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Former Wilmot Township councillor and current resident Angie Hallman hosted an event where over 100 affected landowners and other residents gathered to protest the Region of Waterloo's attempt to obtain shovel-ready land for development. Hallman's farm is located in the affected area. Photo by Lee Griffi

## Large crowd attends forum opposing land collection in Wilmot

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Over 100 people attended a public meeting at the Wilmot Mennonite Church last Friday to rally against the Region of Waterloo's proposed land grab in Wilmot Township.

Angie Hallman, a farm owner in the affected area and a former Wilmot councillor, hosted the event and the Gazette asked her about the alleged non-disclosure agreements (NDA) signed by members of council in Wilmot and at the Region, something she

can't get her head around.

"I've never signed an NDA for the municipality. The only thing elected officials are responsible for, even being out of office, are things discussed in-camera. That's the only thing that really follows us after we serve our time in politics."

She added during her time in office she decided to hire her own attorney to wade through municipal waters.

"Navigating issues I was passionate about, how did I walk that line without disclosing

what I know about an issue but still represent the community that voted me to be there? The advice I received was very valuable to know about how every single elected official can listen to constituents and take that information upstream. So, to say nothing is confusing me."

Hallman said if she was still in office, she would take people's concerns to the mayor, the region's chair and the premier's office.

During her address to the crowd, Hallman

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## Family opens up about tragic death of Oxford bus driver

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

It has been more than 10 months since East Zorra-Tavistock resident David Stewart died in a collision with an OPP cruiser driven by Det. Const. Steven Tourangeau.

The police officer also lost his life as a result of the collision, which took place on May 29 at the intersection of Oxford roads 33 and 59, which have since seen traffic-safety improvements.

The probe was done by the London Police Service and led by Det. Insp. Alex Krysgman, who said they have no intention of releasing the findings, but they did share some details with the Stewart family. The family wants the public to know what happened.

Wendy Stewart – David's wife – her four daughters and a grandson agreed to sit down with the Gazette to talk about the day of the accident, the subsequent police investigation and the results. Those details have not been released to the public but were given verbally to the family, which recorded the meeting. The family said Krysgman gave his permission, and the audio was shared with the Gazette.

The story now turns to the investigation, handled by the London Police Service, after OPP Commissioner Thomas Carrique asked them to assist. Krysgman was the officer in charge and was assisted by Dave Brazier, an Ontario Provincial Police Highway Safety Division Sergeant, and this is what they told the family.

"This has been a long time coming. I apologize for that," Krysgman said in the audio recording. "We took the approach of no stone left unturned to try and get to the bottom of this. It's taken some time."

He added through the course of the

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TIM LOUIS

Member of Parliament  
Kitchener-Conestoga

519-578-3777

Tim.Louis@parl.gc.ca

TimLouisMP.ca

@TimLouisKitCon

## COMMUNITY —

# Stewart family shares insights into tragic bus accident

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investigation some checks and balances had to be signed off on before its completion and said he wanted to ensure the family had the trust of the investigators involved. The pair told the family they brought in an extensive and experienced team to find out what happened. A report of over 800 pages was written but police will not release it.

"The officer missed the stop sign. This is a cliché. It is what it is. He missed the stop sign. The question became for us is why. Six witnesses gave statements. The analysis gathered by experts trumps what witnesses would provide to us. The data from the technical perspective, I think, is black and white. It doesn't have a perspective. More weight is given to the data and the forensic evidence," said Krygsman.

He added police spent a significant amount of time to see if the sun was a factor in the collision. He went to the scene the next morning at the same time the collision occurred.

"I think it's safe to say while the sun was bright, there was a stop-sign warning ahead. Was the sun a factor in this where he couldn't see what was coming? Based on the analysis, the officer involved could have seen (the signs) but didn't and that's the mystery."

Three cell phones were recovered from the scene. One was Stewart's and the other two came from Tourangeau's car.

"None of the cell phones provided any indication whatsoever that they were being looked at, holding the phone going down the road."

Krygsman added neither driver suffered any type of medical episode nor were there any findings in toxicology screens.

The speed limits in the area at that time were 80 km/hr and police say Tourangeau was travelling 110 km/hr five seconds before the collision.

"At the point of impact, (he) was travelling 87. The bus was traveling north between 89 and 92 km/hr."

Krygsman admitted there was no way Stewart could have seen the car approaching the intersection until impact.

"The data shows that at the last second the officer applied the brakes hard and tried to avoid the collision, apparently by a hard left turn, but it was too late. Why the officer didn't stop, we'll never know."

Krygsman said the officer was originally from Tecumseh, Ont. and was working with the OPP Perth County crime unit. His wife wasn't sure if he knew the roads he



For the first time since a tragic accident that took the life of their husband, father and grandfather, the Stewart family has decided to tell their story. Sitting in front is Wendy. In the back row from left to right are daughters Elizabeth, Heather, Patricia, Melissa and grandson Owen. A photo of David Stewart can be seen in the background. Photo by Lee Griffi

was travelling.

"She was certain he was unfamiliar with the area but couldn't say for sure. It was his first day on a new assignment. He was heading to the GTA on a special assignment. Could he have been preoccupied? Maybe. But this is my personal speculation," added Krygsman.

Carrique did say the only thing they found was the officer's phone showed he had Google Maps up with directions to where his meeting was being held in Toronto.

Krygsman added Tourangeau would be facing prosecution if he survived the collision.

"He would be charged with careless driving causing death and that would be the appropriate charge in my view. I don't believe this reaches the threshold of a criminal, dangerous driving causing death, or criminal negligence causing death."

What isn't clear is if the officer would have been charged criminally or under the Highway Traffic Act. Criminal charges can be laid but only if a driver's behaviour is particularly reckless.

Despite the family asking police to make it public, the collision report will not be released to the media or the public.

"I did check with our legal department and the rules under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

(FOI) prevent us from sort of just releasing without limit reports and things like that (because of) the risk of inadvertently or maybe on purpose releasing private information," said Krygsman.

He did say a copy could be requested from the OPP under the FOI.

Wendy recalled the painful morning when everything began as usual with her husband leaving home. But the day proved to be anything but normal. She left at 8 a.m. on her route to Hickson Public School and saw emergency crews rush by not knowing anything had happened.

"There was a message that came across my phone from Langs (Bus Lines) that Dave's bus was under a 45-minute delay. I didn't think anything of it and saw the ambulance head back towards the hospital. As I headed out the back door, the Ornge chopper went across too."

Wendy said everything was normal until word came over the radio on the bus that Road 59 was closed at Line 33 because of an accident. Her grandson Owen was outside waiting for his grandpa to pick him up to head to Woodstock Huron Park School, the run David did before he picked up kids to take to Hickson.

"I did my run, and I don't agree that (Langs) sent me out. On the way to Hickson, my phone kept ringing and when I listened to my voicemail, it was the cop that was

sitting in my driveway. She said she was at my house so all the way back I'm thinking what just happened?"

Wendy's normal route would have her drive down 59 past the accident scene, but police had closed the area off well before that. She believes the bus company knew her husband was in a collision but let her drive her route as normal.

"We heard Langs was out there shortly after the police. They had to know what had happened when they put his bus on a delay."

Wendy no longer works for Langs.

When Wendy came home and saw the cruiser, she knew there was something amiss. She backed her bus in and afterward was told the news her husband lost his life in the collision.

"I started shaking and I knew something had happened to Dave. I got out of the bus and said this isn't good. You're standing in my driveway. She said Wendy, let's go in the house and then she told me Dave was involved in the accident and two people were killed."

Wendy's first thought was the hope there weren't any kids on the bus and, thankfully, that was the case. That's when she found out her husband had passed away.

"There's not a day that doesn't go by when I don't think about him," she added.

The couple's oldest daughter, Elizabeth, said she knew something was wrong when her mother called her at work, which was completely out of the ordinary.

"I am a teacher, so they would text me and say call me when you have a break. I had seen a post on CTV there was an accident on 59 and I texted (both my parents). I texted dad and it didn't go through."

Steven Tourangeau is listed on the Honour Roll at the Police and Peace Officers' Memorial Ribbon Society in Ottawa as a fallen officer. The website states he died in a motor vehicle accident. Among the criteria is the deceased officer must have acted in good faith in doing everything that could have been reasonably expected. The family said it doesn't sit well with them.

Wendy said the tight-knit family has decided to keep living their lives.

"We are going to try and pull our lives together and try to move on. What else can we do? Nothing is ever going to bring him back."

The Gazette reached out to the London Police Service for an interview. They declined our request.



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COMMUNITY —

# Significant Turnout at Wilmot Forum Against Land Acquisition

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explained citizens in the area have defeated plans for high-speed rails, ministerial zoning orders (MZOs) and the Highway 7 bypass in New Hamburg, and the community needs to pull together again.

“Like those situations, the fight is not just the responsibility of those in the eye of the storm.”

One of those farmers affected is Alfred Lowrick, who spoke on behalf of his fellow farmers. He said nothing has been clarified by the powers that be.

“At this point, we still haven’t received any official information from the region or provincial government about what their plans are. No expropriation orders have been issued to landowners and the initial offers to purchase land have expired.”

He added since the Region of Waterloo is the expropriating authority, all information from other agencies and governing bodies is irrelevant.

“We anticipate the region’s next steps shortly and will keep you posted.”

Lowrick had some harsh words for the province and even called the situation, “Greenbelt 2.0” and “Farmgate,” partially because the land acquisition was leaked to potential land purchasers.

“It has all the markings of inappropriate dealings and corruption at Queen’s Park.”

He added they plan to keep getting the word out on their website at [www.fightforfarmland.com](http://www.fightforfarmland.com) along with keeping those interested up to date with regular emails highlighting new information. The group also has lawn signs available for a minimum of \$10 to cover costs.

