TWO NEW FACES ON EZT COUNCIL PAGE 2

BRAVES DROP TWO PAGE 18


# The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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# Kris Wilkinson elected Wilmot mayor

## Voters opt for new leadership in municipal election

**GALEN SIMMONS**

*Regional Editor*

Wilmot Township will have a new mayor after voters elected first-term councillor Kris Wilkinson to lead the municipality for the next four years, defeating incumbent Mayor Natasha Salonen and two other challengers in the Oct. 26 municipal election.

According to the township's unofficial election results, Wilkinson received 2,992 votes, finishing ahead of Stephanie Goertz with 2,495, Salonen with 1,691 and Clive Woolner with 790.

Wilkinson captured approximately 37.6 per cent of the vote, winning by a margin of 497 votes over Goertz. Speaking the morning after his victory, Wilkinson said he was excited to begin his new role and grateful for the confidence residents had placed in him.

"I'm over the moon," Wilkinson said. "It's a real feeling and honestly, it's one that's very exciting and I'm very much looking forward to get to work on it."

Wilkinson, who represented Ward 2 during the previous term of council, campaigned on affordability, fiscal responsibility, transparency and improving how the township communicates with residents.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF KRIS WILKINSON)

**Wilmot's mayor-elect, Kris Wilkinson, celebrates his election-night win with his wife, Joanna Gustini-Wilkinson, and daughters Mary and Eloise.**

He said he believes his message about controlling municipal spending resonated with voters struggling with the rising cost of living.

"I think the number one issue at the end of the day is affordability," Wilkinson said. "People are struggling right now and the economy's in a tough spot, and taxes and additional costs are really hurting people.

"So, I think my message of affordability and different budget management really is a strong one."

Wilkinson's election brings Salonen's time as mayor to an end after one term. First elected in 2022, Salonen campaigned on continuing her administration's efforts to stabilize township finances, improve municipal operations and manage growth and infrastructure pressures.

Following the election, Salonen told the Gazette she respects the choice voters made at the polls and she is grateful to all those who supported her, both during her term as mayor and during her campaign.

"Elections are an opportunity for our community to reflect on where we have been, where we are today and where we want to go next. It has been a privilege to serve as Mayor of Wilmot Township. Over the past four years, I have met remarkable people and witnessed firsthand the generosity, resilience and community spirit that make Wilmot so special.

"Public service is never without its challenges, and leadership sometimes requires making difficult decisions. I am proud of the work we have done to strengthen the township's financial foundations, improve organizational accountability and build a healthier culture of governance. These changes are not always easy or immediately visible, but I believe they are important to Wilmot's long-term future. … I wish the incoming council every success as they take on the important responsibility

*Continued on page 2*


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# Wilkinson defeats Salonen to become Wilmot mayor

*Continued from page 1*

of serving our community. Wilmot is a special place, and I sincerely hope we as a community continue to work together toward a strong future for our township."

Looking ahead, Wilkinson said the incoming council will have several significant decisions to make almost immediately, including developing the 2027 municipal budget, establishing a new strategic plan and hiring a chief administrative officer.

"There's budget, we have to do a strategic plan and then immediately following that, we have to hire a new CAO," he said. "So, there's quite a bit on our plate."

While acknowledging the divisions that can emerge during an election campaign, Wilkinson said he hopes to bring council and the broader community together.

"I think it's important that we try and build bridges and come together as a group and address as many concerns as we possibly can," he said.

Wilmot's incoming council will include:

- Ward 1: Stewart Cressman, 621 votes, defeating Peter Varga (567) and Kiera Upward (52) – Upward withdrew from the election earlier in the month.
- Ward 2: Michael Roth, 453 votes, narrowly defeating Lucy Lantz (438) and Alan Dicknoether (226).
- Ward 3: Harvir Sidhu, 1,074 votes, defeating Kevin Sundberg (588) and Tammy Gaudun Gies (274).
- Ward 4: Steven Martin (1,490) and Scott Dunstall (1,282), elected ahead of Krista Straus (1,248), Jeff Bell (1,115) and Sam Hiemstra (1,013).

Voter turnout was 43.73 per cent, with 7,993 ballots cast among 18,279 eligible electors.

Wilkinson said he looks forward to working with the incoming council, which includes both returning and newly elected members.

"I'm incredibly grateful to the people of Wilmot for putting their trust in me," he said. "It's an honour and I'm really excited and ready to get to work on their behalf."

(PHOTO COURTESY OF KRIS WILKINSON)

**Mayor-elect Kris Wilkinson and his campaign team celebrate their election-night victory.**

# EZT mayor re-elected as two new councillors join township council

**AMANDA NELSON**

*Gazette Reporter*

The Township of East Zorra-Tavistock (EZT) held its 2026 municipal election Monday, Oct. 26, and the council will look largely the same, with a few new members joining for the next four-year term.

Re-elected with 1,597 votes, or 65.1 per cent of the vote, was Mayor Phil Schaefer. Deputy mayor Brad Smith was acclaimed, while Ward 1 Coun. Steven Van Wyk and Ward 3 councillors Matthew Gillespie and Jeremy Smith were re-elected for another four-year term.

New to council this term are Nicolas Faye in Ward 1 and Angie Brenner in Ward 2. Schaefer said he plans to mentor the new councillors while also benefiting from their feedback.

"Our new council will be a blend of veterans and new members of council," said Schaefer. "I am confident this makeup will make for another successful term of council to keep this township the envy of many."

"I want to make sure our two new councillors receive the support they need to hit the ground running on township business. Our secondary plan is of immediate importance, as well as looking at initiatives to address road safety."

EZT's previous council had seven men, including the mayor and deputy mayor. The new council will have six men and one woman, with Brenner's election in Ward 2 marking a change in the council's composition.

"Growing up in Waterloo Region, I was taken by the strong female voices at the school board, at the regional council table and in our MPP at the time. They were present in our school, at local events and they worked to engage children and youth in local matters," said Brenner. "Community, order and procedure have always been important to me, and I hoped then that one day I could be a strong female voice in my community.

"I look forward to following in the paths of other women who have had roles at the council table in East Zorra-Tavistock, and I am humbled to fulfil a vision formed way back then by eight-year-old me."

Brenner said she is thrilled with the results and plans to work diligently to communicate effectively with the community.

"I believe in the next term we must focus on effective and efficient communication, safety, recreation, infrastructure and planning," she said. "Through open discussion, meaningful opportunities for feedback and active engagement with residents, we can preserve the strong rural values that make this a safe and thriving place to live."

