's been a man here for the past three days from Port Perry," she said. "He's just connecting with people that he used to know, because he lived here for 10 years - both of his parents served. So he's been in town, spending hours going through the streets, looking



The Walsh family Remembrance Day memorial banners, located at 244 Wilmot Street in New Hamburg. (Photo credit: Mike Grummett)

at the banners, and then connecting with other people."

The physical process of hanging up banners took about two weeks. It included Marie, along with staff from Enova Power Company, Doug McLean, Mike Livingstone, Jesse Dicks, Matt Sokoljuk, Joe MacLean, Dan Bennett, Dave Taylor, Will Eddy and Bob Brenner who volunteered their time. Marie tracked down descendants of those who served, and asked if they would like to sponsor a banner.

Each banner is double sided in full colour, and guaranteed to last for 10 years.

The banners are placed on light standards from Thanksgiving until the end of November, then stored at the Legion until the following year.

The cost is \$150 per banner. The Legion pays for soldiers of families who cannot afford to purchase one. Some local businesses have also sponsored a banner for soldiers killed in action, including Josslin Insurance, B&W Feed, and Jerry Pfeil Chrysler, Cloverleaf Farms, Cressridge, Heart n' Home, Home Hardware, Riverside Brass, KLT Wealth, The Puddicombe House, Nith Valley Construction, Pharmasave and Mark Jutzi Funeral Home and Sobey's.

"I should mention that 75 per cent are for people who have lived in the township. The other 25 per cent are soldiers who are not from the area, but their children and grandchildren live here now," said Marie.

"Like me - I didn't grow up in New Hamburg, I grew up in Kitchener, but I chose to have my dad's banner here where I am." Marie's father served in the Air Force for four years.

When asked how the New Hamburg Legion decided to move forward with the memorial banner program, Marie said, "I was in Banff Springs, in November 2021. I saw they had 10 banners hanging, and I was just mesmerized by them. I thought, 'what a lovely tribute.' I came back home and got in touch with the Banff Legion and asked them how they did it, and they told me to contact the Fergus Legion.

"So I did, and they were so kind, they told me what to do, they gave me a sample banner. At the same time, Bob Neubauer from our the Legion, had noticed the banners in Sarnia, so we got together and said, 'we're going to do this.'"

Marie said that a young couple in New Hamburg - Brittany and David Hufnagel - perfected the quality of the each photo for the banners, as they have a high quality scanner.

"I find this whole banner program, personally, so rewarding, because there are so many happy moments that come from it," said Marie. There will be more banners next year!

The locations of each banner is as follows:

<b>Ackersviller, Fred</b> 319 Wilmot	<b>Boshart, Ken</b> St. Peter's Church on Huron	213 Wilmot	beside 16 Bleams West	253 Peel
<b>Armstrong, Joseh</b> 288 Peel	<b>Bowman, Claude</b> side yard of 285 Peel on Church	<b>Connolly, Joseph</b> 302 Wilmot	<b>Ebert, John</b> 183 Wilmot	<b>Fewkes, William</b> in front of the Puddicombe Restaurant
<b>Armstrong, Leslie</b> 272 Peel	<b>Bradshaw, William</b> Church by Peel	<b>Cook, Norman</b> in front of Riverside Florist on Huron Street	<b>Eby, Elgin</b> 269 Huron	<b>Fink, Aussie</b> 195 Peel
<b>Armstrong [Klassen], Margaret</b> west of the Library	<b>Brenneman, Erwin</b> beside 16 Bleams West	<b>Cook, Roy</b> in front of Riverside Florist on Huron Street	<b>Edgell, John</b> 412 Peel	<b>Fink, Walter</b> 195 Peel
<b>Armstrong, Robin</b> Board of Trade on Huron	<b>Brenner, Jack</b> 231 Wilmot	<b>Coxson, Donald</b> 3 Bleams East at Peel	<b>Eichler, Douglas</b> 313 Peel	<b>Fischer, Henry</b> across from 22 Church
<b>Armstrong, Walter</b> west of the Library	<b>Brenner, Ollie</b> 231 Wilmot	<b>Cressman, James Oliver</b> between 386 - 394 Peel	<b>Eichler, Ernie</b> 18 Bleams East	<b>Forler, Alvin</b> 216 Peel
<b>Armstrong, Winnifred</b> 288 Peel	<b>Broda, Fred</b> 244 Peel	<b>Daniels, Charles</b> 31 Bleams West	<b>Eichler, Nora Mae</b> 295 Peel	<b>Forler, Claude</b> 196 Peel
<b>Arnold Brothers</b> Royal Bank of Canada on Huron	<b>Brydon, Robert</b> 254 Peel	<b>Daniels, Fred</b> 31 Bleams West	<b>Eichler, Paul</b> 295 Peel	<b>Forler, Edward</b> 196 Peel
<b>Bailey, John</b> 56 Burns	<b>Cairns, David</b> across from The Waterlot on Wilmot	<b>Ditner, Hubert</b> 318 Peel Street [Bell Canada Building]	<b>Eidt, Lloyd</b> Trinity Lutheran Church on Church Street	<b>Foster, Samuel</b> south end of Peel Street West Plaza
<b>Baird, John</b> Wilmot & Church corner	<b>Canadian Armed Forces</b> 412 Peel	<b>Doerr, Woody</b> 319 Wilmot	<b>Emslie, George</b> 62 Boullee	<b>Fried, Kenneth</b> 35 Peel
<b>Becker, Roy</b> Mill Street beside CIBC	<b>Cheeseman, Sid</b> West side of The Legion on Boullee	<b>Duncan, Jack</b> 213 Wilmot	<b>Erbach, Herbert</b> beside 237 Peel on Boullee	<b>Fritz, Robert</b> side yard of 285 Peel on Church
<b>Bier, Nile Maxie</b> 31 Bleams West	<b>Cleary, Francis</b> 97 Wilmot	<b>Durrer, Alfred</b> Beside B&W Feed Mill parking lot on Mill	<b>Everts, Albert</b> 97 Wilmot	<b>Frizell, Raymond</b> 39 Bleams West
<b>Bingeman, Lawrence</b> in front of Sweets Bakery on Huron	<b>Colasimone, Henry</b>	<b>Dusome, George</b>	<b>Faulhafer, Gord</b> Church by Peel	<b>Gallant, John</b> 276 Wilmot
			<b>Feick, Thomas Dr.</b>	