A petition is also circulating and has garnered over 23,000 signatures. The township itself has a population of about 22,000.

“I’m sure it has gone well beyond our area, but it sends a strong message with such impressive numbers of people speaking up,” he added.

Although not in the affected area, some residents from the nearby Morningside Retirement Community were on hand to share their concerns. Homeowner’s Association president Judy Brown said she represents many of the residents. She said many of the 500 or so residents are former farmers and moved in to enjoy the beauty of the land.

“Homeowners are concerned about the process, or lack of it, that has happened.

Some use the word dictatorship and other words I cannot mention to describe the non-disclosure agreements forced on our local councillors.”

She added many people are worried about how a potential industrial development could affect air quality.

“Many are concerned about the noise and traffic they would be forced to endure, but all of them told me they are most concerned about our neighbours – the farmers who are affected by this. They fear the loss of prime agricultural land and the affects it has on our food supply and on climate change.”

Brown asked the politicians involved to put industrial developments where they belong, not on prime farmland.

Not everyone is against the land acquisition. The Business and Economic Support Team of Waterloo Region (BESTWR) has released an open letter offering its support. The team is made up of the Waterloo Region Economic Development Corporation, Cambridge Chamber of Commerce, Explore Waterloo Region, Greater KW Chamber of Commerce and Communitech. Ian McLean is the president and CEO of the KW Chamber of Commerce and the author of the letter. He said the region is at a critical stage when it comes to acquiring shovel-ready lands.

“We are on the path to one million residents and this inevitable growth requires investment and, most importantly, jobs,” McLean wrote. “Preparing shovel-ready land is critical and will be pivotal to the ongoing success of our future economy and communities across Waterloo Region.

“... We consistently hear that employment lands are essential to attracting anchor investment and job-creation opportunities for our region. These jobs will create the economic prosperity we need for our growing community.”

He added the region has turned away investment in the past because of the lack of available and ready sites.

The letter was released shortly after the public meeting was held in defiance of the attempt to purchase or eventually expropriate land owned by six township farmers.

Also on hand to speak and listen at the meeting were Kitchener-Conestoga MP Tim Louis, Guelph MPP and Ontario Green Party Leader Mike Schreiner, Waterloo MPP Catherine Fife, Kitchener Centre MPP Aislinn Clancy and Kevin Thompson from the Grand River Environmental Network.

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## COMMUNITY —

# Brenner takes role as TAP's director

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Angie Brenner is the new program director at the Tavistock Assistance Program (TAP), a role she officially stepped into on April 3.

"I have had the privilege of many conversations within our community already and have received a warm welcome," she said.

The new director lives just outside Tavistock with her family.

"I am the mother of children who are thriving as they grow up in this amazing community, attending local schools and playing minor sports. I am a registered social worker who has spent 20 years working with children and families in the Waterloo Region, and I have experience in, and passion for, promoting mental-health supports and services in rural communities."

Brenner is no stranger to the inner workings of TAP, and she explained how important the organization is to the area.

"I am delighted to have the opportunity to serve the communities of Tavistock, Shakespeare and Hickson in my new role as program director. As a board member over the last five years, I have gained invaluable experience and knowledge of the community. Together we navigated the transition of two program directors, met the challenges that COVID presented for service delivery, and worked to meet the increased demand for service caused by the downturn in the economy and the rising costs of living."

She added she is passionate about the mandate and mission of TAP and looks forward to continuing the great work done by Sharon Walkom, Deb Wagler and Linda Holst, the three previous directors.

"I am eager to engage the community, to further the awareness of the needs that TAP meets for our service users, and to be creative in our approach to service delivery,

friend-raising and fundraising. I also want to continue to build the volunteer base that supports the activities of TAP throughout the year."

She added the organization is thankful to the dedicated volunteers and donors who support annual events, including the Christmas Cheer Program in December and the Community Lunch following the Ecumenical Service at Queen's Park each August.

"If anyone would like more information on supporting us, the services that we can provide to you or your family, or want to discuss volunteer opportunities, I would welcome your call or email."

TAP continues to see an increased demand for its services. In 2023, it met with community members on 131 occasions, an increase by eight per cent over 2022.

"We have continued to receive donations from the community throughout the year, allowing us to provide for our friends and neighbours. As we meet monthly, the director and the board reflect on the generosity, compassion and dedication of our community who continue to care for TAP and the community that we serve. Neighbours helping neighbours in the truest form," added Brenner.

TAP recently held its annual general meeting where a new board was elected:

Shari Schultz - newly elected chair

Jan Ramseyer- stepped down as chair, elected as vice chair

Ashlie Holst - secretary

Paulette Roth - treasurer

Elizabeth Halliday - elected as program director support

Ray Martin - member at large

Chantelle Kurevija - newly appointed member at large

Charlene Guil - newly appointed member at large



Angie Brenner has been appointed as the new program director for the Tavistock Assistance Program (TAP). Contributed photo

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## The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

### Publisher

Stewart Grant • [stew@granthaven.com](mailto:stew@granthaven.com)

### Editor

Galen Simmons • [galen@granthaven.com](mailto:galen@granthaven.com)

### Graphic Design / Sales Inquiries

Erin Parsons • [thewtgazette@gmail.com](mailto:thewtgazette@gmail.com)

### Business Development

Heather Dunbar • [heather@granthaven.com](mailto:heather@granthaven.com)

### Billing Administrator

Cindy Boakes • [boakescindy1576@gmail.com](mailto:boakescindy1576@gmail.com)

### Administrative Assistant

Wendy Lamond • [wendylamond74@gmail.com](mailto:wendylamond74@gmail.com)

### Contributors

Lee Griffi, Nancy Silcox, Gary West, Paul Knowles,  
Mercedes Kay Gold

36 Water St. St. Marys, ON, PO Box 2310 N4X 1A2  
[thewtgazette@gmail.com](mailto:thewtgazette@gmail.com) | 519.284.0041 | [granthaven.com](http://granthaven.com)



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# Township of Wilmot releases statement on controversial land acquisition

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette staff

On Wednesday, Wilmot Mayor Natasha Salonen and members of council released a public statement on the township's involvement in the controversial land-acquisition efforts by the Region of Waterloo in Wilmot.

Issued as a press release, the statement said the following:

"The Township of Wilmot would like to thank the residents who have reached out and expressed interest regarding the land-acquisition discussions taking place in Wilmot.

"As many know, the Region of Waterloo has been negotiating with some landowners in Wilmot

regarding the sale of land. Those negotiations, like all real estate transactions, take place one-on-one. The Township is not, and should not, be involved directly in those discussions and subsequent transactions.

"That said, we know there is considerable concern about the absence of information available in the public domain.

"As your government representatives at the local level, we continue to advocate on behalf of landowners, ensuring that the process is fair and equitable. To that end, the Township of Wilmot continues to bring the thoughts, opinions and concerns of landowners and Wilmot residents to the Region of Waterloo.

"Wilmot Township will, therefore, only be able to provide updates on this matter when there is significant new information to share. Thank you."

This is the second public statement issued by the township since a representative of the management and consulting firm, Canacre, met with several farmers in person last month and told them the Region of Waterloo wants to buy their properties for a fair price, but if they refuse to sell, their farms would be expropriated.

The affected properties make up roughly 770 acres of land northeast of the intersection of Nafziger and Bleams roads in Wilmot Township.

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**New Hamburg Home Hardware: A 60-year legacy of personalized customer service by experienced staff**

By Galen Simmons

If the Home Hardware in New Hamburg doesn't have it, staff at the only local hardware store can get it.

For more than 60 years, the Home Hardware at the heart of downtown New Hamburg has been the go-to stop for hardware, tools, automotive and plumbing supplies, paint, appliances, furniture that can be ordered to the store and everything in between. And for locals who need something in a pinch and don't want to travel out of town, the local business offers a diverse supply of inventory that is continuously expanded to meet those customers' needs.

"This store goes back before Home Hardware," said owner Sheila Walker. "Home Hardware is having its 60-year (anniversary) this year. We're having our 10th anniversary year (under my ownership).

"... The company started out of St. Jacobs. A couple guys who had hardware (stores) of other sorts decided, 'We should be buying (inventory) together and grouping it together.' This store was (another hardware store previously) and then they became part of that initial group of 20 or 30 dealers, which has now grown to around 1,000-1,100 dealers across Canada."

Under the leadership of Sheila and two successive owners before her, the once small hardware store has had its physical footprint expanded several times to add a number of different departments and spaces, at least one of which is somewhat unique among all other Home Hardware stores.

"We have Granny's Basement," Sheila said. "... There could be anything down there. We actually get a load from Home Hardware that's dented, cracked, could be carton damage, and we just put it down there and put a hot price on it. People come in and go



New Hamburg Home Hardware owner/dealer Sheila Walker stands in her store's paint department, where she says staff can match any colour a customer brings in, be it on colour sample or even on a hat or t-shirt. Photo by Galen Simmons

down there. ... The kids will literally haul their parents down there. They come with their little wallets and it's a cute little add-on. We try to keep some stuff down there for the kids."

While Sheila admits the layout of the store can be a little confusing with all the additions over the years, her local customers know they can ask any of the store's friendly, experienced and knowledgeable staff to help them find what they're looking for and offer helpful advice on whatever project they're working on.

"We have long-term employees and that's where the knowledge comes into play," Sheila said. "Mark has been with me for about eight years. ... We have Carole, our store manager who's been here for 27 years. Sean started with me out of high school and he's probably six years in, and Alison and Cindy have also passed their five-year mark. ... Leanne was here before I came and she's still here."

And, if the store isn't carrying what

a customer needs, staff can usually order new items for either pick-up in store or home delivery. Though the hardware store no longer carries furniture in store, Sheila said locals can purchase furniture through Home Furniture and Appliances and often have it delivered to the New Hamburg Home Hardware where local staff can arrange home delivery.