Brenner also said she was pleased with the number of candidates who put their names forward in the election, adding that it made her hopeful about the future of local government in the community.

Schaefer said he is eager to get moving on township priorities and is thankful for the ongoing support of the community, friends and family.

"I am feeling both humbled and thankful for the support I received last night, and I am looking forward to working with this new council for the betterment of the township over the next four years."

Right away, Schaefer is committed to completing the Hickson firehall and developing family-oriented community spaces.

"As I mentioned, our secondary plan is overdue to be completed," he said. "We need to deal with our former offices and get started on our new Hickson firehall. I am also hoping the Innerkip community will partner with us for a potential Innerkip splashpad, and I am hopeful the township can secure some much-needed daycare spaces."

Schaefer said he was pleased with the election results and encouraged by the respectful relationships between candidates and the community throughout the 2026 race.

"The races in the township demonstrated respect between the candidates, and I want to commend all candidates for stepping up for their communities, regardless of outcome."

(FILE PHOTO)

**Re-elected East Zorra-Tavistock Mayor Phil Schaefer received 1,597 votes, securing another four-year term and pledging to work with the new council on township priorities.**

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# Chris Martin defeats longtime Wellesley Mayor Joe Nowak in decisive election victory

**GALEN SIMMONS**

*Regional Editor*

After 12 years under the leadership of Mayor Joe Nowak, Wellesley Township residents have voted for a change, electing local businessman and community volunteer Chris Martin as their new mayor.

Martin defeated Nowak in the Oct. 26 municipal election, receiving 1,532 votes to Nowak's 916, capturing nearly 63 per cent of the vote and winning by a margin of 616 votes, according to the township's unofficial election results.

Speaking the morning after his victory, Martin, 56, said the reality of becoming Wellesley's next mayor was still sinking in.

"Honestly, I'm honoured and humbled. I really am. The people in my township chose me to represent them," Martin said. "I consider it a privilege ... that the people in (my) community would ask (me) to be their representative and head of council."

Despite defeating the three-term incumbent, Martin had nothing but praise for Nowak, whom he described as a longtime friend and mentor.

Nowak was first elected to township council in 2000 and served six years as a councillor before returning as mayor in 2014.

Martin said the two rarely disagreed on policy during the campaign, suggesting his victory reflected a desire among voters for new leadership rather than dissatisfaction with Nowak's record.

"I think people after 12 years were just ready for a change," Martin said. "I think there was some built-in momentum on just wanting something different, and that is in no slight to Joe."

A Wellesley resident since 1997, Martin owns Ready Pine, a Waterloo-based manufacturing business, and has extensive experience volunteering with local organizations. He chaired the Something 4 Everyone capital campaign, which raised $4.3 million for the Wellesley Township Recreation Centre, and was named the township's Citizen of the Year in 2022.

This will be his first elected political position.

Martin said his immediate priority will be learning the responsibilities of his new role and working with council through the upcoming municipal budget process.

"You know, I don't have council experience, so that will be a challenge for me," he said, adding he is grateful for the experience returning councillors will bring to the table.

While Martin campaigned on bringing fresh perspectives to township leadership, he said major new initiatives will likely wait until 2027.

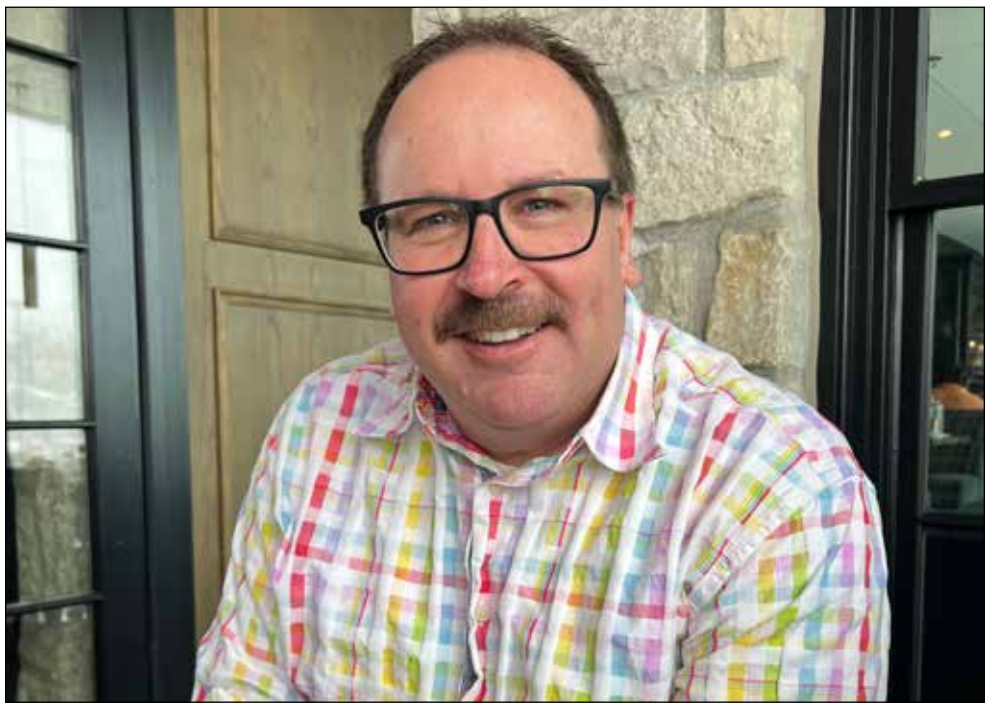
He also praised the township's current financial position, crediting Nowak and the outgoing council for leaving Wellesley on solid footing.

"I'm blessed with the work that Joe had done in the past," Martin said. "There's always challenges out there, there's always opportunities to do things better, but from a very high level, our township is in good shape financially."

All four township councillors were acclaimed: Shelley Wagner in Ward 1, Chris Van Bargen in Ward 2, Derek Brick in Ward 3 and Claude Hergott in Ward 4.

Looking ahead, Martin said he is particularly excited to lead Wellesley as the township celebrates its 175th anniversary in 2027.

"It's a clear, decisive win, and so that speaks to what people are wanting," he said. "We've got a lot to celebrate."



(FILE PHOTO)

**Wellesley Township's next mayor, Chris Martin, says he is honoured and humbled by the community's support after defeating incumbent Joe Nowak in the Oct. 26 municipal election.**

# Jerry Smith elected Perth East mayor in close race against Hugh McDermid

**GALEN SIMMONS**

*Regional Editor*

Perth East residents have elected Jerry Smith as their new mayor following a closely contested municipal election that saw just 83 votes separate the two candidates vying to lead the township for the next four years.