# Lest We Forget - REMEMBRANCE DAY 2023



## 209 Memorial Banners hung up in New Hamburg

<b>Glab, Jozef</b> 27 Peel	346 Peel	<b>Miller, Sonny</b> Wilmot Street on the west side of Church Street	<b>Rielly, Arnold</b> 265 Peel	32 Church
<b>Glendinning, William</b> 334 Peel	<b>Kropf, Lloyd</b> 18 Bleams East	<b>Milne, Donald</b> across from The Waterlot on Wilmot	<b>Ritz, Ernie</b> 27 Peel	<b>Thalen, Jacob Harm</b> 3 Bleams East on the corner of Peel
<b>Goebel, Glennie</b> 176 Huron	<b>Kropf, Lorne</b> corner of Peel & 1 Bleams West	<b>Nauman, Clayton</b> 254 Wilmot	<b>Robertson, Henry</b> 182 Union	<b>Thomas, George</b> 35 Peel
<b>Goebel, Ward</b> Sweets Bakery	<b>Kruspe, Robert</b> in front of the Murray's Building	<b>Neath, William Jr.</b> 312 Peel	<b>Ross, Jack</b> 233 Huron	<b>Thomas, Herbert</b> 331 Wilmot
<b>Guy, Donald</b> 316 Wilmot	<b>Kurt, Walter</b> 25 Boulee	<b>Neath, William Sr.</b> 312 Peel	<b>Roth, Lyle</b> Home Hardware	<b>Thomas, Margaret</b> in front of the parking lot by Skowrons
<b>Hallman, Ervin</b> 169 Mill Street [Peel continued]	<b>Langford, John</b> 334 Peel	<b>Neubauer, Joe</b> Josslin Insurance	<b>Routly, William</b> left side of 31 Bleams West	<b>Thomas, Newton A.</b> 75 Huron
<b>Hammer, Maurice</b> 115A Peel	<b>Laschinger, Wilfred</b> 183 Wilmot	<b>Nielson, John</b> 96 Huron	<b>Ruthig, Alfred</b> between 231 Jacob & 58 Boulee on Boulee	<b>Thomas, Newton O.</b> 75 Huron
<b>Harris, Gordon</b> 258 Peel	<b>Lautenschlager, Harold</b> CIBC on Huron	<b>Norton, Scott</b> Royal Bank of Canada on Huron	<b>Salonen, Dr. Otto</b> 272 Peel	<b>Todd, Tyler</b> corner of Peel & Huron Streets
<b>Hartman, Howard</b> 233 Huron	<b>Linton, James</b> Trinity Lutheran Church on Church Street	<b>Omand, Bruce</b> 291 Huron - Funeral Home	<b>Salzberry, Russell</b> 269 Huron	<b>Toman, Burkle</b> between 253 Wilmot & 32 Church
<b>Hartwig, Arno</b> 316 Wilmot	<b>Lotz, John</b> 279 Peel	<b>Paciello, Pasquale</b> Wet side of CIBC on Mill Street	<b>Schaefer, Lorne</b> 17 Bleams East	<b>Torrie, Duncan</b> 245 Wilmot
<b>Hill, George M. Jr.</b> in front of Puddicombe Restaurant	<b>Lotz, Lloyd</b> 279 Peel	<b>Panchen, William</b> 245 Wilmot	<b>Schmidt, Eric</b> 23 Bleams West	<b>Voisin, Louis</b> Across the street from the bandstand on Wilmot
<b>Hill, George M. Sr.</b> in front of Puddicombe Restaurant	<b>Maher, Edmund</b> 251 Huron	<b>Parker, Roy</b> between 253 Wilmot & 32 Church	<b>Schmitt, George</b> 253 Peel	<b>Voisin, Urban</b> Across the street from the bandstand on Wilmot
<b>Hinz, Carl</b> 58 Boulee	<b>Marty, Ivan Bernard</b> 394 Peel	<b>Pearson, Jack</b> north side of the Peel West Plaza on Peel	<b>Schuler, Theodore</b> north end of Peel West Plaza	<b>Wagner, Erhardt</b> 311 Wilmot
<b>Holtzworth, Carl</b> 299 Wilmot	<b>Massel, Bud</b> 245 Peel	<b>Perry, Walter</b> between 231 Jacob & 58 Boulee on Boulee	<b>Schwing, William</b> 313 Peel	<b>Walker, Clinton</b> 73 Peel
<b>Honderich, Robert</b> 19 Boulee	<b>Massel, Byron</b> 245 Peel	<b>Pfaff, Orville</b> 39 Bleams West	<b>Scott, John R.A.</b> 62 Boulee	<b>Wallbank, William</b> 251 Huron
<b>Hostetler, Charles</b> 254 Wilmot	<b>Marston, William</b> 265 Peel	<b>Poirier, Al</b> West side of The Legion on Boulee	<b>Shantz, Cameron</b> corner of Peel & Huron on Huron	<b>Walsh, Mary Margaret</b> 244 Wilmot
<b>Hulzebos, Jacob</b> in front of the Murray's Building	<b>McEllistrum, Gord</b> 230 Peel	<b>Poll, Elmer</b> 11 Bleams West	<b>Shantz, Stuart</b> 311 Wilmot	<b>Walsh, Walter</b> 244 Wilmot
<b>Ingold, Irvin</b> 19 Boulee	<b>McFayden, Henry</b> Home Hardware	<b>Priest, John</b> Josslin Insurance	<b>Sheppard, Leslie</b> 90 Peel, Garden Stand	<b>Walter, Eric</b> 216 Peel
<b>James, Albert</b> 394 Peel	<b>McKie, Michael</b> 276 Wilmot	<b>Racho, Wallace</b> 285 Wilmot	<b>Sheppard, Kenneth</b> 90 Peel, Garden Stand	<b>Weber, Norm</b> 96 Huron
<b>Jantzi, Earl</b> Post Office	<b>McNichol, Douglas</b> across from 22 Church	<b>Reiner, Lloyd</b> 331 Wilmot	<b>Shilling, Percy</b> corner of Peel & Huron on Huron	<b>Whitman, Donald</b> 258 Peel
<b>Jones, Herbert</b> 25 Boulee	<b>McNeil, Michael</b> 304 Peel	<b>Reinhart, Albert</b> Beside B & W Feed on Peel	<b>Simpson, Reginald</b> Beside B & W Feed on Peel	<b>Wildfang, Gerald</b> on Union beside the church
<b>Junker, Gordon</b> 231 Jacob - on the corner of Boulee & Jacob	<b>Mead, William</b> 285 Wilmot	<b>Richards, Alfred</b> 144 Huron	<b>Sivyver, Jean</b> 178 Peel	<b>Wildfang, Roy</b> on Union beside the church
<b>Kaster, John</b> 176 Huron	<b>Meeker, Howie</b> 115A Peel	<b>Rickert, Ross</b> 299 Wilmot	<b>Sivyver, Teddy</b> 178 Peel	<b>Wilhelm, Carl</b> 302 Wilmot
<b>Klassen, David</b> by the parking lot beside Skowrons	<b>Menard, Albert</b> 7 Bleams West	<b>Riedl, Paul</b> corner of Wilmot and Huron on Wilmot	<b>Spahr, John</b> 88 Burns	<b>Wilhelm Dell</b> in front of CIBC on Huron
<b>Kilgour, Lloyd</b> 17 Bleams East	<b>Menard, Ira</b> 23 Bleams West	<b>Riedl, Vendel</b> corner of Wilmot and Huron on Wilmot	<b>Steiner, Carl</b> St. Peter's Church	<b>Williams, Russell</b> beside the cenotaph
<b>Koch, Gerald</b> 165 Peel	<b>Menard, Marcella</b> 7 Bleams West	<b>Riehl, Jack</b> 3 Bleams East	<b>Stiefelmeyer, John</b> north of Felt Boots	<b>Wolfe, Kenneth</b> 272 Wilmot
<b>Kranpien, Irvine</b> 318 Peel Street [Bell Canada Building]	<b>Merner, Albert</b> 380 Peel	<b>Riehl, Gerald</b> 3 Bleams East	<b>Stier, Nathaniel</b> beside the cenotaph	<b>Yonge, Charles</b> 73 Peel
<b>Kropf, Emmett</b> corner of Peel & 1 Bleams West	<b>Merner, Ross</b> 380 Peel	<b>Riely, Thomas</b> 32 Church	<b>Strauch, John</b> corner of Mill & Burns	<b>Zehr, Donald</b> corner of Peel & Huron Streets
<b>Kropf, Lavina</b> Post Office on Huron Street	<b>Migliarini, Oliver</b> 272 Wilmot		<b>Summers, Leonard</b> 32 Church	<b>Zoeller, Henry</b> 11 Bleams West