Sheila is also proud of her store's paint department and claims her staff can match any colour, be it from a colour sample or even on a hat or a t-shirt.

This time of year, after the winter ends, Sheila said it's the perfect time to bring ripped window and patio screens into the store to have them repaired by Kevin and Dan, who Sheila says do great work.

As a business that has been embraced and supported by the community over the years, the New Hamburg Home Hardware also gives back to the community any way it can, sponsoring local minor-sports teams, donating auction items for fundraiser events and supporting just about any other local cause it can.

In celebration of the legacy of customer service the New Hamburg Home Hardware continues to embrace, the store is hosting a 10th anniversary celebration May 2- 4. During the anniversary celebration, the store will distribute a dedicated anniversary flyer for the three-day sale on a great selection of products at great prices. The store will also host an anniversary barbecue May 2 and 3 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and all day May 4. The barbecue on Saturday will feature grill master Andrew Rome and there will be coffee and snacks for customers that visit the store earlier in the day.

Drop by on any of three days to participate in many in-store draws.

COMMUNITY —

# Blandford-Blenheim said no to wind turbines years ago – no one remembered until now

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Back in 2016, the Township of Wainfleet sent a letter to similarly sized municipalities asking for support to deny wind farms on agricultural land. Blandford-Blenheim voted to follow that ask and passed a motion on March 2 of that year.

It read, "That council declare that the Township of Blandford-Blenheim is not a willing host for wind turbine development and, further, that notice of council's position be forwarded to the Ontario premier, Ontario minister of energy and to the MPP for Oxford County."

For some reason, the notice never made it to the provincial government.

At a Blandford-Blenheim meeting last month, Helmut Schneider from Prowind presented to council on the company's desire to set up shop in the township. Mayor and Oxford County deputy warden Mark Peterson said he had an inkling a motion had already been passed. He was right.

"I looked over at our new CAO and said I think we have an unwilling host resolution here already."

He added that after roughly 170 emails from farmers, he met with some of them and told them about the motion he figured was passed years ago.

"I did a Google search and found a news article from Wainfleet that they had requested other townships support their resolution as an unwilling host. In that article, we were on the list."

Peterson said that put the wheels in motion to find the relevant documentation with the township's new CAO.

"It took less than a half an hour. The resolution was found (on Monday of this week). There was no plan for me to come to the meeting Monday with area farmers."

He did attend the April 8 meeting and told organizers what he had found. They asked him to read the resolution, which he did.

"I remembered it, but if I didn't no one would have known it was there because our new CAO wasn't aware. For whatever reason, nothing was really recorded. There was a new CAO at the time of the resolution."

Peterson, a councillor back in 2016, said he isn't against alternative forms of energy, but he isn't sure prime farmland is the appropriate location.

"I see them a little more towards the lake (Erie). When they say a turbine only takes up about half an acre, when you start really looking at them that's only the site they are on. But there is a laneway to get into and the whole nine yards."

He added the information provided by Dave Cunningham from Wind Concerns EZT was invaluable to him in remembering why he isn't in favour of turbines locally.

"There were things I didn't know. The height of what is being proposed now and all in all I just don't think it's something the township wants."

The township has sent a letter to the minister of energy and the Independent Electricity System Operator.

"We let them know Blandford-Blenheim was an unwilling host," added Peterson.

Nearly 200 anti-wind turbine supporters attended the meeting in Princeton on Monday night to show their disregard for any type of development in the township. Among them was Darrell Fried. He hosted a meeting several months ago at his farm to drum up support to oppose turbines. He said the township finding the resolution was a big relief.

"By lunchtime Monday we knew we were an unwilling host, and it was registered (with the province) that night. Nothing is permanent but this council is around for a while yet. We still want to educate people that the next council could get in there and change it."

Fried explained farmers across the region are concerned about their future in light of the Region of Waterloo's apparent plan to acquire prime agricultural land for possible industrial development. His farm isn't far from the land that may be expropriated by the region.

"The back-door deals that are getting made. And who's the last one to find out? Landowners. The government knows we aren't going to put up with it."

Fried's farm is just a few kilometres away from the Wilmot site.

Despite being turned down by East Zorra-Tavistock and Blandford-Blenheim

councils, Schneider said he will continue to search for willing hosts but has not approached any farmers in Blandford-Blenheim.

"What we probably will do is talk to council first to see if they are interested in taking a look at what new economic development would look like. Then we would approach landowners in the area."

He added the company is looking at other potential sites in the county.

"We are constantly looking and seeing where there are possibilities. Then we would talk to councils, landowners, and citizens to find out where we could expand renewable energy in Oxford County."

Schneider explained the county has clearly stated its goal is to implement more renewable energy projects to achieve net zero carbon emissions as stated in its strategic plan.

"The municipalities need to decide if they want to stand for supporting the goal of Oxford County to become a sustainable community or not. It's a great opportunity for councils and councillors to decide how they want to approach climate change."

He added council members hold the potential to enact meaningful sustainable practices that could put their community at the forefront of responsible climate action and economic advancement.

"It is unlikely any municipality would choose to disregard the crucial challenges of our times."



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COMMUNITY —

# Tri-County Mennonite Homes makes every day matter for Stratford, New Hamburg residents

By Gary West

There has been much in the news the last number of years in reference to the quality of care provided by seniors homes, especially during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Two homes in Stratford and New Hamburg managed by Tri-County Mennonite Homes (TCMH) have a solid reputation on that front, as those who have had relatives or friends as residents have nothing but positive comments pertaining to the care received.

TCMH operates two seniors' continuum of care homes; Greenwood Court in Stratford and Nithview Home in New Hamburg.

TCMI also operates Aldaview Services, which supports adults with developmental disabilities in the New Hamburg and Baden areas.

TCMH was founded in 1968. Nithview Home for the Aged opened in 1971, later becoming Nithview Community when it added assisted-living units and independent-living units as a seniors village.

Aldaview services opened its doors in 1979 on the same campus as Nithview Community.

Greenwood Court in Stratford was built in 1993. The home was moved from its original location in Milverton to Stratford to better serve the local community.

In November 2020, TCMH was granted additional long-term care beds for Nithview in New Hamburg. This expansion project will see long-term-care beds at Nithview, increase from 97 beds to 150 beds. These additional beds will help meet the growing need for long-term-care in the community.

Nithview in New Hamburg has 97 beds, 57 assisted-living units and 70 independent-living units.

Greenwood Court in Stratford has 48 beds, 18 assisted-living units and 85 independent-living units.

Aldaview Services has seven group homes and offers community support programs that connect individuals with developmental disabilities with meaningful employment and community activities.

TCMH's annual general meeting is held annually at the community space at 90 Greenwood Dr. in Stratford every year on the third Tuesday in June.

Board chair Bruce Bechtel says they are looking for a board member in Stratford to become one of the 10-15 volunteer members. Their mission is "Making Every Day Matter" and board members are vital to TCMH's success.

This year, the meeting is scheduled for June 18 at 6 p.m. All are welcome to attend and members are entitled to vote during the meeting.



At the Greenwood Court entrance are Tri-County Mennonite Homes CEO Dr. Steven Harrison, board chair Bruce Bechtel, and Tri-County Mennonite Homes executive assistant Emily Shannon. Photo by Gary West

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- Join the online public information session, April 24 at 6:30 p.m.

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# COMMUNITY —

## OBITUARY

### Marianne Glenn

Passed away on April 4, 2024, at Nithview in New Hamburg, Ontario. She was born on December 7, 1957, in Toronto, and was the beloved daughter of John and Rhea Van Bolhuis.

She is survived by her children John and Amber Glenn, her sibling Hank Van Bolhuis, and her grandchildren Dana and Sarah Schoenemann.

We honor Marianne Glenn for her kindness and generosity. May she rest in peace, cherished by many.

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

## OBITUARY

### BEEMER, Mary Iona (Hewitt)

Passed away peacefully at Freeport Hospital, after suffering a fall at her residence at Winston Park Long Term Care, Kitchener. Mary was born 95 years ago in Millbank, Ontario, a daughter of the late James and Della Hewitt.

Cherished and loving mother Tracey and her husband Jake Vandermolen, Tim Beemer and Kelly Blakeman and her partner Dusan Djordjic. Devoted grandmother of Jennifer and husband Matthew, Jaime, Matthew, Ryan, Shawn and Erika, great-grandmother of Landon, Chloe, Dominic, and Jordan.

Mary is predeceased by her beloved husband John Beemer (1993), brothers Roy (Audrey), Melvin, and sister Margaret (Jack).

Relatives and friends were invited to the Mark Jutzi Funeral Home, 291 Huron Street, New Hamburg, on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, from 11am until the time of the funeral service at 12p.m. Rev Margaret Walker officiated. Interment followed at Fairmont Cemetery, Baden.

As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to the KW Humane Society and can be done through the funeral home website.

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

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Christopher W. Franklin  
Funeral Director

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## OBITUARY

### SEYLER, Robert Elmer



Passed away peacefully with family at his side on April 2, 2024, at his residence in Nithview Community. Robert was born 77 years ago in Lisbon, Ontario, a son of the late Edgar and Catherine (Hohl) Seyler.

Robert will be missed by his loving wife Sandy (Bender) Seyler whom he

cherished 52 years of marriage with. Devoted father of Kim and husband Al and Kevin and wife Margarita. Proud grandfather of Taylor (Mike), Madison, Sebastian and Valentina. Robert will be missed by his brothers, sisters, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; Geraldine Hurren, Dianne Dietz, Raymond (Susan) Seyler, Gerald (Connie) Seyler, Donald Seyler, Carol Warren, and Gary Bender. He is survived by many nieces, nephews, friends and colleagues.

Predeceased by his brothers-in-law Albert Hurren and William Dietz.