According to the township's Oct. 26 election results, Smith received 1,425 votes, representing 51.5 per cent of ballots cast in the mayoral race, narrowly defeating incumbent deputy mayor Hugh McDermid, who received 1,342 votes, or 48.5 per cent.

"I am very humbled to be elected Mayor for the Township of Perth East, it is an honour and a privilege. I am very pleased with the outcome," Smith said. "My campaign ran on my experience, my honesty and my love for my community and family.

"Winning by a small margin, simply means I need to reach out to everyone in Perth East to find out their issues and concerns. We need to continue to promote this great township."

Smith, who previously represented Milverton Ward on township council, will succeed outgoing Mayor Rhonda Ehgoetz, bringing a new face to the head of the council table as Perth East prepares for the 2026-2030 term.

While the mayoral race was decided by a slim margin, the contest for deputy mayor resulted in a more decisive victory for former North Easthope Ward councillor Bob McMillan.

McMillan received 1,623 votes, or 59.7 per cent, defeating South Easthope Ward councillor Andrew MacAlpine, who finished with 1,095 votes, or 40.3 per cent.

The election also saw several new and familiar faces secure seats around the council table, with two ward races decided by voters and three candidates acclaimed after running unopposed.

In Ellice Ward, Johanne Groenestege was elected with 434 votes, defeating Matthew Livingstone, who received 233. Groenestege captured 65.1 per cent of the vote.

South Easthope Ward featured the most crowded race for a council seat, with four candidates seeking to represent the ward.

(FACEBOOK PHOTO)

**Jerry Smith was elected mayor of Perth East in the Oct. 26 municipal election, defeating incumbent Deputy Mayor Hugh McDermid by just 83 votes. Smith received 1,425 votes to McDermid's 1,342.**

Barry Nowack emerged victorious with 220 votes, or 40.4 per cent, followed by Daryl Herlick with 188 votes, Bruce Holst with 123 and Albert Arnott with 13.

The remaining three ward representatives secured their seats by acclamation.

Jeremy Matheson will represent Milverton Ward, Tim Dowd will represent Mornington Ward and Adam Wilhelm will represent North Easthope Ward.

"I think the voters have selected a great council to lead Perth East for the next four years," Smith said. "We have a good mix of returning members and new councillors. We must all work together."

The results mean Perth East's next council will consist of Smith as mayor, McMillan as deputy mayor and five ward councillors representing communities across the township.

The new council will be responsible for guiding Perth East through the next four years as the municipality continues addressing issues related to growth, infrastructure, municipal services and long-term financial planning.

The results also bring a change in leadership for Perth East, with Ehgoetz concluding her time as mayor and McDermid, who served as deputy mayor during the previous term, falling just short in his bid for the municipality's top elected position.

"To the voters of Perth East. Thank you very much for giving me the honour of representing everyone," Smith said. "I look forward to helping our great community, working with staff and our partners. My relationships I have developed with MPs, MPPs and neighbouring township politicians will help all of us continue to strive to make our township a great place to live and raise a family.

"Lastly, I would like to thank Rhonda Ehgoetz for her leadership and experience, and for all of her time on council. When she asked if I would run for mayor, with her support, it was a definite yes. Thanks, Mayor Rhonda."

In the school board elections, Qui Phuc Cao was acclaimed as the Avon Maitland District School Board trustee. Amy Cronin received 171 votes in Perth East for the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board trustee position, compared to 99 for Karen Doyle. The outcome of that race depends on votes cast across the broader trustee electoral area.

The newly elected Perth East council is scheduled to hold its inaugural meeting Nov. 17.

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# Tavistock residents present EZT Township with petition for improved traffic safety

## Petition asks for speed bumps on William Street as municipality prepares report

**LEE GRIFFI**

*Gazette Reporter*

Residents of William Street South in Tavistock want East Zorra-Tavistock (EZT) Township to do something about speeding vehicles.

Mike Gingerich presented a letter and an accompanying petition with over 100 names to the township asking for speed-calming measures. The street is a busy walkway for children on their way to Tavistock Public School, and it is also the home of the Maples Home for Seniors Long-Term Care Home.

"Over the past several years, everyone has noticed the increase in speeds along this very busy stretch of the road," said Gingerich. "There are currently two crossings for the school children. One is patrolled; the other is not. As our community is growing and construction continues, the issue continues."

He added the combination of speed and the types of vehicles on this road, including farm equipment, delivery vans and construction trucks, has led to chaos, and he would like to see speed bumps implemented.

"Backing in and out of our driveways has become increasingly dangerous. So, the question is, what do we do? We propose speed bumps on our street as it has proven to be effective on other streets. Traffic needs to be slowed down."

Ward 1 Coun. Steven Van Wyk could not attend the meeting in person or virtually because of a work commitment but told the Gazette he would have supported the motion, and he looks forward to the upcoming staff report on road safety.

"It will consider the residents' proposal alongside, hopefully, other potential traffic-calming measures, particularly on streets entering town from a higher speed limit to a lower speed limit to ensure drivers are slowing down appropriately as they enter the town."

He added options such as centre posts, speed feedback signs, speed humps and other measures to encourage drivers to slow down would be worth exploring.

"I do like the changes the county has made to Hope Street East with the centre post and speed feedback sign, and my anecdotal experience observing drivers seems to be that it has been effective in getting drivers to slow down when entering town from that direction."

Fellow Ward 1 Coun. Scott Zehr also voted in favour of the motion.

"I support our township staff researching what might be the best traffic calming options for not only William Street, but all of our EZT communities. Residents continue to highlight speed concerns, so hopefully a good solution can be found."

Gingerich said children and seniors living on the street are in jeopardy daily as the speed issue continues to worsen.

"It has been brought to the attention of the police on several occasions in the past, but no impact was felt. We ask this situation be an absolute priority, prior to an injury or death. We hope our voices are heard and a swift solution to the problem is reached as quickly as possible."

Coun. Scott Rudy said residents have a valid concern, not only in Tavistock but across the township.

"I know we have talked about reducing speed limits, and I think the county is taking a forward approach. I've noticed in Innerkip, and I haven't seen them in Tavistock, the centre line delineators. I know we talked about that a couple of years ago."

Rudy said the delineators are an effective way to slow down traffic, and he would like to see more of them in EZT.