COMMUNITY —

# Area Optimist Members donate winter clothing



Last week at Sprucedale School in Shakespeare are left to right, Optimist Lieutenant Governor Paul (Buck) Mathieson, grade 4 student Brittney Gruber, grade 3 student John Sebben, and school principal, Mrs. Cairncross (Lisa). The students were showing some of the winter clothing, donated from area Optimist clubs, to those youth in need for the upcoming winter months.

By Gary West

The Optimist Club of Shakespeare recently hosted a quarter board meeting for the Midwestern Ontario District Optimist Clubs.

This is a unique year in "optimism," as it marks the 100th anniversary of the first Optimist Club in Canada formed in Toronto in 1924.

The Optimist Club of Shakespeare wanted

to conduct a service project at this meeting focusing on the theme of "100".

The club decided to collect 100 pieces of warm children's clothing. They had an overwhelming response to the project and collected 296 pieces of clothing.

Since collected, the winter clothing is going to be distributed to students in need at Sprucedale Public School in Shakespeare, and the Optimism Place women's shelter in Stratford.

# Shakespeare's Christmas in the Village is coming on December 9th



By Gary West

Santa Claus is expected to arrive in Shakespeare on Saturday, December 9th, this year, and the Shakespeare Men's Club, along with other village organizations, are reaching out in search of participants to help make the day a success.

The day is called "Christmas in the Village," and one of the organizers, Barb Myers, says they are asking retail businesses to stay open for the day and offer specials or sales.

Customers would be given a bingo-type card where they can collect stamps from each business throughout the day, and all cards will be entered into a draw for a basket of goodies with items from the village businesses.

"Perth County Tourism" has offered to help promote the day, and potentially purchase items from businesses to include in the grand prize gift basket or break it up into a few more smaller prizes.

Following the parade, Santa will greet the kids at Sprucedale Public School, and the Perth East Recreation department has offered to run activities and crafts for the kids at the school as well.

A mobile mini-zoo is planned to invite kids to the Shakespeare Brewery location while next door at the fire department;

they will be open for their toy drive, as well as to provide public washrooms and possible warm beverages.

The day will end around 5 p.m., with food and entertainment in the parking lot of the Shakespeare Brewery and possibly have some bonfires happening there as well, and wrapping up about 7 p.m.

The organizing committee is looking for sponsors for some of the activities throughout the day, as a way to include all of the local businesses in the area.

Businesses who sponsor will have their logo on the event poster, or can even pick one of the activities and sponsor that specific part of the day.

Donations would be made to the Township of Perth East, allowing local businesses the opportunity to get a tax receipt, and to enable the committee to allocate funds in a controlled and transparent manner.

The Christmas in the Village committee members are hoping to have live music throughout the day and maybe some carollers walking around the town, along with crafts vendors throughout the village. They are also looking at getting balloon artists and crafts for the kids.

More info or sponsorship for the day is available at [barb@akinsbrewerlumber.com](mailto:barb@akinsbrewerlumber.com).

## Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002

### Notice of Decision Township of Wilmot

TAKE NOTICE that on May 31, 2023 the Township of Wilmot approved the increase of the cemetery at Steinmann Cemetery at 1317 Snyder's Road West to permit expansion of the cemetery area by 5874m<sup>2</sup> (1.45 acres).

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that the applicant, Registrar or any person with an interest therein may, within 15 days after publications of this notice refer the decisions to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal for a hearing.

Further information may be obtained from Lori Balcerek, Landscape Architecture Manager, GSP Group: [lbalcerek@gspgroup.ca](mailto:lbalcerek@gspgroup.ca)

Dated at Kitchener this 30th day of October, 2023

Specifics of what approved:

A cemetery expansion was approved by the township of Wilmot containing 267 burial lots and 34 green burial lots. Furthermore, the township of Wilmot approved future 1 scattering garden and 1 future columbarium containing 60 niches.



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COMMUNITY —

# Suspicious fire in Wellesley causes \$50,000 in damages

By Veronica Reiner

A suspicious fire in Wellesley village caused about \$50,000 in damages.

The incident occurred at about 12:35 a.m. on October 28. Emergency services responded to reports of a house fire in the area of Ferris Drive and Molesworth Street.


The Wellesley Fire Department extinguished the fire, and no physical injuries were reported.

The cause of the fire is considered suspicious and the

investigation remains ongoing by the Waterloo Regional Police Service's General Investigations Unit in partnership with the Office of the Fire Marshal.

When asked for more information, Wellesley Fire Chief Paul Redman said, "We don't have much information other than what was found on scene."

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Waterloo Regional Police Service at 519-570-9777. Anonymous information can be provided to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or [www.waterloocrimestoppers.com](http://www.waterloocrimestoppers.com).


PUBLIC NOTICE

## Notice of Study Completion

# Oxford County Water and Wastewater Master Plan

Oxford County has completed the 2024 Water and Wastewater Master Plan (W/WW MP) Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study. The W/WW MP has identified the preferred water and wastewater servicing solutions to meet Oxford's growth needs to 2046 as well as provide effective ongoing continuity to existing serviced settlements.

### Environmental Assessment process

The Class EA Study was undertaken in accordance with the master planning and design process of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA, 2023), approved under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. The 2024 W/WW MP followed Approach 1 of the MCEA process, which fulfills the requirements for Exempt (Schedule A and A+) projects and provides a basis for future investigations for Schedule B and C projects (where additional project specific investigations may be required to satisfy additional MCEA requirements before implementation). A W/WW MP report document has been prepared that details the planning and decision-making process followed during the Class EA Study.

### Public comment period

By this notice, the W/WW MP report is being placed online on the public record for a **30-day review period starting November 1 and ending November 30, 2023**. The W/WW MP is available for review at [www.oxfordcounty.ca/wwwmp](http://www.oxfordcounty.ca/wwwmp).

Written comments will be accepted until **November 30, 2023**. All comments and concerns should be sent directly to either one of the following contacts:

Don Ford, CMM III, C. Tech.  
 Manager, Water and Wastewater  
 Oxford County  
[dford@oxfordcounty.ca](mailto:dford@oxfordcounty.ca) | 1-800-755-0394, ext. 3191

John Tyrrell, MSc (Eng.), P.Eng  
 Senior Project Manager  
 R.V. Anderson Associates Limited  
[jtyrrell@rvanderson.com](mailto:jtyrrell@rvanderson.com) | 519-681-9916, ext. 5308

A request may be made to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for an order requiring a higher level of study, or that conditions be imposed, only on the grounds that the requested order may prevent, mitigate or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. Requests on other grounds will not be considered.

**Requests must include your contact information and be received by November 30, 2023.** Requests should specify what kind of order is being requested (request for conditions or a request for an individual/comprehensive environmental assessment); how an order may prevent, mitigate or remedy potential adverse impacts on Aboriginal and treaty rights; and any information in support of the statements in the request. This will ensure that the Ministry is able to efficiently begin reviewing the request.

The request should be sent in writing or by email to:

**Minister, Environment, Conservation and Parks**  
 Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
 777 Bay Street, 5th Floor  
 Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  
[Minister.mecp@ontario.ca](mailto:Minister.mecp@ontario.ca)

AND

**Director, Environmental Assessment Branch**  
 Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
 135 St. Clair Ave. W, 1st Floor  
 Toronto, ON M4V 1P5  
[EABDirector@ontario.ca](mailto:EABDirector@ontario.ca)


Requests should also be copied to Oxford County through the project contacts.

For more information on requests for orders under Section 16 of the *Environmental Assessment Act* visit: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/class-environmental-assessments-section-16-order>

*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.*

Posted November 1, 2023

[oxfordcounty.ca](http://oxfordcounty.ca)





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*Remembrance...  
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**The Poppy Campaign**

**October 27th, 2023 until November 11, 2023**  
 Poppies will be distributed throughout the Tavistock area. Please wear one and REMEMBER those who fought and died for our freedom.  
**Sunday November 5th:**  
**10:30 am:** Remembrance Day Service at Grace United Church  
**1:00 pm:** Remembrance Day ceremony will take place at the Legion, 223 Hope St. West. (Outside, weather permitting)  
 Hosted by Tavistock Legion Branch #518.  
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COMMUNITY —

# 'Buckets of Thanks' relief kits packed and heading for the Ukraine in mid November

By Gary West

Dozens of parents along with their children gathered last week to pack relief kits at "Bucket of Thanks," a family friendly event held at the Mennonite Central Committee's (MCC) materials resources warehouse on Heritage Drive in New Hamburg.

Organizers said "it was wonderful to see so many individuals and families come out and help to prepare for this latest shipment of 200 relief kits packed in white buckets to be shipped to needy countries."

Jon Lebold, MCC's material resources program co-ordinator, explained that in times of crisis, relief kits provide valuable supplies like soap, shampoo, toothbrushes and toothpaste, along with other hygiene

supplies to families whose lives have been disrupted by conflict or disaster.

The relief kits were packed at a recent Saturday Bucket of Thanks event, and are part of a relief shipment to Ukraine that is scheduled for mid-November. Since February 2022, MCC has shipped 19 containers of food, relief items and canned meat to needy men, women and children in war torn Ukraine.