Robert was a dedicated employee, driving truck for Home Hardware head office in St. Jacobs, for over 30 years. He was a devoted Boston Bruins fan, cheering the team on during games. Robert was a longtime member of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philipsburg.

Cremation has taken place. A private graveside service will be held at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Cemetery. A Celebration of life will be announced at a later date. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the Mark Jutzi Funeral Home, New Hamburg.

As expressions of sympathy, donations can be made to the Parkinson Society or Rotary Hospice Stratford Perth and can be done through the funeral home.

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

## IN MEMORIAM

In memory of our  
beloved mother,

*Evelyn Fitzerath*

Passed away April 15, 2022.

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# Yesterday and Tomorrow

By Ernie Ritz

This poem was written by the late Ernst "Ernie" Ritz on July 17, 2013. Ernie passed away at Nithview Home in New Hamburg on March 13 and this poem was meant to be read at his funeral on April 5. As the poem was not read at the funeral, it is instead being published here in the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette, the local newspaper Ernie helped launch after working a lifetime in the community new business.

I remember still so vividly  
The days of long ago  
When we were all much younger  
And always on the go.

We had our dreams of the future  
All the wonders we would see;  
The plans of we wanted  
And what we'd come to be.

So many places to visit  
And all the friends we'd make  
So much was in our grasp—  
Great things we'd reach and take.

Though dreams might turn to ashes,  
No need for feeling sad—  
Remembering things we'd done  
And the happiness we've had.

Now age confers more wisdom  
And gives us strength of mind;  
But whatever we've accomplished  
We now must leave behind.

The future's there for others  
To follow the path we've made  
And what we've built for them  
Might come to be their aid.

We've done our best, we've laid to rest  
The dreams and friends we knew,  
And as our journey's ending  
We must bid you all adieu.

There can't be room for sadness  
As we say our last goodbye  
Remember just the gladness  
And where happiness does lie.

Our dreams will live forever  
And our hopes shall never die.

-Ernie Ritz July 17, 2013.

NEWS

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## COMMUNITY —

## WORSHIP IN WILMOT TOWNSHIP

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**St Agatha Mennonite Church**

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Pastor Jim Brown

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

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

*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.*

**April 11:** Happy birthday to Gibson Van Nes (6), Chloe Bender (15), Emma O'Rourke (21), and anniversary for Carl and Eileen Ohrling.

**April 13:** Happy birthday to Carson Croft (7), Scott Holst (22) and Nicole Stewart.

**April 14:** Happy birthday to Logan MacMillan (16), Heidi Lamb, and Mallory Keller.

**April 15:** Happy birthday to Sanjana Annam (29), Paul McDonald (51)

**April 16:** Happy birthday to Dylan West.

**April 17:** Happy birthday to Logan Bowman (14), Alyssa Forthuber (22), Amber Riehl (23), Danielle West, and Glennda Kaufmann, and anniversary for Daniel and Desiree O'Hearn (9th).

## The Old Gazettes

By Jake Grant

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

**April 10-17, 2019, Edition (5 years ago)**

At their April 3, 2019, meeting, East Zorra-Tavistock council endorsed the submission of an application to Natural Resources Canada for funding for an electric-vehicle charging station to be installed in Tavistock. The station would be located in the parking lot at the rear of the Tavistock and District Recreation Centre.

The Hickson 4-H Club Trash to Treasure 4-H Project Achievement Program was held Wednesday, April 3 at the Tavistock Men's Club Hall with 54 in attendance along with special Men's Club guests past president Duane Kropf and secretary Peter Pickett.

Following a "Street Sleep" this past weekend, an intergenerational group from Tavistock Mennonite Church learned firsthand what homeless people might experience. Fifteen people gathered with sleeping bags and cardboard boxes on Saturday evening, April 6 to Sunday morning, April 7 in the Schultz Automotive parking lot in downtown Tavistock.

It's almost been 50 years since Keith Maresky came with his family to live in Tavistock. Now retired, Keith served 48 years as a Tavistock hockey official.

Tavistock Shuffleboard wrapped up another season of play with a year-end banquet last Thursday evening at Quehl's Restaurant. About 57 people enjoyed a meal followed by entertainment from the Just For Fun Band.

**April 1-8, 2009, Edition (15 years ago)**

The Tavistock B. Kropf Forestry Peewee Reps capped off their dream season Thursday night in Smithville winning the OMHA CC title in grand fashion sweeping the West Lincoln Wrath in three straight games.

Mackenzie Kaufman was presented with the Kathie and Scott Ward Spirit of Skating Memorial award this past weekend at the annual Platsville Skating Carnival. Mackenzie is very honored to have received this award and is very appreciative of her great coach!

The Jordan Mechanical Bantam Reps have added another Ontario title to the Tavistock Minor Hockey Association record books. They did not disappoint hometown fans who packed the Tavistock and District Recreation Centre on Monday, March 30 to see game six of the OMHA CC Bantam final.

It was a fun and informative evening at Schultz Automotive in Tavistock last Monday, March 30 when more than thirty women from the area gathered to learn more about the cars they drive. The clinic was headed by Kelly Williams, a Canadian race and pace car driver from Caledon.

Lucille (Symons) Bennington celebrated her 100th birthday with family at the Maples Home for Seniors on Sunday afternoon.

The Tavistock Jutzi Petroleum Midget A/E Titans won the Southern Counties league title in a final 6-1 win on Saturday against Paris. Members of the team: Jesse Schurink, Travis Gueguen, Luke Bender, Andrew Benbow, Zach Johnson, Nic Dietrich, Quin Kropf, Zach Zehr, Kraemer Pestell and Colby Mohr.

**Mar 30-April 6, 1994, Edition (30 years ago)**

The petition to have the question of policing in the Village of Tavistock put on the November election ballot for Ward 2, Tavistock,

has met with a great response according to the Tavistock Chamber of Commerce. But voters in the Village wonder if the council for the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock or the Tavistock Police Services Board will be listening when the petition is presented this morning April 6, at the regular council meeting in Hickson.

I was awakened at 3:22 a.m. on Thursday, March 31, 1994. The liquor store had been broken into again! Arriving in under five minutes of my call, I felt safe knowing Const. R. Rudy was also at the scene in under five minutes. The thieves were already gone but had only taken some alcohol. Next time, it may be your home, or family in danger. How can a board of three people decide how our community should be protected. So, we urge everyone to voice their opinion and make your concerns known. -Const. Walker

On Wednesday, March 30, the Tavistock Men's Club Novices won the Grand River League Novice title in a fifth and deciding game against their hometown friends, the Mighty Ducks.

**April 10-17, 1974, Edition (50 years ago)**

On Tuesday night, the girls Tavistock Jets played Belmont in Tavistock for the Ontario Girls Hockey League trophy. For the fifth and final game, the girls skated and fought hard in front of a crowd of 200 and captured the game in a 3-1 victory becoming Ontario champs.

Construction of a new section of Highway 7 and 8 between Stratford and New Hamburg will not begin until 1980 or 1982, a public meeting was told March 27, 1974.

The 37-voice Goshen College (Indiana) Chorale will perform a sacred concert on April 22, 1974, at 8 p.m. in the East Zorra Mennonite Church.

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Sunday Worship services begin at 9:45am, with coffee and fellowship to follow at 11am. Masks welcomed but not required.

All Ages JRSS will follow after the worship service.

Stream services online at [www.tavistockmennonitechurch.ca](http://www.tavistockmennonitechurch.ca)

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

## COMMUNITY —

# Nith Valley EcoBoosters to discuss benefits of induction cooking at upcoming Stove Talk

By Galen Simmons

Area residents who attend the Nith Valley EcoBoosters' upcoming Stove Talk: An Introduction to Induction will have the opportunity to learn about the benefits of cooking with induction stovetops over conventional gas or electric stoves.

Set to take place at the Wilmot Recreation Complex from 7-8 p.m. April 30, Stove Talk will introduce attendees to induction cooking, teach them how induction burners work and offer cooking demonstrations featuring both familiar and not-so-familiar foods.

"In general, due to climate change and so on, we are trying to move away from fossil fuels," said EcoBoosters member and event organizer Bart Van Anandel. "As far as stoves in the kitchen, typically you either have an electric-resistance stove or a gas stove. People typically like gas stoves because they're very responsive. You can ramp the heat up quick and you can drop it quickly. You have a lot of control whereas the resistance, electric-heated stoves; the heat raises slowly and it drops slowly.

"An induction stove is a little bit more efficient than a resistance stove – maybe 10 per cent more efficient – but it is very responsive. It acts like a gas stove to raise

the heat and drop the heat very quickly. So, people who are using a natural-gas stove because they like the way it responds; to move away from a gas stove, you can use an induction stove."

Induction cookers use electromagnets under a glass surface to induce a small current that heats up the pot. The stovetop must make contact with a magnetic pot or pan to heat up. This is more efficient than conventional stoves that transfer heat from the element or flame.

Induction stoves are gaining in popularity because they help protect indoor air quality, use less energy, generate fewer carbon emissions, cook food faster, have better temperature control and are safer to use than their conventional electric and gas alternatives.

According to an article published in Scientific American in January 2023, gas stoves burn natural gas, which generates a number of invisible by-products. The biggest concern for human health is nitrogen dioxide, produced when natural gas is burned at high temperatures in the presence of nitrogen in the atmosphere. Nitrogen dioxide is known to increase the chances of respiratory illnesses like asthma in children.

Studies have also found that unburned natural gas leaks from stoves and this gas contains benzene, a known carcinogen.

While Van Anandel says the EcoBoosters aren't interested in telling area residents definitively to switch from gas stoves to induction, he says the environmental group does want to present a viable alternative to anyone thinking about making the switch.

"It's education. That's the focus for Nith Valley EcoBoosters. It's educating people. It's not a hard sell," Van Anandel said. "We're

exposing people to induction, letting them see it and experience it. We're presenting the options and letting the benefits speak for themselves."