"I think they would slow speed down maybe as good or better than a speed bump."

Deputy mayor Brad Smith said speed isn't the only issue he has heard of on William Street South.

"There was a comment on social media yesterday regarding people not moving over to let an ambulance go by, so there are some other issues along that street. I know it's fairly narrow, but people seem to want to speed through there for some reason."

Some employees and visitors to the Maples Home for Seniors often park on the west side of the street, adding to the congestion.

The township is currently collecting speed data across East Zorra-Tavistock, and a public works report will likely come to the new council in November. Staff are also anticipating results of the Oxford County Road Safety Strategy, which will be shared with lower-tier municipalities in the near future.

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# Perth County named Canada's safest public-sector employer at national awards ceremony

**GALEN SIMMONS**

*Regional Editor*

Perth County has been recognized as Canada's safest public-sector employer, an achievement county leadership says reflects years of commitment from staff, management and council to building a workplace culture where health and safety are everyone's responsibility.

The county received the national honour at the 2026 Canada's Safest Employer Awards ceremony in Toronto Oct. 22, recognizing its workplace safety record, innovative programming and ongoing efforts to protect employees and the public.

"I think what set Perth County apart is that safety isn't just a program here, it's part of our workplace culture," CAO Lori Wolfe said. "We take a proactive approach by identifying risks, investing in meaningful training, listening to employee feedback and continuously improving our practices."

The county's health and safety initiatives include monthly workplace inspections, job-specific hazard assessments, specialized defensive driving training, regular safety education for employees who interact with the public and a proactive mental health program for paramedics.

According to Wolfe, the county's approach goes beyond meeting legislated safety requirements by empowering employees to identify potential hazards and suggest improvements.

"Safety is a shared responsibility, and this achievement belongs to our employees, managers, health and safety representatives, council, and management team," Wolfe said.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF PERTH COUNTY)

**Perth County representatives celebrate being named Canada's safest public-sector employer at the 2026 Canada's Safest Employer Awards ceremony in Toronto Oct. 22. Pictured, from left, are Krystal Holmes (HR generalist), Bill Wilson (director of public works), Vanessa Giroux (executive assistant to the CAO), Charlotte Gravlev (manager of legislative services/clerk), Lori Wolfe (chief administrative officer), Ian Brown (commander, paramedic services), Marion McKeen (director of human resources), Sue Orr (deputy warden), Stefan Zhelev (executive director of legal/corporate services) and Jill Pacheco (court services clerk).**

Perth County Warden Dean Trentowsky credited the consistency of the county's health and safety programming and the collective commitment of employees, management and successive councils for the recognition.

"It brings credibility to everyone in the organization – credibility in the decision making, the planning and the execution of the corporate health and safety program, a program that is designed to protect all of our employees and to protect all of the public that we serve," Trentowsky said.

Beyond recognizing the county's existing practices, both Wolfe and Trentowsky said the award could help Perth County attract and retain employees by demonstrating its commitment to providing a safe, supportive and respectful workplace.

"People want to work where they feel valued, supported and safe," Wolfe said. "This award reinforces that Perth County is an employer that prioritizes employee wellbeing and invests in its people."

The Canada's Safest Employer Awards have been presented annually since 2011. Winners are selected through a multi-stage evaluation process involving research, verification, employee perception surveys and assessment by an independent panel of occupational health and safety experts.

Despite the national recognition, Wolfe emphasized the county's commitment to workplace safety will continue evolving through training, investment in equipment and resources, and ongoing assessments of both physical and psychological workplace risks.

"This recognition is something we're incredibly proud of, but it's not the finish line," she said.

Trentowsky echoed that sentiment, emphasizing that continued learning, improvement and attention to detail will remain essential to the county's success.

As warden, Trentowsky also extended his gratitude to current and former county employees and councillors whose contributions helped establish and maintain the program.

"This award belongs to every employee," Wolfe said. "We're incredibly proud of this recognition, but even more proud of the people behind it."

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# Highway 59 between Shakespeare and Tavistock expected to reopen Saturday following culvert replacement

**GARY WEST**

*Gazette Correspondent*

Motorists travelling between Shakespeare and Tavistock should soon be able to return to their regular routes, with Highway 59 expected to reopen to traffic Saturday following a three-week closure for a culvert replacement.

An onsite supervisor with COPE Construction said Tuesday that crews were preparing to begin paving Thursday afternoon, with work continuing Friday before the road is expected to reopen to cars, trucks and agricultural equipment Saturday.

The project involved replacing an aging concrete culvert beneath the highway that had deteriorated to the point where replacement was necessary.

Construction crews have been working on the project for the past three weeks, with favourable weather conditions helping keep the work on schedule.

According to the construction supervisor, the project is expected to be completed within the original three-week timeline, provided the remaining paving work proceeds as planned.

The closure has forced motorists, including local farmers operating large agricultural equipment, to use alternate routes between Shakespeare and Tavistock.

Traffic has been diverted along Perth roads 106 and 108, resulting in increased vehicle volumes on those roads and affecting residents living along the detour routes.

With the highway expected to reopen Saturday, those residents should soon see traffic volumes return to normal.

The completion of the culvert replacement will also restore a direct connection between the two communities, eliminating the need for motorists to travel around the construction zone.

(GARY WEST PHOTOS)

**COPE Construction workers put the finishing touches on the culvert replacement project along Highway 59 between Shakespeare and Tavistock Monday. The highway has been closed for approximately three weeks, with crews expected to complete paving Thursday and Friday before the road reopens to traffic Saturday.**

**A COPE Construction excavator operator smooths the surrounding embankment near the newly installed concrete culvert beneath Highway 59 between Shakespeare and Tavistock. The aging culvert was replaced as part of a three-week construction project, which is expected to be completed on schedule thanks in part to favourable weather conditions.**

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# Autumn colours bring southern Perth County's countryside to life

**GARY WEST**

*Gazette Correspondent*

As September gives way to October and November approaches, the countryside throughout Perth, Oxford and Waterloo counties comes alive with the brilliant colours of autumn.

From the vibrant reds and oranges of sugar maples to the golden yellows of changing leaves, this time of year offers a reminder of just how fortunate we are to live in such a beautiful part of Ontario.

A recent drive through the countryside provided an opportunity to capture some of that natural beauty before the colourful leaves disappear and the colder days of late fall and winter arrive.

While autumn's brilliant colours never seem to last long enough, they certainly give residents and visitors plenty of reasons to get outdoors, take a drive along some of our scenic country roads and enjoy the changing seasons.