With their dedication to world relief, last year MCC shipped 32,285 relief kits to Cuba, Guatemala, Haiti, Iraq, Jordan, Malawi, Syria, Ukraine, and Zambia.

More information about relief kits and MCC's material resources program is available at [www.mcco.ca/kits](http://www.mcco.ca/kits).



The many young members of families that helped pack the relief kits in the white buckets shown behind, destined for the Ukraine and scheduled for shipment in mid-November.

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# The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette SECTION 2

## Local Athlete Going for Gold in Belgium with Team Canada

By Veronica Reiner

A local dancer has been selected to compete and represent Team Canada Dance at the I DO World Championships in Belgium, which will take place at the end of November.

Emma-Lee Boon-Kozak is a ballet, modern, jazz and contemporary dancer who was raised in Wilmot Township. She is a graduating alumni from Holy Family School in New Hamburg and Waterloo Oxford District Secondary School in Baden. Emma is now in her first year of studies at the University of Guelph, pursuing Justice and Legal Studies.

"Dance has been my passion since I was little," said Emma. "I was never forced to dance. It was always an option from my parents. There were hard days over the years but I loved every minute of it."

Emma can be seen around town helping out her parents, Chrissie Boon and Justin Kozak at Sweets Bakery in New Hamburg. She can also be spotted instructing the next generation of up and coming dancers at Flex Dance in Baden, along with the Stratford Dance Company.

"Over the course of my dance career so far, I

have danced with many amazing mentors and I dreamed of one day being like them. Hitting the stage in a professional way. Teaching younger ones how to dance and love what I love," said Emma.

"I have dreams and goals of teaching one day in a way that gives young dancers the drive but also creates a nurturing environment. Dance has been my safe space and I hope to make it that way for the dancers of the future."

Emma's parents, Chrissie Boon and Justin Kozak, noted that dance is not recognized by the government as a sport, so there is zero funding for competitive dancers in events like this.

"As parents we knew we couldn't afford it," they said. "And Emma was very understanding that she couldn't go. She was excited to have made the team and when she auditioned knowing it would have just been an honour to be asked."

"But with the encouragement of friends, family and community we've decided to make it work. Our fundraising efforts have been going well, but with the tight time frame (she departs in just about four weeks), it has been a little daunting."



## PJHL Roundup: Top of Doherty Division tightening

By Lee Griffi

The Tavistock has managed to do what no other team in the division has done – defeat Woodstock twice. It almost didn't happen after the Braves let a 3-1 lead slip away but Carson Bernhardt's third of the season on a setup from Andrew Van Boekel and Nicholas Thibodeau in overtime gave Tavistock a 4-3 win on home ice last Friday night. The victory was the fifth in a row for the Braves who now find themselves alone in third place in the Doherty Division standings behind New Hamburg and Woodstock.

Tavistock's typical balanced attack led the offense with nine players earning a single point. Other goal scorers were Carter Arsenault, Ethan Sharpe, and Tyler Bryzenskis. Liam O'Leary stopped 29 of 32 shots to earn the victory.

General manager Jordan Zehr said his team is starting to come together nicely. "We are starting to buy in as a group on how we have to play as a team to be successful. I said a couple of weeks ago, that we need to simplify things and not put ourselves in situations where the hole is too big to dig out of, I feel we have been

able to do that at a much higher rate over the last few weeks."

As with the vast majority of PJHL teams, the Braves had a vast turnover in their roster this season, but Zehr said the newcomers seem to be gelling with the veterans. "I think that is certainly part of it. Anytime there is some turnover from one year to another, it's a process to get the chemistry built. There are quite a few new guys I've been impressed with to start the year. Obviously, Stephen Peppas has been a big addition up front leading the team right now in points. Jacob Reid-Brant has also been a great addition to our forward Group. On the back end, Carson Bernhardt and Cullen Derry are two rookie defencemen who have stepped right into the lineup and are playing big roles. In net Liam O'Leary has had an outstanding start to the season in his first year partnering up with Hopper." Zehr added despite the win streak the front office staff and players know there is still a lot of work to be done.

**Applejacks continue to struggle**

Make it five losses in a row for the defending Schmaltz Cup Champions. Wellesley dropped both ends of a home and home

with New Hamburg on the weekend and find themselves in sixth place in the seven-team division.

The Applejacks scored the opening goal of the game in New Hamburg on Friday night, but eight straight Firebirds goals led to an 8-2 rout. Baden's Owen Bruder led the attack with two goals and two helpers. Brendan George added a pair of markers while Matt Domm and Owen

Sculthorp had two assists each. Kian Haron picked up his first of the season for Wellesley with Nolan Karger also scoring.

Saturday's game in St. Clements was much closer but New Hamburg came out with a 3-1 win. Andrew Gear scored his second and third of the season for the Firebirds with Carter Niall adding his seventh. Liam Wadel scored the lone Applejacks goal.

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# COMMUNITY —

## Spooky decorations in Wellesley




These spooky decorations were spotted around Wellesley village on October 25 and October 26, on Queen's Bush Road and Galena Street. They included an eerie graveyard, a 12-foot-tall skeleton, and a playful black cat. (Photo credit: Leanne Reiner)


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COMMUNITY —

# Enforcement efforts ramped up near school zones in East Zorra-Tavistock

By Veronica Reiner

Enforcement efforts in East Zorra-Tavistock Township have ramped up since September, according to the Oxford Ontario Provincial Police (OPP).

"I can tell you that officers have been conducting enforcement since school started back up in EZT due to complaints, and because of their efforts, we wanted

to highlight that for the community," said OPP Constable Patti Cote to the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette. "Many of the areas include the school zones."

In a release, the OPP said that they had issued "many" Provincial Offence Notices this month and that officers would continue to maintain a presence in hopes to slow motorists down and educate the public on


the rules of the road.

When asked how many notices were issued, Cst. Cote said, "I am not able to provide exact numbers, as an analyst would need to do that. I can try to request this; however, it will take time."