As there will be several cooking-demonstration stations set up as part of the Stove Talk event, Van Anandel said participants will get the opportunity to sample some of the finger foods cooked on induction hot plates.

For more information and to register for StoveTalk, visit [actionnetwork.org/events/stove-talk-introduction-to-induction](https://actionnetwork.org/events/stove-talk-introduction-to-induction).

## Single-vehicle collisions sends one person to hospital

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette staff

Provincial Police responded to a report of a single motor vehicle collision in the Township of Perth East early Monday morning.

On April 8 just after 6:30 a.m., Perth County OPP, Perth County Paramedic Services, Perth East Fire Services and ORNGE responded to a report of a motor-vehicle collision involving one vehicle in the area of Perth Line 37 and Perth Road 108.

One person was transported by ORNGE to a trauma center.

Perth Line 37 between Perth Road 108 and Perth Road 109 was closed for several hours. No other details have been released.

### STOVE TALK Introduction to Induction



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7:00 - 8:30pm

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**COMMUNITY —**

**New speed camera watches over Snyder's Road in Baden**



A new speed camera was recently installed on Snyder's Road in Baden near Sir Adam Beck Public School and Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School. This camera is the replacement for a speed camera in this location that was previously vandalized. Photo by Sharon Leis

**The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Weekly Quiz**

1. When was the American Civil War fought?
2. In "Back to the Future part 2" who won the world series in 2015?
3. What is April's birthstone?
4. What is the currency of Poland?
5. Who won the 2023 Masters Tournament?
6. Whose nose grew longer every time he lied?
7. What is a baby porcupine called?
8. What show is Elmo from?
9. What Is The Tallest Type Of Grass?
10. Who died on the cross for our sins?

Answers found on page 22

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**TOWNSHIP OF EAST ZORRA-TAVISTOCK  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING  
REGARDING DEVELOPMENT CHARGES**

Take notice that the Council of the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock will hold a public meeting, pursuant to section 12 of the Development Charges Act, 1997, as amended, to present and obtain public input on the municipality's proposed development charges (D.C.) by-law and underlying background study.

All interested parties are invited to attend the Public Meeting of Council and any person who attends the meeting may make representations relating to the proposed D.C. by-law and background study. The meeting is to be held:

Date: **Wednesday May 1, 2024**  
Time: **9:15 a.m.**  
Location: **Township Council Chambers, 89 Loveys Street, Hickson, ON**

Copies of the 2024 Development Charges Background Study and the proposed draft development charges by-law will be available for viewing at the Township's Municipal Office and website [www.ezt.ca](http://www.ezt.ca) on or before April 3, 2024.

Any person may attend the public meeting and make written or verbal representation either in support of or in opposition to the by-law. Written submissions are invited and should be directed to Will Jaques, Municipal Clerk, at 519-462-2697 x7825 or [wjaques@ezt.ca](mailto:wjaques@ezt.ca). Written comments received prior to the meeting and submissions made at the public meeting will be considered by Council prior to the enactment of a new development charges by-law.

DATED AT the Township of East-Zorra Tavistock this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2024.

Will Jaques, Clerk  
Township of East Zorra Tavistock  
89 Loveys Street, Hickson, ON, N0J 1L0

**SPORTS —**

# Firebirds earn first blood in South final

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

It took them 45 minutes to find the back of the net, but New Hamburg has taken a 1-0 lead in their South Conference final with Grimsby.

The Peach Kings scored late in the first period and held that lead until Owen Bruder scored his first of the playoffs to tie it up. Two and a half minutes later, Andrew Gear potted the game-winning goal on a feed from Carter Niall and Josh Soulliere. New Hamburg outshot Grimsby 41-26.

Game two is set for Friday on Peach Kings ice.

Firebirds win controversial series over Navy Vets

The Provincial Junior Hockey League denied a Woodstock protest last week setting the stage for Friday night's 5-2 New Hamburg win and a Doherty Division title.

The Firebirds came out of the gate flying, outshooting the Navy Vets 22-8 and outscoring them 4-1 in the first period. Owen Sculthorp opened the scoring for New

Hamburg just over four minutes into the game, but Ethan Szabo tied it up six and a half minutes later. Then the Owens took over with Owen Bruder scoring once and Owen Fischer adding a pair.

After a scoreless second, the teams traded third-period markers with Szabo scoring his ninth of the playoffs for the Navy Vets. Jake Thompson added an empty-net goal for the Firebirds who now turn their attention to the Grimsby Peach Kings, winners of the Bloomfield Division, in the Southern Conference final of the postseason.

Gerber said he doesn't know much about the Peach Kings.

"Not too much at all to be honest. For game one we will stick to our game plan and use that game to see what we have to change if anything. Even if we watched a team, until we get on the ice with them, we really don't know how we match up. Game one will be a feel-out process."

The Firebirds have had a balanced scoring attack, something that has continued in the playoffs with every regular recording

at least a point.

"Very happy with where this group is at. We just keep going about our business and getting contributions from everywhere. That's always healthy. I don't believe this group is content with just winning the Doherty. They would like it to go farther."

Gerber said watching Wellesley win last year's Schmaltz Cup is on the minds of his kids.

"For some of our guys who were here two years ago, there is unfinished business there. They have been this far already, and the next step is what they are looking for."

Two years ago, Grimsby defeated New Hamburg in the PJHL quarterfinals. While the Firebirds may not know much about the Peach Kings, they sure remember Lucas Carson. He was arguably the best player in the PJHL last season while playing in New Hamburg. The Elmira native scored 59 points in just 26 games for the Firebirds but moved to the Peach Kings to be closer to school. This season he had 63 points in 42 games to lead his new team.

"He's a good player and we know about

him," joked Gerber.

Game four in the Doherty final ended in controversy as the Navy Vets appeared to score twice in double overtime that would have made the series 3-2 in favour of New Hamburg. The first was waved off as Firebirds goalie Graeme Noye, who played in Woodstock last season, knocked the net off its moorings. The video of the second goal shows the puck hitting the top of the mesh but was not seen by any of the four officials on the ice.

"I think what's missing in the media is what the rule is. It wasn't as clear as day in real speed. I feel bad for the referee. That was a tough call and the unfortunate part for Woodstock is we don't have a video review process for goals or disallowed goals. It's right in the rule book."

Geber added those mistakes happen more than people know but he understands that in this case, the aspect of overtime being involved is a tough pill to swallow.

"Everyone, after the fact, knew the puck was in. I feel for all sides. I can't say here I wouldn't be m



The New Hamburg Firebirds are the PJHL's Doherty Division champions following a five-game series win over the Woodstock Navy Vets. Contributed photo



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SPORTS —

# Zehr steps aside as Braves GM – team announces Lange as new boss

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

The Tavistock Braves have announced their entire coaching and management staff have stepped down and named a new general manager.

Jordan Zehr has resigned from his role as general manager. Zehr, a financial planner by trade, said it's time for him to focus more on work and less on hockey. He's been running the business since his dad passed away. The two were partners.

"The workload grew, of course, and I found that if I wanted to buckle down and do the job at work, it was the right decision to make at this point. The position with the Braves deserves 100 per-cent effort."

Zehr and his late father Bob started as the management team in Tavistock eight years ago along with head coach Dan Kabfliesch and assistants Mike Albrecht and Andrew Witter. Bob passed away in June of 2021.

Zehr explained there isn't one memory that stands out but the relationships he has developed with the entire organization does.

"We have had some pretty exceptional teams over the years. There have been a lot of good players, a lot of good young men come through the system. Doing the job in the beginning with my father was obviously a pretty cool thing. The partnership brings back a lot of great memories."

The younger Zehr began his tenure with the team as a stick boy. He added being a part of the original team along with Jon Jutzi and Jared Frayne made his tenure feel not like a job, but something he did for the love of the game.

Kabfliesch, who resigned to spend more time with his family, and the rest of the coaching staff will be replaced in the fall, but Zehr has nothing but fond memories of them all.

"Dan (Kabfliesch) provided materials for the players that you would find at the Junior A and B levels. "Whether it be extended stats for them or video packages and just the general preparation he would have weekly, I think people



Brent Lange has been named the new general manager of the Tavistock Braves. Contributed photo

would be shocked at the amount of effort he and the rest of the staff put in."

Zehr wanted to give special thanks to Albrecht who put 15 years in as a player and coach.

The Braves recently announced Brent Lange as the team's new general manager. Lange has a long hockey history in Tavistock in both junior and senior circles including a stint with the Braves as a goalie coach. He wanted to thank the outgoing staff for their years of service and

added it is an honour to be hired as GM.

"I have a lot of work to do, but with that said we also hired a good young guy who is familiar with the team to be my assistant," Lange said.

St. Marys native Cris Micelli is a graduate of the Humber College sports-management program and has served the last two years in a lead statistician role and scouting with Lange and Tavistock native Caitlin Dance.

"With him and I there together along with the hockey operations team, I think we can get this team back on course again, and by no means was it too far off course last season. This season we unfortunately took an early exit from the playoffs to a harder-working Hespeler team that came a long way," Lange said.

The first order of business for Lange is to interview potential coaches for the upcoming year.

"There have been a few names brought forward which are all very good candidates. I have also reached out to several players I scouted this past season to see what their plans are for the upcoming year.

I received very good feedback from them and other players that were high on my list of targets."

He added the Braves potentially have 17 returning players and two goalies. The Braves have seen the number of local players dwindle over the years, something Lange said he would like to improve on.

"We potentially have three or four Tavistock Minor hockey products on our team for the upcoming year. We also have a few from the Stratford area."

Lange added he has watched some local teams in Tavistock here and Stratford and would like to see players in a local organization advance to junior programs locally.

"There are some good players in the Tavistock and Stratford areas we need to get out and take a strong look at in our upcoming camps. We always want to give a local kid a shot if they're willing and able to make that commitment and a big jump from minor hockey to Junior C. It's not a small jump anymore like it might have been back in the Junior Development days."