With colder temperatures and the possibility of snow just around the corner, now is the time to appreciate the colourful landscapes that make southern Perth County and its neighbouring communities such wonderful places to call home.

(GARY WEST PHOTO)

**Brilliant red, orange and yellow leaves brighten a laneway lined with sugar maple trees off Perth Road 106 in South Easthope Township, Perth East. Sugar maples are among the most colourful trees in southern Ontario during the fall, putting on a spectacular autumn display before their leaves drop ahead of winter.**

**Bright yellow sunflowers provide a cheerful contrast to the colourful autumn trees in the background at Steeplehigh Farms. The Dietrich family regularly plants sunflowers alongside oats as a cover crop following the wheat harvest, helping maintain soil structure while providing a beautiful display for passing motorists to enjoy.**

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# Waterloo Regional Police Service and Ontario Provincial Police pause Crime Stoppers partnership

## Pause comes after recent data breach

**LEE GRIFFI**

*Gazette Reporters*

The two police forces in the Gazette readership area have at least temporarily paused their relationship with Crime Stoppers following a recent data breach.

The Crime Stoppers data breach affected anonymous crime-reporting programs across Canada, including Ontario. The central concern is hackers may have exposed information people submitted expecting it to remain confidential.

On Oct. 28, Canada's federal privacy commissioner opened an investigation, and multiple Ontario police services have suspended their participation with Crime Stoppers while they assess the risks, including the Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS).

"The WRPS became aware of a cybersecurity incident involving Navigate360, the third-party provider of the P3 tip management platform used by Crime Stoppers programs across Canada. WRPS subsequently received confirmation that Waterloo Regional Crime Stoppers had been impacted," a statement from WRPS reads.

"As a precaution, WRPS suspended the promotion of Crime Stoppers as a reporting option through WRPS' public channels in early July 2026. WRPS continues to actively monitor the situation and is working with Waterloo Regional Crime Stoppers as further information about the breach becomes available and to determine the appropriate next steps."

While WRPS and Waterloo Regional Crime Stoppers work closely with a shared commitment to community safety, they remain separate organizations. Waterloo Regional Crime Stoppers is operated independently from WRPS, and the Navigate360 platform is not integrated or connected to WRPS' information technology systems and infrastructure.

"WRPS recognizes the serious concerns arising from recent reports regarding the scope and nature of the Navigate360 breach, and the importance of protecting the anonymity of individuals who have provided confidential information through Crime Stoppers. The safety of the public, those who provide tips and police personnel is WRPS' primary concern," the statement continues.

While WRPS and Waterloo Regional Crime Stoppers continue to review this breach, anyone who may wish to provide information about crime or public safety concerns is encouraged to contact them WRPS at 519-570-9777 or, in the event of an emergency, 911. While these reporting channels do not provide the anonymity associated with the Crime Stoppers program, they will ensure that the information is received by WRPS' investigators.

The Oxford detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police, and the entire force, is also very aware of the incident. The Gazette reached out to Chief superintendent Brad McCallum from the Crime Prevention and Community Support Bureau.

"While the impact of the cybersecurity incident is assessed, the OPP is pausing the promotion of the Crime Stoppers program. During this time, anyone who may wish to provide information about crime or public-safety concerns is encouraged to contact their local police service's non-emergency line. If it's the OPP, call 1-888-310-1122 or go to opp.ca/reporting to see if you can report your incident online. Only dial 911 when immediate police, fire or medical help is needed," he said.

McCallum added questions regarding the cybersecurity incident, the ongoing investigation, or the scope of any potentially affected data should be directed to the Canadian Crime Stoppers Association.

"The OPP remains focused on its public-safety mandate and will continue to work with community and policing partners, as appropriate."

The federal privacy commissioner's investigation will examine whether the company had adequate security safeguards in place when the breach occurred and whether it complied with federal privacy law.

The commissioner's office oversees compliance with two principal federal privacy laws, including the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA), which governs personal information handled by many private-sector businesses. In this case, the investigation involves PIPEDA and the conduct of Navigate360, which operates the P3 tip-management platform used by Crime Stoppers organizations.

The investigation will centre around whether or not Navigate360's security safeguards were adequate at the time of the breach. The commissioner's office has also said its engagement with Navigate360 and Crime Stoppers is focused on ensuring the breach is contained, reducing risks to affected people and preventing similar incidents in the future.

# Children's Aid Society of Oxford County proclaims Oct. 29 as Dress Purple Day

**WILMOT-TAVISTOCK GAZETTE STAFF**

*thewtgazette@gmail.com*

The Children's Aid Society of Oxford County (CAS Oxford) will recognize Oxford County's official proclamation of Thursday, Oct. 29, as Dress Purple Day, joining communities across Ontario in raising awareness of the importance of child and youth safety, wellbeing and community support.

This annual provincial campaign, organized by the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies (OACAS), aims to raise awareness about every child and youth's right to safety, wellbeing and early support systems.

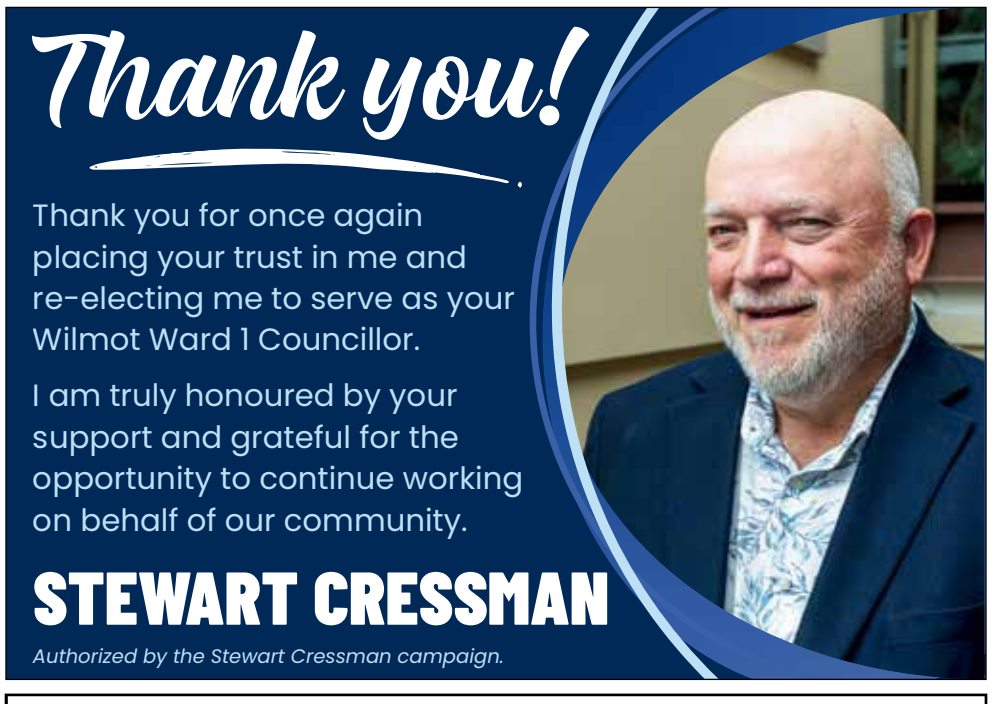
This year's theme, "It Takes a Community," shifts the focus toward collective responsibility, reminding Oxford County residents that individuals, families, educators and social service providers must work together to create a strong network of care. The Dress Purple Day campaign emphasizes that child welfare is about more than reactive protection, it is about proactive, early intervention and supporting vulnerable families before crises occur.