To report a traffic matter, contact the Oxford OPP at 1-888-310-1122.

"The OPP's priority is safety, and conducting enforcement provides officers the opportunity to engage with the public and educate motorists at the same time," said Cote.

Those who want to remain anonymous can submit an online tip at [www.oxford-crimestoppers.com](http://www.oxford-crimestoppers.com) or call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.


PUBLIC NOTICE

## Notice of Study Completion

# Oxford County Transportation Master Plan

Oxford County has completed the 2024 Transportation Master Plan (TMP) Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study. The TMP has identified the policies, programs and infrastructure improvements needed to manage both existing and future transportation demands to the year 2046.

### Environmental Assessment process

The Class EA Study was undertaken in accordance with the master planning and design process of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA, 2023), approved under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. The 2024 TMP followed Approach 1 of the MCEA process, which fulfills the requirements for Exempt (Schedule A and A+) projects and provides a basis for future investigations for Schedule B and C projects (where additional project specific investigations may be required to satisfy additional MCEA requirements before implementation). A TMP report document has been prepared that details the planning and decision-making process followed during the Class EA Study.

### Public comment period

By this notice, the TMP report is being placed online on the public record for a **30-day review period starting November 1 and ending November 30, 2023**. The TMP is available at [www.oxfordcounty.ca/2024tmp](http://www.oxfordcounty.ca/2024tmp).

Written comments will be accepted until **November 30, 2023**. All comments and concerns should be addressed to Oxford County staff listed on this notice.

Ryan Vink, P.Eng.  
Project Engineer  
Oxford County  
[rvink@oxfordcounty.ca](mailto:rvink@oxfordcounty.ca) | 1-800-755-0394, ext. 3023

Frank Gross, C.Tech.  
Manager, Transportation and Waste Management  
Oxford County  
[fgross@oxfordcounty.ca](mailto:fgross@oxfordcounty.ca) | 519-539-9800, ext. 3120

A request may be made to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for an order requiring a higher level of study, or that conditions be imposed, only on the grounds that the requested order may prevent, mitigate or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. Requests on other grounds will not be considered.

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Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  
[Minister.mecp@ontario.ca](mailto:Minister.mecp@ontario.ca)

AND

**Director, Environmental Assessment Branch**  
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
135 St. Clair Ave. W, 1st Floor  
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5  
[EABDirector@ontario.ca](mailto:EABDirector@ontario.ca)

Requests should also be copied to Oxford County through the project contacts.

For more information on requests for orders under Section 16 of the *Environmental Assessment Act* visit: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/class-environmental-assessments-section-16-order>

*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.*


Posted November 1, 2023

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# COMMUNITY —

## New Hamburg Optimists light up the Halloween Night



By Scott Dunstall

On October 28th, the Optimist Club of New Hamburg held their fourth annual pumpkin carving event. Families were invited to come to the New Hamburg Fire Hall between 10 a.m. and noon to pick their free pumpkin. They were then asked to return

at six with their carved pumpkin. Those pumpkins were then placed on benches surrounding the lot behind the fire hall. Each bench had a string of orange light bulbs and each pumpkin was placed over each light bulb. It was spectacular!!

The kiddos had so much fun! There was

face painting, and 14 foot skeleton, an inflatable pumpkin "snow man," Halloween music and the Wilmot Fire Department was on hand showing off their trucks and handing out popcorn and hot chocolate!

It was a great success! The Optimists reached an all time high in terms of

pumpkins handed out. Last year they ordered 150 and had 30 left over. This year 200 were ordered and they ran out in an hour and a half. Look for bigger and better things next year as they move down to the scary River Promenade with the terrifying orange water wheel in the background!!

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COMMUNITY —

## Lush green grass and warm temperatures makes these five horses more than content



As the sun set last week over South Easthope Township in Perth County, these five riding horses were most content taking on the lush green grass in unseasonably warm 22 degrees temperatures. The Duiker family farm, east of Shakespeare, is owned by John and Heather and their daughter Kathleen. The family enjoys riding with family and friends, throughout most days the year. (Photo credit: Gary West)

## Shakespeare's friendly "Radar," keeping motorists 50 km/h and under



Shakespeare's Jeremy Witzel, who along with friend, "Radar," ensures cars and trucks slow down to the 50-kilometre an hour (km/h) speed limit as they approach the village from the east on Highway 7&8. He says "it has made a big difference on how motorists slow down and proceed with caution at the posted speed limit, to ensure accidents don't happen." (Photo credit: Gary West)

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COMMUNITY —

# A John Deere field day held in August

By Gary West

There are many organizations in Ontario that have a goal in mind to preserve history.

That's one reason why every year, during the second week-end in August, the local based 1st Ontario two-cylinder club, formed in 1988, holds an annual field day event in the area, which also includes craft displays for visiting enthusiasts of yesteryear.

This year, the John Deere owners and collectors travelled to the Gillies Farm location a few miles south of Drumbo, in the heart of Oxford County.

The two cylinder club hosts the yearly show to demonstrate the use and function of the antique tractors and machinery - such as ploughing, grain threshing, grinding animal feed, use of a bakers fan to test horse power, and many other uses of the green and yellow tractors from the past.

Organizers of the event said they hosted over 150 tractors and exhibits this year.

The three day event is held in a different location annually, which interests many different attendees from all parts of the province.

Even though numbers of visitors are not tracked, the only admission for those interested in attending is by donation.

This years show was special, due to the fact that it was the 100th anniversary of the model "D" John Deere, which was the first tractor to carry the John Deere name.

In recent years, the club has welcomed many more John Deere's to the show, right up to the most modern tractors. This shows the development over the years of the technology, but the old ones are still the old ones, and they are all two cylinders.



A threshing machine demo forking grain sheaves into the feeder of a John Deere threshing machine owned by Jared Buckrell of Burgessville and Brian Walton of the Hickson area. The tractor on the drive belt is a 1935 John Deere model "D", owned by Glen Garner, from east of Hickson.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

**TO BE RESCHEDULED:**

**Public Consultation Centre for William St. Sewage Pumping Station - Tavistock**

The Public Consultation Centre to update the community on the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for a sanitary servicing solution in the William Street area of Tavistock is cancelled for November 7, 2023. This meeting will be rescheduled for another time in early 2024.