Lange said he's thankful for an understanding family that will make his journey easier.

"I am lucky because I have a very supportive wife and kids, so I can do this type of stuff. It's time to start this exciting new journey and put the work boots on and try to get back to the team we had a few years ago that was good, strong, fast-paced, hardworking, gritty, tough and had no quit in them."

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## COMMUNITY —

## Local Humane Society launches urgent appeal for injured cat that needs amputation



Blossom the cat was brought into the care of the Humane Society of Kitchener Waterloo and Stratford Perth recently. A result of an old, untreated injury, Blossom needs her front leg amputated, leading the society to launch an urgent-appeal fundraising campaign to pay for her cost of care. Contributed photo

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette staff

The Humane Society of Kitchener Waterloo and Stratford Perth (HSKWSP) has launched an urgent-appeal campaign to raise funds for a one-year-old cat who needs emergency surgery to have one of her limbs amputated.

The cat, named Blossom by staff, arrived at the centre as a stray in poor condition. The physical examination, including bloodwork and x-rays administered by the Humane Society veterinary team, revealed Blossom had an old injury that was left untreated for far too long.

Blossom heads into an emergency surgery today to have her front left leg amputated. The HSKWSP estimates her medical and care costs could reach up to \$4,000 or more by the time she is ready for adoption. This includes the cost of surgery to have the limb removed, spay surgery at a later date, antibiotics and cost of care. Following surgery, Blossom will head into foster care to recover until she is ready to find her forever home.

"The money raised from this campaign will help Blossom lead a healthy, happy life," said HSKWSP CEO Victoria Baby in a press release. "We have had several emergency cases like this within the past two weeks and rely on our community's generosity to provide this life-saving medical care. We truly hope you'll donate today."

Last week, four-month-old Nimbus was brought into the local Humane Society's care. He had multiple fractures in his front-left limb and was clearly in a lot of pain. The Humane Society medical team performed an emergency surgery, which cost \$3,500, to have his limb removed. His surgery went well, and this little tripod is recovering in his loving foster home.

Two weeks ago, three-year-old Kit Kat was brought into the Humane Society centre

after she had ingested leaves of the highly toxic lily plant. The veterinary team immediately administered medication and she was rushed to emergency to be treated. Kit Kat is doing well and is now up for adoption. Her cost of care was \$3,000!

Consider making a one-time donation for Blossom by visiting [www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/100628](http://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/100628). Anything raised above and beyond will go to care for animals like Blossom, Nimbus and Kit Kat who need it the most. For more information on the initiatives of the Humane Society of Kitchener Waterloo and Stratford Perth, visit [kwsphumane.ca](http://kwsphumane.ca).



Nimbus, another cat brought into the care of the Humane Society of Kitchener Waterloo and Stratford Perth, recent had emergency surgery to treat multiple fractures in his front, left leg. Contributed photo

## Help the New Hamburg Legion find family members of local First and Second World War veterans

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette staff

To help the local Legion find family members of local veterans so they can be honoured in the 11th edition of the Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command's Military Service Recognition Book, the Gazette will regularly publish a list of names in future editions for which legion volunteers have been unable to find or contact family members. For this year's edition of the Military Service Recognition Book, the local legion has until May 15 to submit local veterans to the book's publisher.

This week's list of veterans are as follows:

- Delong, Orville G
- Hartman, Howard
- Dwyer, James E.
- Head, Lorne W.
- Fair, Alexander
- Helm, Gerald
- Faulhafer, Gordon E.
- Hergott, Wilfred J.
- Faulhafer, John M.
- Hill, Lou J.
- Fink, Austin E.
- Holst, Dorothy B.
- Fink, Walter W.
- Horst, Amon
- Fischer, Henry J.
- Holman, Donald
- Foote, Robert G.
- Hughes, John W.
- Fosty, Edward J.
- James, Albert L.
- Fox, Frederick W.
- Jansen, Orval E.
- Fritz, Carl
- Jantzi, Jonas B.
- Gardner, Norman W.
- Jones, Herbert B.
- Gilfillan, John J.
- Joslin, John B.
- Gingrich, Glen
- Joyce, James D.
- Gingrich, Oliver L.
- Junger, Gordon G.
- Glendinning, William G.
- Kline, Harry E.
- Glab, Joseph
- Kraemer, Clarence
- Godfrey, Clifford
- Kropf, Emmet J.
- Grant, James A.
- Kropf, Lorne
- Grundenberger, Harry
- Haire, Robert
- Hall, Arthur Wm.
- Hall, Kay
- Hall, Thomas R..

If you are related to or know someone who is related to one of the above veterans or any local First and Second World War veterans and would like to have their name, story and photo included in the 11th Military Service Recognition Book, email Bob Berg at [rwberg@gmail.com](mailto:rwberg@gmail.com). Please note, a previous email address provided as contact information for Berg has been compromised and messages to that email will not be received.

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# Spring

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### MOST NEEDED ITEMS AT THE FOOD BANK

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**We will gladly accept extra garden produce.**

**Donations can be brought to our office, or to the local grocery stores in New Hamburg (No Frills and Sobeys).**

*Note: If you plan to drop off a large food donation, please call ahead at 519-662-2731 to arrange a time. Drop off bins are also located in our front foyer and on the back ramp. These bins are checked regularly. We are very thankful for our community's ongoing support!*

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OPINION —

**EXPERT ADVICE: *Visit Nailed It! Aesthetics and Wellness in Wellesley***



**By Mercedes Kay Gold**

Spring into self-care!

Nestled in Wellesley is the most delightful day spa called Nailed it! Aesthetics and Wellness. Kalie Ropp had been bringing self-love spa services to New Hamburg since 2020, and soon outgrew her space. The stars aligned with a change of address. On Nov. 16, 2023, Ropp launched her brick-and-mortar street-front space and welcomed the community of Wellesley.

Nailed it! Aesthetics and Wellness is quite simply a superb, serene sanctuary of self-care services. Ropp is passionate about delivering luxury treatments and the lasting impact on a person's overall wellness.

As a girl boss, wife and mother, she understands the need for downtime and a pre-scheduled recharge.

One step inside incites feel-good vibes and a meet-and-greet by one of Ropp's five highly-skilled professionals. Whether customers are in for a routine manicure, quick eyebrow wax or striving to escape the stresses of everyday life, the list of services covers from head to toe.

After exploring the website, I booked myself online for a facial and pedicure. Knowing skin is our largest organ and absorbs everything applied to it, I am to the moon knowing Nailed it! Aesthetics and Wellness uses award-winning Eminence Organic Skin Care. The options are endless: the classic European facial, addressing acne or turning back Father Time. Ropp's experienced team helped guide me to the top-notch treatment to suit my individual needs.

Facial massage increases the flow of oxygen and stimulates the lymphatic system. Not only did I smell sensational strawberry, but I felt fabulous snuggled under the heated blanket. I was pleasantly surprised the facial included a scalp, neck, shoulder and arm massage. My skin was glowing. It's no surprise Eminence facials are her most sought-after service.

Next up was my pedicure. Hello spring, hello summer sandals soon! Soak, slough,

scrub, shape, trim and file with a side of magical massage and the power of paraffin plus pretty paint equaled fabulous feet.

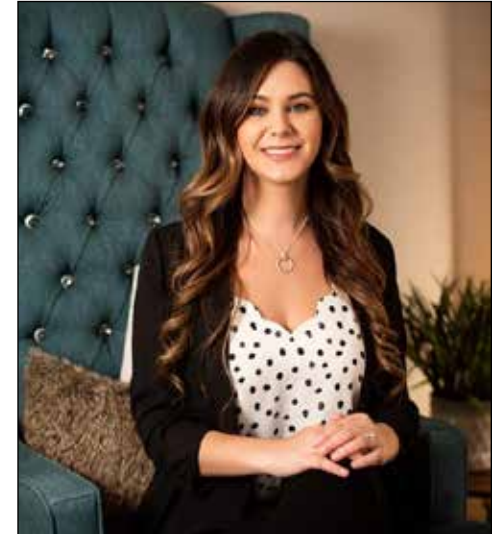
If you still tell someone to talk to the hand, make sure you reveal a magnificent manicure. Natural nails or gel, shellac and one-of-a-kind nail art are all part of the experience. Nail trends are going old school this season. Classic French manicure has made a comeback.

The weekly manicure is a must for many, but Ropp's spa is a one-stop sanctuary. Hair removal, lovely lashes, tints, brow laminations and waxing are all available to help elevate natural beauty.

Ropp's mission is to create an "unforgettable experience that leaves you refreshed and relaxed."

Goal accomplished! Thanks to a warm welcome and unwavering support from existing clients and the community, Nailed it! Aesthetics and Wellness is ready to renovate the upstairs. Ropp is excited to expand the list of health practitioners. Self-care is more than fabulous feet, but a magical mood booster and self-esteem support for many.

Spa Days are family friendly fun for the whole tribe with special pricing for customers under 14. Mother's Day is not far away, and don't forget dear old dad. Ropp estimates at least 20 per cent of clients are



**Owner of Nailed it! Aesthetics and Wellness Kalie Ropp. Photo by Ben Lariviere**

male. The spa is spacious and easily accommodates bridal parties, birthday celebrations or corporate bonding events. A word to the wise, book in advance. Ropp and her dazzling dream team are busy bees. Gift certificates are available to spend on services and in-spa shopping.