"Every child and young person deserves to feel safe, valued and connected to their community," said CAS Oxford CEO Tina Diamond in a press release. "That sense of belonging is strengthened when organizations, families and community members work together. Dress Purple Day reminds us that supporting children and youth is not the responsibility of any one organization. It takes an entire community, and we are fortunate to have so many partners in Oxford County who share that commitment."

CAS Oxford is calling on all businesses, schools, organizations and residents to show their support on Thursday, Oct. 29, through the following actions:

- Wear Purple: Dress in purple clothing or accessories on Oct. 29 to visibly signal to children, youth and families that they belong to a community that cares.
- Join the Conversation: Share photos and messages on social media using the hashtags #DressPurpleDay2026, #ItTakesACommunity and #HereToHelp to spread awareness.
- Promote Awareness: Share campaign messages through internal newsletters, digital boards, or local community proclamations.
- Learn and Talk: Talk with family, friends, or coworkers about child and youth rights and how community connections help families before challenges turn into crises.

Anyone who has a concern about the safety or wellbeing of a child or youth, or if their family needs support, can call the Children's Aid Society of Oxford County directly at 519-539-6176 or toll-free at 1-800-250-7010.

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# Wilmot neighbours launch 'Speed Limit Lottery' to reward safe drivers

## Cash prizes available for law-abiding drivers

**LEE GRIFFI**

*Gazette Reporter*

Tired of high-speed traffic passing by their front yards, residents on Witmer Road are taking a positive, fun approach to road safety by rewarding drivers who actually follow the speed limit.

The roadway is a busy rural residential corridor with school buses stopping daily, hidden driveways, rolling hills, blind crests and frequent use by cyclists and joggers. The concern from residents comes from the influx of heavy industrial gravel trucks, which has drastically changed road safety, thanks to the opening last August of the Hallman Pit. It is located at 1894-1922 Witmer Rd., south of Bleams Road and less than one kilometre south of Shingletown.

"Despite a strong police presence, the posted 50 km/hr residential speed limit is rarely respected," said resident Samantha Lernout. "Rather than relying solely on speed traps and tickets, neighbours have joined forces to test the power of positive reinforcement."

Local residents will periodically sit along Witmer Road with a radar gun to track oncoming traffic. If a vehicle is clocked going the posted speed limit (or no more than 5 km/hr over), the driver will be flagged for a reward. Safe drivers will receive a flyer or follow-up invite to enter their name into a community draw for a $250 cash prize.

To make the process simple and secure, volunteers will record license plates of law-abiding vehicles and leave a friendly "You've Been Caught Driving Safe!" card in the driver's mailbox (for locals) or provide a simple QR code where drivers can confirm their plate and enter the monthly draw.

"We love our community and want everyone to get home safely," said Lernout. "Punitive tickets only work when a cruiser is parked on the shoulder. We're hoping a little positive motivation creates lasting driving habits and makes our road safer for our kids, cyclists and neighbours."

She added residents hope the community-led initiative inspires drivers to slow down, enjoy the scenic drive and maybe even pocket some extra cash for keeping Witmer Road safe. Lernout said her kids get on a bus every morning, so she knows all about the issue first-hand.

"I am noticing there are some regular truck drivers, and if they are going at a good speed and I give them a good wave, they tend to do it again next time. The ones not paying attention, maybe their head is in the phone, maybe going way over the speed limit and not noticing, those ones I don't really expect us to change."

Lernout said no one wants the truckers to dislike residents, and her hope is to have them drive appropriately because they want to.

"Because they see it as something to keep us safe and because they have some form of a relationship with us. I thought it might be better to go at it with an angle like this."

Just like on many other rural roads in the area, the amount of non-truck traffic has also greatly increased in recent years, something not lost on residents, but the trucks remain the number one concern.

"We used to call the operator at the gravel pit and let them know the trucks were driving really fast and noticing they were coming sooner than the opening time. He would let us know he would deal with it, and he was very cooperative, but it wasn't solving the problem."

The speed limit in the area of hidden driveways is posted at 50 km/hr but rises to 70 km/hr on the rest of the road. Lernout said a request has been made to increase the limit to 80 km/hr. Township staff are currently reviewing the speed limit on Witmer Road to determine whether an increase is warranted. A report will be brought to council sometime in the new year.

Lernout said she consulted with the Waterloo Regional Police Service on this initiative, and they have given their blessing for the contest. The $250 prize will be awarded bi-monthly.

# Perth East firefighters honoured for years of dedicated service at annual awards banquet

**GARY WEST**

*Gazette Correspondent*

Members of the Perth East Fire Department gathered at the Shakespeare Optimist Hall last week for their annual awards banquet, recognizing the dedication and service of the volunteer firefighters who help keep township residents safe throughout the year.

The event brought together firefighters and their spouses or partners from the department's three stations in Shakespeare, Milverton and Sebringville for an evening of recognition and appreciation.

The annual banquet provides an opportunity to honour the men and women who volunteer their time to respond to fires, motor-vehicle collisions and other emergencies, often leaving their families, workplaces and personal commitments at a moment's notice.

Among those recognized during the evening was longtime Shakespeare firefighter Tim Hodgson, who recently retired after 25 years of dedicated service.

Shakespeare station chief Greg Ankenmann reflected on Hodgson's many contributions to the department, recalling how he was often among the first firefighters to arrive at the station when an emergency call came in.