Please check the project webpage for updates:  
[www.speakup.oxfordcounty.ca/william-street-sps-tavistock](http://www.speakup.oxfordcounty.ca/william-street-sps-tavistock)

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# COMMUNITY —

## Nith River Promenade progress



The New Hamburg promenade banks of the Nith are hydroseeded as it nears completion. Tremendous upgrades that will make a great stroll from the dam over to the bridge. (Photo credit: Mike Grummett)

## Festive decor in Foxboro



The decorations at the entrance of Foxboro Green, an adult lifestyle community, in Baden, as of last week. (Photo credit: Pam Beninato)



## Building Community: It's more than housing

How can we build more community as we build more housing? Can we transform shared civic assets to foster engagement, equity, sustainability and joy?

Join Waterloo Region Community Foundation for a Do More Good Dialogue on November 16, 2023 from 4 pm - 6 pm at The Walper Hotel.

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<https://WRCF-Building-Community.eventbrite.com>

or call us at 519-725-1806 to let us know you are planning to attend. We hope to see you there!

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### Keynote address:

- **Bridget Marquis**, Director, Reimagining of the Civic Commons

### Panel discussion:

- **Paul Kalbfleisch**, Principal Consultant, PAUL Consulting Inc., and Co-author of The JOY Experiments
- **Dr. Laura Mae Lindo**, Assistant Professor, University of Waterloo, and former Member of Provincial Parliament for Kitchener Centre
- **Aleksandra Petrovic**, Executive Director, Social Development Centre Waterloo Region



WRCF.CA

COMMUNITY —

Show Us Your Wilmot



Each week, the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette will publish interesting photos from around the community. The inspiration for this came from the Show Us Your Wilmot Facebook group. This photo was taken in William Scott Park in early October by Viktoriya Buchanan. (Photo credit: Viktoriya Buchanan)

Gazette Puzzles

Clothing

Z Z Q Q G R H W T G S S E R D A V N H O  
 Y H S N E T T I M Z U J Z K S L C M S W  
 B R R V T M E F F C N U X J A K D R I B  
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 L S F S L E M O G W E C O R D U R O Y S  
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Pet of the Week



PENNY

This is Penny, a two-year-old poochon (toy poodle/bishon cross). She is a sweet girl and loves to jump and stand on her hind legs. Very playful and loves to snuggle on the couch with her owners, the Divita family.

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



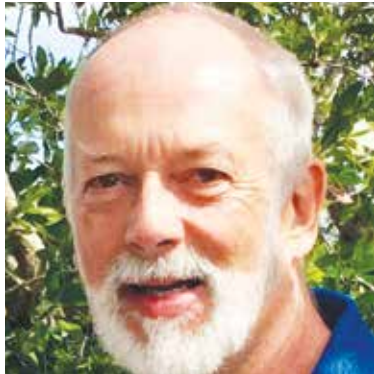
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## TRAVEL —

## OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Confessions of a "master" distiller



By Paul Knowles

I am pleased to announce that I am a graduate of the Hensol Castle Distillery Gin School. Okay, let's be honest, there wasn't really a graduation ceremony or anything... but I did leave Hensol Castle Distillery with a bottle of gin I made, personally, to my own unique recipe.

The visit to Hensol Castle was a fascinating part of a week I spent in Wales, in September. I was included in a six-person media tour – six travel journalists from six different countries, escorted by a pair of hosts, one from Wales and one from England. That international combination of folks, in itself, was a wonderful experience.

The focus of the tour – my life is so hard! – was food and drink in Wales. The visit did not disappoint.

And it included a visit to Hensol Castle Distillery, where we not only toured the place (a bona fide castle, now an event centre and distillery), learned a lot about the history of gin (including the horrible 18th century gin

craze that destroyed thousands of lives in England), and where we made our own gin, hopefully destroying no lives in the process.

Distilling your own gin is an intriguing exercise. Gin starts as pure alcohol, to which the distiller adds a mix of botanical ingredients, and enough water to reduce the extremely potent mix to a still potent but palatable 41% or so alcohol.

But here's the trick: while our host, Hugo Hodges, insisted that our gin had to include juniper berries, coriander seed and orris root, after that we were on our own, welcome to choose between about 100 various botanicals that we each thought might make a good gin.

Truthfully, I drink gin rarely, but like my colleagues – including one teetotaler – I embraced the opportunity to play at being a master distiller for an afternoon. By the way, you can too – the whole experience, including an extensive tour, gin distilling, and a bottle of your own, personalized gin to take home, is available to the public, at a cost of 99 pounds. Not cheap, but given its uniqueness – and the chance to take home your unique bottle of gin – I think it's worth considering.

Back to the classroom: Hugo supplied us with laboratory scales, spoons, beakers, other glassware, a jug of water, a container of pure alcohol, and our own little copper still.

Now came the decision-making. Hugo had suggested we use only

about 10 botanicals, which meant not using about 90. Plus, we already had three – juniper, coriander and orris root – included as mandatory ingredients. (If it doesn't include juniper, it ain't gin.)

I pondered the list of potential items for quite a while, sniffing bottles, crushing seeds between my fingers, making lists, crossing out items, making new lists. Eventually, I developed my own recipe, which included various quantities (measured in grams and fractions of grams) of lemon peel, lime peel, basil, cherry, pomegranate, elderberry and grains of paradise (a species in the ginger family, closely related to cardamom. I didn't know that at the time – I just thought it smelled nice).

I measured each of the dry ingredients into the still (.56 grams of basil, .8 grams of lemon peel, 32 grams of juniper berries, 1.56 grams of cherry, and so on), added the alcohol, turned on the heat... and waited.

While we sat impatiently awaiting the production of our gin – it does take a while – we learned some more about the industry, and tasted some of Hensol Castle's product. Which gave me an idea.