The spa is located at 1211 Queens Bush Road, Wellesley. Book online [www.Naileditaesthetics.com](http://www.Naileditaesthetics.com)

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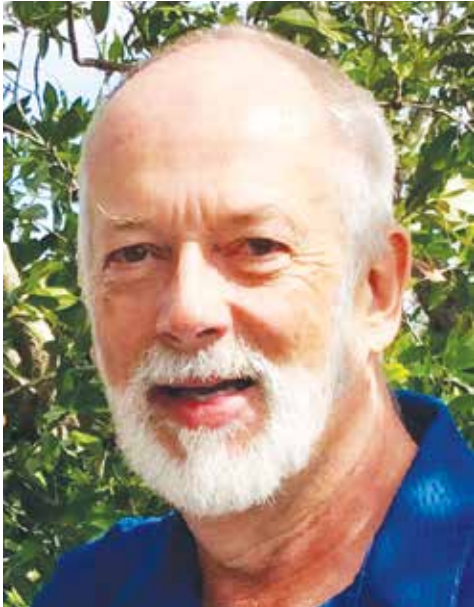
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## TRAVEL —

## OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Bootlegging, moonshine, and other liquid reasons to enjoy New Brunswick



By Paul Knowles

We were standing in a tumble-down shack in Saint-Hilaire, N.B., a two-minute walk from the Saint John River that is the border between Canada and the United States. The most prominent thing in the room was an ancient wooden still. As I examined this artifact of days gone by, my host, Réginald Nadeau, asked if I would like to sample the “bagosse” – moonshine in English – made recently in that still.

“Is that legal?” I asked.

Reg smiled and explained that this very primitive distillery – one of two buildings that make up the Bootlegger Museum – is licensed to make moonshine on one day of the year, for the St. Hilaire Moonshine Festival in August.

“We have a permit to brew bagosse the artisanal way,” he says.

They happened to have some left over, so of course I sampled the bagosse. And when I got my breath back, I admitted that it was very tasty, if a tad powerful.

Reg tells me that the details of the lo-

cal bagosse recipe are kept secret, but then reveals that the moonshine begins with potatoes, raisins, sugar, yeast and apples, and that it takes seven to eight days to ferment. This produces a hefty hooch – 75 per-cent alcohol – but they cut it to 55 per cent for public consumption, still packing quite a wallop.

It’s no coincidence that the Bootlegger Museum is located in Saint-Hilaire. The house beside the moonshine shed, which now houses artifacts related to bootlegging, moonshining and smuggling, was once the home of Maxime Albert, who Reg describes as “one of the three biggest bootleggers in Northern New Brunswick and Riviere-du-Loup.” This is saying a lot because it seems that, during American prohibition, bootlegging was the number-one industry in western New Brunswick.

“He was the Al Capone of the North,” Reg said.

In fact, Albert’s daughter served as secretary to the notorious American gangster.

This story is told in the simple displays at the Bootlegger Museum. To get the real story, you should arrange a tour with Reg Nadeau, something he is more than happy to provide. This experience is off the beaten track but will be a highlight of any visit to this underappreciated part of New Brunswick. If you can be one of several thousand to visit the village for the Moonshine Festival, so much the better.

It’s no exaggeration to say that moonshining and smuggling were huge business all along the Saint John River. At St. Hilaire, Maine is less than a Vladimir Guerrero home run away, so access to a thirsty market was readily available. In the hungry 1920s, says Reg, “Bootlegging was an opportunity to make money and help the district.”

Whatever the reality, the legend of Maxime Albert has taken on Robin Hood qualities. Reg talked of a time when Albert knew that an important churchman

was to visit, so he dressed as a Roman Catholic cardinal, assembled an entourage of 10 automobiles, and was welcomed as a VIP into the US. Each car, of course, was carrying all the illegal booze it could hold.

“The day after,” says Reg, “the real monsignor came to customs and had a problem.”

Reg Nadeau has a personal connection to Albert.

“He helped my grandparents save their land,” says Reg.

Albert passed away in 1953. The simple home and distillery shack that house the small museum are owned by the local municipality. Reg is clearly the spark behind the museum, which houses a good selection of artifacts from bootlegging days, as well as, ironically, the desk, phone and typewriter from the prohibition-era police station.

The art of the still is alive and well all down the western side of New Brunswick. About an hour and a half south of Maxime Albert’s one-time residence is the blatantly named “Moonshine Creek Distillery” where they make – among other delectable beverages – a variety of legal moonshines, including Apple Crumble Moonshine.

Owner Jeremiah Clark told me his grandfather had been “a barber and local bootlegger.” He’s proud to carry on the family tradition, albeit legally. Justin Marcoux, who was offering samples from behind the bar, states, “New Brunswick became the number-one bootlegging province.”

Another hour southeast will take you to the Big Fiddle Still, owned and operated by Trent Jewett. Trent’s a larger-than-life, convivial chap who has never met a customer he didn’t like or a story he didn’t love to tell. The Big Fiddle is so named because the distillery is in Harvey, hometown of Canadian fiddling icon Don Messer.

Trent not only tells stories, he creates



Reg Nadeau, with the ancient still that still produces bagosse one day a year. The chap in the background is actually a life-sized photo of famed local bootlegger, Maxime Albert, a crony of Al Capone. All photos by Paul Knowles

them. Atop his bar is a stuffed beaver, and he’s invented the New Brunswick equivalent to Newfoundland’s kiss-the-cod. At the Big Fiddle, you kiss the beaver (yes, that sparks innumerable comments) and down a shot of New Brunswick Scream, one of the delicious, flavour-infused vodkas Trent produces. My favourite is salted caramel.

I suspect that when you think about New Brunswick, bootlegging, stills and moonshine aren’t top of mind. Given their place in the history of the province, and the modern moonshiners ready to welcome visitors, perhaps it should be.

I’d go back in a minute, but I wouldn’t kiss that beaver again.

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).



Moonshine Creek Distillery owner Jeremiah Clark, whose grandfather had been a local bootlegger.



Big Fiddle owner and resident raconteur Trent Jewett.



Maine, viewed across the St. John River at Saint Hilaire or, as it might be known to bootleggers, the promised land.

# COMMUNITY —

## Oxford County's Dan Yeoman wins the Corn Yield Challenge

By Gary West

It is a sure sign of spring when farmers start picking up their corn seed for another cropping season.

The crew at Trow Nutrition in Tavistock held their annual spring BBQ in the Pride Seed storage area, behind the Yantzi Feed and Seed building in Tavistock.

Besides treating their customers to lunch while they loaded up their seed, recognition was also given to the 2023 winner of the Trow Pride seed yield challenge.

This year, the winning yield challenge plaque went to Dan Yeoman and father Ken for their top-yielding Pride corn at 276 dry bushels per acre in his test plot.

Dan Yeoman and his family operate Kenberdale Farms Ltd. in East Zorra township, north of Woodstock on Oxford Road 59. They have won the award multiple times in past competitions.

He and his father have raised turkeys for 30 years on their 450-acre farm, where they grow a rotation of corn, soybeans and wheat.

Dan Yeoman says having an ample supply of turkey manure, goes a long way in harvesting a top-yielding corn crop.

If children Aiden and Emma decide to farm in the future, they would be the fifth generation on their family farm to do so.



Pictured from left are Jim Witzel, Trow Nutrition crop specialist, corn-yield challenge winner Dan Yeoman, his kids, Aiden, 8, and Emma, 6, and Zenon Bender, Trow Pride Seeds sales consultant. Contributed photo

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**REVIEW —**

**Ancillary Justice by Ann Leckie**

By Amy Coles

This intense novel blends all the interpersonal drama of someone coming to terms with themselves with the universe-spanning action and intrigue of a space opera. It's truly like nothing ever read before.

The story follows Breq, a woman on a hunt for vengeance as she meets someone from her very, very distant past who changes her perspective. See, Breq is no ordinary human, in fact she's not really human at all. Breq is the last remaining Ancillary (an android made from a human) of a spaceship AI, once called the Justice of Torens. This novel goes back and forth, slowly revealing bit by bit the story of how Justice of Torens was reduced to a single humanoid body, and what that body aims to do in revenge.

All the while, it explores and weaves together themes of selfhood, imperialism, prejudice and neurodivergence with such intense subtlety it can be outright dizzying. The author maintains a through line while chapter by chapter moving between themes and time periods, simultaneously frenetic and calm. If it's any indication, this is the only novel ever to win the Arthur C. Clarke award, the Nebula award and the Hugo award all in one fell swoop.

Readers will find a story that knows exactly what it is doing and why, from every time it takes a chance to meander



and sing, to every razor's edge showdown with laser guns and light armour. By the end, not only will you be questioning the boundaries of who we are as people, but itching for more, in which case, you're in luck since the next two books in the trilogy are equally as great!

**Gazette Puzzles**

**2024 MASTER TOURNAMENT**

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Show Us Your Wilmot Facebook group member Anne Loeffler recently posted this photo of silhouetted teasels against a backdrop of early morning colour reflected in the Nith River. Photo courtesy of Show Us Your Wilmot

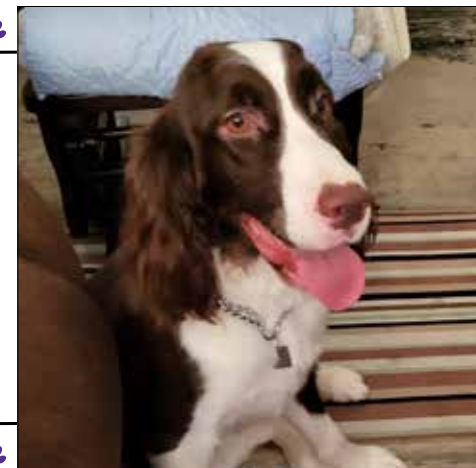
**Pet of the Week**



**RUBY**

Ruby is a full breed of English Spanial Springer who will be 2 years old this May. Her owner, Wayne Simpson, says she likes to try to open doors. She is also a bit nervous and tends to ignore unfamiliar people and dogs. Her family loves her very much.