Ankenmann praised Hodgson's commitment, professionalism and natural ability to respond to challenging situations, whether fighting fires or assisting at accident scenes.

He also spoke about Hodgson's friendly personality and good nature, qualities that made him a valued member of the department and someone his fellow firefighters will greatly miss.

During the ceremony, Perth East Fire Chief Bill Hunter presented Hodgson with several service awards recognizing his contributions over the past 25 years.

Hodgson was also presented with a 25-year service medal from the Province of Ontario, acknowledging his longstanding commitment to protecting his community.

In a particularly meaningful moment, Ankenmann presented Hodgson with his firefighter helmet, bearing the number 18, as a keepsake commemorating his years of service with the Shakespeare station, now known as Perth County Station 6.

Perth East Mayor Rhonda Ehgoetz was also on hand to recognize Hodgson's contributions and join department leadership in honouring his retirement.

The evening served as a reminder of the important role volunteer firefighters play in rural communities, where their dedication and willingness to respond when needed help ensure the safety and wellbeing of residents throughout Perth East.

(KRISTENE ANKENMANN PHOTO)

**Retiring Perth East firefighter Tim Hodgson was honoured for 25 years of dedicated service with the Shakespeare fire station during the department's annual awards banquet at the Shakespeare Optimist Hall last week. Hodgson was presented with his firefighter helmet, bearing the number 18, along with service awards recognizing his contributions to the community. Pictured, from left, are Hodgson, deputy chief Steve Marriott, Shakespeare station chief Greg Ankenmann and Perth East Mayor Rhonda Ehgoetz. Hodgson also received a 25-year service medal from the Province of Ontario during the ceremony.**

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# The Ceramic Man opens new location in Tavistock, offering creative opportunities for all ages

**GARY WEST**

*Gazette Correspondent*

Tavistock residents looking for a new hobby or a creative way to spend their spare time may want to stop by The Ceramic Man, a local business that has recently expanded into a new location.

Owner Chris Hilts opened his ceramics shop approximately three months ago in a building behind Tim Hortons, owned by Ross and Rose Yantzi of Pavestone Plus.

The new location offers more space for Hilts' growing collection of ceramic moulds, finished products and work areas where visitors can try their hand at painting ceramics.

With more than 8,000 moulds and counting, Hilts has a wide variety of designs available for customers interested in creating their own decorative pieces, gifts and seasonal decorations.

During a recent visit to the shop, Tavistock resident Linda LeToile was busy working on a Christmas-themed ceramic piece featuring the words "Joy to the World" and five geese waiting to be painted in festive colours.

LeToile, who has previous experience painting ceramics, said she enjoys spending time working on her projects in the shop's cozy and welcoming atmosphere.

Hilts said he outgrew his previous location and has been pleased with the increased exposure and interest his new shop has generated.

In fact, he said he has been surprised by just how busy the business has become, with more than 100 enthusiastic painters visiting each month since opening.

With Christmas approaching, customers have been busy creating unique decorations and gifts, while others are discovering ceramic painting as a new hobby.

Hilts explained that creating finished ceramics involves several steps, beginning with forming the pieces using moulds. The ceramics are then prepared for painting and finishing, with glazing and firing completed on site.

Depending on the type of ceramic and finish required, pieces may be fired in a kiln at temperatures reaching 1,840°F or as high as 2,230°F, producing a hard, durable finish.

Along with welcoming customers into his Tavistock shop, Hilts sells and ships ceramic products to customers across Canada.

Although he hopes to hold an official grand opening celebration next July, Hilts encourages local residents to stop by in the meantime and discover what ceramic painting has to offer.

The Ceramic Man is currently open Wednesday through Friday from 6-9 p.m.

For more information, contact Hilts at 519-496-3985.

(GARY WEST PHOTO)

**The Ceramic Man owner Chris Hilts welcomes local residents to his new ceramics shop behind Tim Hortons in Tavistock. The business offers a wide selection of ceramics for customers to paint and decorate, with more than 8,000 moulds available for creating unique pieces. Pictured, from left, are Brenda LeToile, Chris Hilts, Julie Hilts and Linda Skinner.**

Thank you
to Ward 4 Wilmot Township for giving me the honour to serve you again.

I also want to thank Scott, Sam, Jeff and Krista for also running as candidates in Ward 4.

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STEVEN MARTIN
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# Two local men celebrate 50 years of sobriety with help from Alcoholics Anonymous

**GARY WEST**

*Gazette Correspondent*

Two local men celebrated a remarkable milestone last week as family, friends and fellow members of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) gathered at Trinity Lutheran Church in New Hamburg to recognize their 50 years of sobriety.

Bill S. and Ross J. were each presented with a special medallion commemorating five decades without alcohol, marking an achievement both men credit to the ongoing support and fellowship they have received through AA.

The two men, who have been friends since they first began attending AA meetings more than 50 years ago, shared their personal stories with those in attendance, reflecting on the challenges they faced and the support that helped them overcome their struggles with alcohol.

Both expressed their gratitude to the organization, which they credit with helping them rebuild their lives and maintain their sobriety.

As husbands, fathers and businessmen involved in agriculture, Bill and Ross recognized that continuing to drink could have cost them their marriages, relationships with their children and close friends, and even their businesses.

Determined to make a change, they began attending several AA meetings each week, finding encouragement, friendship and a network of people who understood the challenges they were facing.

Over the years, that support became an important part of their lives, helping them maintain their sobriety while strengthening their relationships with family and friends.

Both men also completed the Dale Carnegie course, which they say helped them rebuild their confidence and develop a stronger belief in themselves as they continued their personal journeys.

Founded in 1935, Alcoholics Anonymous is an international fellowship dedicated to helping people recover from alcohol addiction. Today, the organization has a presence in more than 180 countries, with an estimated membership of more than two million people worldwide.

For Bill and Ross, the friendships they developed through AA have lasted a lifetime, including their own friendship, which began when they first sought help more than five decades ago.

Their accomplishments were celebrated by the many family members, friends and neighbours who attended the gathering in New Hamburg, offering congratulations and recognizing the determination it has taken to reach such an important milestone.

Both men hope their stories will encourage others struggling with alcohol addiction to seek help and understand that they do not have to face their challenges alone.

Anyone looking for support or information about Alcoholics Anonymous can call 1-800-706-9833.

For their families, friends and fellow AA members, Bill and Ross are an inspiration and a reminder of what can be accomplished through determination, friendship and the support of others.