I flew home with a 750-ounce bottle of gin. I had no idea what it might taste like, so I decided to try an experiment. I invited a dozen friends to attend a blind gin tasting. When they learned there would be food and an assortment of beverages later, they all agreed – even the non-gin drinkers (which may have



Hensol Castle, Wales, now home to the distillery. (All photos by Paul Knowles)

skewed the sample).

We tasted four different gins, and my non-experts made notes. Now, let's be fair – gin is not a drink that is usually consumed in its pristine state, except by the most dedicated fans of dry, dry martinis. So sipping even small quantities of straight gin was a bit surprising to some. Yes, there was coughing.

The four gins I offered, in order (but they didn't know this), were Beefeater (a famous English gin, much loved in gin and tonics), my concoction, Api Gin Signé Macle (made from honey, by the folks at Québec's Intermiel), and Willibald Pink Gin (produced at Willibard Farm, near Ayr, Ontario).

Intriguingly, all four of the gins samples were the number one pick of someone in the group. The pink gin was the favour-

ite, which might be seen as evidence that some in the group do not normally drink gin! Mine was not the favourite, which I choose to think was evidence of the same thing. Mine did tie with Beefeater, by the way.

And all four received more than one vote. Comments during the blind tasting, about my own unique recipe, varied: "smooth," "bitter," "a keeper," "paint thinner," "good flavor," "perfumey," "nutty," and "mild". So that settles that.

I will say that, in my unbiased opinion, it makes for a great gin and tonic. Cheers!

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



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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR - NOVEMBER 2023

<b>November 3rd, 4th, 10th &amp; 11th</b> <b>Plattsville Comedy Dinner Theatre</b> Peace Players in Plattsville (United Church) present "1, 2, 3 and Flush" a comedy dinner theatre at 6pm. Tickets are \$40, contact Shelley at 519-572-3168 or <a href="mailto:saj@execulink.com">saj@execulink.com</a> .	<b>Wilmot Ecumenical Working Group on Indigenous/Settler Relationships</b> 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 <a href="mailto:ecumenicalworkinggroup@gmail.com">ecumenicalworkinggroup@gmail.com</a> if you would like to register.	Taking place at the Wilmot Recreation Complex from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Let's Tree Wilmot celebrates its accomplishments and volunteers. Volunteer Led Ecological Restoration by speaker Mike Schwarz, a Trees for Woolwich volunteer, founder of Earthscape and conservation award winner. Woolwich Township has The Habitats or Elmira Nature Reserve (67 acres) with 5 ecosystems. An amazing project. Free meeting, refreshments, and celebration. <a href="http://letstreewilmot.ca">letstreewilmot.ca</a>	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.	The Jantzi's from St. Catharines will be singing at Shantz Mennonite Church, Erb's Road in Baden, at 7 p.m. \$10 donation at the door.
<b>November 4th and November 5th</b> <b>Wen-Do Women's Self Defence Class</b> Introductory Course with Leslie Allin. Taking place on both days from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is \$50 per family. Subsidies available. Lunch and snacks included. To register, or for more information, contact Erin at <a href="mailto:fvpp@wilmotfamilyresourcecentre.ca">fvpp@wilmotfamilyresourcecentre.ca</a> or call 519-662-2731.	<b>November 7th</b> <b>Blood Drive</b> Taking place at the Wellesley Community Centre at 1,000 Maple Leaf Street in Wellesley village. Booking times are available on <a href="http://www.blood.ca">www.blood.ca</a> from around 2 p.m. until around 8 p.m.	<b>November 14th</b> <b>Ladies Night Shopping Event</b> Taking place in downtown New Hamburg from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.	<b>November 15th</b> <b>East Zorra Tavistock Council Meeting</b> In-person council meeting taking place at 7 p.m. at 695566 17th Line in Innerkip.	<b>November 19th</b> <b>Grand Ole Opry Philipsburg Style</b> 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-tap-pin' afternoon full of country music.
<b>November 4th</b> <b>Comedy Show at Scran &amp; Dram</b> Rusty Nail comedy to perform at the Scran & Dram (338 Waterloo Street New Hamburg) starting at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available on EventBrite. Headliner is Drew Behm.	<b>November 13th</b> <b>Wilmot Council Meeting</b> 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.	<b>November 14th</b> <b>Wellesley Council Meeting</b> 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.	<b>November 17th</b> <b>Men's Rib &amp; Tail Stag</b> 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.	<b>November 25th</b> <b>Bazaar and Craft Sale at Morningside Adult Community Village Centre</b> Funds raised will go towards providing Christmas hampers. 10 a.m. to noon at the village centre, second right down from main entrance (Beams Road and Berg Court). Coffee and muffins 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Take home soup sale at 11 a.m. Bake sale, crafts, white elephant tables, raffle. Everyone is invited.
<b>November 5th</b> <b>Volunteer Led Ecological Restoration</b>	<b>November 13th</b> <b>Mental Health Breakfast</b> Taking place at Puddicombe House	<b>November 15th</b> <b>Gospel Music Concert</b>		

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- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
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| 2) Topaz          | 7) Red, Yellow, Blue |
| 3) False          | 8) 476               |
| 4) Curious George | 9) Horse race        |
| 5) Dodo           | 10) Omega            |

**COMMUNITY —**

**The Maples Home for Seniors in Tavistock having fun at Halloween**



Maples staff dressed up in Halloween attire, and were willing to show off this year's costumes. Back row left to right, Alexis Smith, Joan Hergott (executive director), Laura Drake, Marcia Wilson (director of care). Front left to right, Dawn Gallant, Maja Tatai, Kayla Ovington, and Teresa Reibling.

By Gary West

Many in the Tavistock area know that at Maples Home for Seniors, staff members go out of their way to make their stay or visit enjoyable.

Halloween costumes, worn by staff, brought smiles to residents of the Maples on Tuesday, October 31 - tricks were in short supply, but certainly not for treats.

The kitchen cooked up orange-coloured desserts with smiles on top, and made sure all residents received a gift pack of Halloween treats.

Executive Director, Joan Hergott said she "couldn't stress enough about how they have a responsible and caring staff, who go out of their way every day to make their resident's stay an enjoyable and happy one."

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