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## OPINION —

EXPERT ADVICE: *Introducing Chris Catania*

## By Scott Dunstall

My wife sits on Wilmot Municipal council and because of that I am prone to following council-meeting proceedings. As a result, I have gotten to know some of the folks on staff at the township. Over the last year, Chris Catania has stepped into the role of director of community services, taking over from the retiring Sandy Jackson. He is the subject of this week's article.

When you've been style vigilant for so many years, you automatically spot other men in a crowd that show the same tendencies. I got that immediately from Chris. He stood out. He looked sharp and he wore it confidently. So, I approached him and asked him if he would be interested in letting me interview him, and he graciously said yes. He and I are sympatico in the sense that we are both transplants to the area — I'm from Mississauga and he's from Aurora. We also share another trait and that is our love of this community. It didn't take us long to see how big its heart

is. He is a perfect fit here because, like his grandfather and dad, honour and hard work are the cornerstone of his family.

Chris is a University of Toronto grad majoring in physical and health education. He's very sports minded and follows Edmonton (NHL), 49ers (NFL), Jays, Raptors and golf. Chris started his career working in local government with the Town of Aurora and Town of East Gwillimbury for 35 years.

Married to Meaghan, he came full circle as she was his high-school, next-door-neighbor sweetheart. He has two adult children, Luke and Ryan. One is doing a master's degree and the other is an undergrad in business administration. I asked him what he has done to prepare for this role in Wilmot.

"My overall experience in all matters dealing with recreation, facilities, marketing and project management. This included many certifications and workshops in the parks-and-recreation field as well as the undergrad program in physical and health education."

As I said at the outset, when I saw Chris, I wanted to learn about his own style journey and how it has differed from mine. The following is an excerpt from our conversation.

**SD:** Can you recall when you first became fashion conscious?

**CC:** Since I was 19 when I worked in the pro-shop of a golf

course. I appreciated the golf fashion being worn at the course and wanted to look presentable to the members of the club.

**SD:** What were some of the things you can recall were early influencers?

**CC:** I would say observing athletes in professional sports when arriving to their respective arenas/stadiums.

**SD:** Was there one person in particular who you felt had an influence on your fashion and style?

**CC:** I am answering for Chris here. When I sent him my questions including this one he simply said no one in particular. But when I sat down to speak with him, he said he thought about it a little more and said it was his mom. He said she would often take him shopping with her and even though it was torture, he learned some things by osmosis including how to pair different colours.

**SD:** Would you say you have any particular style that has evolved over the years?

**CC:** I love the casual look. Nice pair of jeans with a pressed shirt and sport coat ... or even a suit in formal settings, but a couple buttons undone with a semi formal/casual look.

**SD:** Favourite brick and mortar retailer?

**CC:** Shoutout to Johnny at The Coop (Toronto). Lots of high-end pieces.

Scott's addendum: I did a little research on The Coop and Johnny is John Corallo, the owner and operator. They have some really nice stuff. If you're a hockey maniac, this is where Don Cherry had his weekly wild suits crafted. I will use the word "crafted" not tailored. Because of this hockey pedigree, I get why Chris gravitated to this store.

**SD:** Colours you prefer or best suit you and do they change with the season?

**CC:** I always like different shades of navy or even a steel grey and yes, they do change with season as I like to keep the colours more light in the summer.

*Scott's addendum: Ditto on the changing colours for the warmer months. Personally, I use a lot more pastels and hopefully by this summer I will lose enough off my middle to show some belt.*

**SD:** Do you have any favourite brands and, if so, do you know your size in each?

**CC:** I do not have a favourite brand, but as long as the material is of quality and the fit is just right, I'm sold. But I do know my size in all the pieces I wear. Sports jacket: 42R; Pant: 33-inch waist with a 30-inch inseam. With all the Slimfit products, this will vary as I can get into a 34 waist where it feels right.

**SD:** Do you have particular aspects that you are adamant about? For example, I like to have little or no break at the bottom of my pants/jeans to avoid

bunching up, or showing half-inch cuff of shirt sleeve with a jacket or sweater.

**CC:** I'm not too fussy as long as the fit is just right for me. I will say that I love my sock game. Love the element of showcasing some funky pieces. However, I also like showing some skin between pant and shoe and therefore may only have a sockette on for the shoes.

It was great to meet with Chris. Fashion forward or not, he's a very approachable guy and we are lucky to have him supporting us in this community.

*"Style is just fashion filtered through your personality"*

Scott Dunstall has been on a stylistic journey for over 10 years. His belief is that every guy has a style of their own. When it's discovered, it empowers and builds confidence. Scott has appeared several times on Rogers TV Kitchener as a guest on DAYTIME. His writing has been republished by LinkedIn Top Influencer and INC. Magazine contributing editor, Jeff Haden. He has also written several pieces for the Baden Outlook. You can follow Scott on Instagram @everydaystylebyscott or on LinkedIn @scottdunstall or Life & Style Wilmot on Facebook. Feel free to ask questions or propose collaborations: everydaystylebyscott1@gmail.com.

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## Sprucedale Public School to host young entrepreneurs event

By Gary West

Lisa Cairncross, principal of Sprucedale Public School in Shakespeare, hopes area parents and all family members will support an upcoming school event.

The school is hosting a young entrepreneurs event for students.

The kids will be selling a variety of items like bracelets, baking, lotions, mystery bags and more. The sale will run from 3-6 p.m. Wednesday April 24 in the school gym.

For more information, email [lisa.cairncross@ed.amdsb.ca](mailto:lisa.cairncross@ed.amdsb.ca).

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OPINION —

# FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK: *Planning to plant in hopes of harvesting a cheaper grocery bill*



**By Galen Simmons**

For the first time in my adult life, I have a big backyard. That's kind of a weird thing to brag about, but after living in small apartments with little to no outdoor space of my own for the

past 15 years, I'm pretty jazzed about it.

Specifically, I'm excited about the opportunities my girlfriend and I now have to grow our own fruit, vegetables and herbs. Lately, we've been doing everything we can to reduce our monthly food bill. We cook everything from scratch, we buy meat and fish when it's on sale and we make everything in big batches so we have leftovers for lunch the next day.

While we have seen some savings, our efforts aren't yielding the extra leeway in our wallets we initially hoped. So, in an attempt to save even more money by reducing our dependency on

the grocery store giants and their increasing prices, we're going to try our hands at sustainable, urban agriculture.

While my girlfriend's thumbs are already pretty green, I'm more ambitious than knowledgeable when it comes to planting seeds and caring for plants until they bear fruit.

Recently, we joined the urban farmers group at the Local Community Food Centre in Stratford. Led by garden educator Lucas Tingle, the intent of the program is to teach gardening skills to members who, in turn, provide the volunteer labour Tingle and his team at the Local need to pre- pare, plant and harvest the com-

munity garden in Dufferin Park.

Last week, we helped Tingle pack seed-starter trays with soil and we planted both cilantro and green-onion seeds. It definitely wasn't a huge operation, but already we learned so much about how to pack soil and keep it hydrated so the seeds can sprout and grow up through the soil.

This week, we'll work with the group to plant seedlings grown in the Local's greenhouse at the community garden. While I don't know exactly what's in store for us, I imagine we'll learn how to space out the plants, which plants should be planted now which should be planted later in the season, and what types of

plants grow better together.

We plan to use every little bit of knowledge we gain with the urban farmers in our own backyard garden. Ideally, by the end of the season, we'll have harvested a wide range of produce, and whatever we don't eat fresh, we'll learn to can, jar, ferment or pickle to preserve it through the winter.

While I foresee quite a bit of work ahead of us this summer, we're both more than willing to put in the time and energy to save whatever we can on our grocery bill.

In times like these – and with a backyard like ours – we kind of need to.

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**WEDNESDAY, APR. 17**

**Township of East-Zorra  
Tavistock council meeting**  
7 p.m.  
Council chambers  
89 Loveys St., Hickson

**SATURDAY, APR. 20**

**Let's Tree Wilmot Tree Planting  
for Habitat Restoration**  
9 a.m. to noon; 1-4 p.m.  
Nithview Senior Community  
Floodplain  
40 Albert St. New Hamburg

**Tavistock Historical Society  
Annual Meeting**  
1:30 pm  
Presentation: Growing Up In  
Tavistock In the 1960's  
Grace United Church  
116 Woodstock St S, Tavistock

**MONDAY, APR. 22**

**Township of Wilmot council  
meeting**  
7-11 p.m.  
Council chambers  
60 Snyder's Rd., West Baden

April 22, 2022

# Earth Day

let's save our earth

**WEDNESDAY, APR. 24**

**Community Care Concepts  
Lunch and Fellowship**  
12 p.m.  
Join us for lunch and fellowship.  
Cost: \$14.00. Must register by April  
19 by calling 519-664-1900 or toll  
Free: 1-855-664-1900.  
Linwood Community Centre,  
5279 Ament Line, Linwood

**THURSDAY, APR. 25**

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Free: 1-855-664-1900.  
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**FRIDAY, APR. 26**

**Wilmot Lions / Lioness Club  
Spaghetti Dinner**  
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**SATURDAY, APR. 27**

**Women Walk the World event**  
10 a.m.  
New Dundee Community Centre  
1028 Queen St., New Dundee

**TUESDAY, APR. 30**

**Nith Valley Ecoboosters free in-  
person educational event**  
7:00-8:30 p.m.  
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**SATURDAY, MAY 4**

**Let's Tree Wilmot Tree Planting**  
9 a.m. to noon  
Riverside Park  
Riverside Drive, New Hamburg

**TUESDAY, MAY 14**

**Township of Wellesley council  
meeting**  
6:45 p.m.  
Council chambers  
4805 William Hastings Line,  
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| 2. The Chicago Cubs | 7. Porcupette    |
| 3. Diamond          | 8. Sesame Street |
| 4. Polish złoty     | 9. Bamboo        |
| 5. Jon Rahm         | 10. Jesus Christ |



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