(GARY WEST PHOTO)

**Bill S. and Ross J. were joined by family members, friends and fellow Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) members at Trinity Lutheran Church in New Hamburg last week, where they were presented with special medallions recognizing 50 years of sobriety. Both men expressed their gratitude for the fellowship and support they have received through AA over the past five decades.**

**Ross J. and Bill S. celebrated 50 years of sobriety during a recent Alcoholics Anonymous gathering at Trinity Lutheran Church in New Hamburg. The two men met when they began attending AA meetings more than 50 years ago and have remained friends ever since. Both worked in agriculture and credit AA, along with their participation in the Dale Carnegie course, with helping them rebuild their confidence and strengthen their relationships with family and friends.**

# District 7 fair ambassadors gather in Embro for public speaking workshop

**Thirteen fair ambassadors representing agricultural societies across District 7 of the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies (OAAS) gathered at the Embro-Zorra Community Centre Oct. 24 for an opportunity to connect with fellow ambassadors and develop their public speaking skills. The gathering, attended by representatives from 15 agricultural societies, featured an interactive public speaking workshop presented by Christopher Leadership. The 2026-2027 District 7 fair ambassadors are pictured, from left, front row: Emma Vervoort (Fergus), Evelyn Stephenson (junior ambassador, Embro), Blake Pike (junior ambassador, Burford), Lauren O'Nahr (Paris) and Sophie Pullen (Tavistock). Back row: Madeline Lichti (Wilmot/New Hamburg), Manni Hayer (Wellesley), Riley Purdie (junior ambassador, Wellesley), Alee Hargreaves (Embro), Nila Gresel (Erin), Taya Marsala (junior ambassador runner-up, Erin), Emmeline Zemmelink (Palmerston) and Caelyn McLaren (Burford).**

(WENDY RICHARDSON PHOTO)

# Grace United Church celebrates 57th anniversary with message of gratitude, hope and faith

**GARY WEST**

*Gazette Correspondent*

Members of Grace United Church in Tavistock gathered Sunday to celebrate the congregation's 57th anniversary with a special service focused on gratitude, hope, faith and the importance of maintaining a positive outlook on life.

Andrew Middleton, a lay worship leader from a United Church in nearby St. Marys, delivered the anniversary message, bringing his trademark sense of humour and relaxed demeanour to a discussion about appreciating what we have and looking toward the future with optimism.

Middleton posed a familiar question to the congregation: Is your glass half full or half empty?

He encouraged those in attendance, both young and old, to approach everyday life with gratitude, hope and faith, focusing on the blessings they have rather than dwelling on what they lack.

He also reflected on the role of the United Church in bringing people together, supporting communities and helping individuals maintain a positive outlook, even during challenging times.

Middleton emphasized the importance of faith and community service, encouraging members of the congregation to learn from the past and put those lessons to good use in the future.

A longtime member of the board of directors for Camp Bimini, a United Church summer camp located south of Stratford, Middleton also recognized the contributions of Grace United Church youth leader Carol Young, who serves as a camp leader at Bimini.

He praised Young for her continued dedication to the camp and its efforts to provide meaningful experiences for young people.

Drawing on his own experiences living in Nigeria for 12 years, Middleton reminded the congregation of the many opportunities and resources Canadians often take for granted.

He reflected on the challenges faced by residents of Nigeria who have limited access to resources, encouraging those in attendance to appreciate the advantages and opportunities available in their own communities.

Throughout the service, Middleton returned to the importance of maintaining a welcoming, positive attitude and finding reasons to be thankful each day.

The anniversary celebration also featured music by Grace United Church musician and choir director Marilyne Nystrom, whose flute and piano performances continue to be an important part of the congregation's weekly worship services.

Grace United Church holds its regular Sunday services at 10:30 a.m. in Tavistock.

(GARY WEST PHOTO)

**Andrew Middleton, a lay worship leader from St. Marys, speaks with younger members of Grace United Church in Tavistock during the congregation's 57th anniversary service Sunday. Middleton encouraged those in attendance to appreciate the blessings in their lives and approach each day with gratitude, hope, faith and a positive attitude.**

**Grace United Church musician and choir director Marilyne Nystrom shares her musical talents on the flute and piano during Sunday services at the Tavistock church. Nystrom's performances are a regular part of the congregation's weekly worship services, held each Sunday at 10:30 a.m.**

# Pumpkin Palooza brings community together

**DIANE DANEN**

*Gazette Correspondent*

Shakespeare Presbyterian Church welcomed over 50 people to Pumpkin Palooza this past Saturday for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

The intergenerational event brought people of all ages together to enjoy a variety of activities, including a scavenger hunt, pumpkin crafts, games and cookie decorating.

Those attending also gathered to hear a Pumpkin Gospel story before wrapping up the afternoon with hot dogs and treats.

(DIANE DANEN PHOTOS)

**Shelby Carson and her four-year-old daughter, Audrey Franken, make pumpkin crafts with family friend Brindley Horst, two, at Pumpkin Palooza.**

**Cristian and Leidy Fajardo enjoy decorating and sampling cookies with their sons, Santiago and Yulian, at Pumpkin Palooza.**

# OBITUARY

## Delmer Aaron Bender

passed away peacefully at his home in Nithview Long Term Care Home shortly after his 88th birthday. He was the ninth and final child of the late Aaron and Delila (Ruby) Bender. Loving and light-hearted father to Tim (Jacqueline), Chip (Wendy), Kevin (Angela), grandfather to Ashley, Mattheus, Sarah, Charlene, Simon, Abby, Levi, and Kai, great grandfather to Everleigh, Brinley, Jackson, Paisley, Sabrina, and Lily. Also survived by his last remaining sibling Hilda Roth, sisters-in-law Marie Zehr, Marion Breedon, and countless nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his wife of 44 years, Lauretta Wilker, many siblings and in-laws. He was also predeceased by his close friend Sandra Roth, with whom he shared a special bond as well as with her family.

Delmer had varied work experiences throughout his lifetime, which included a formative experience of doing Mennonite Disaster Service in Haiti. He later became a cheesemaker and then finished his career by buying and operating a dry cleaners, where he loved to interact with his customers.

During his working life and especially in retirement he enjoyed volunteering for many organizations including the New Hamburg thrift store, the New Hamburg relief sale, Interfaith Counselling Centre, Mennonite Historical Society, Wilmot Horticultural Society, and Hidden Acres Camp.

In his retirement he enjoyed spending time seeing different parts of the world and attending the sporting and school events of his grandchildren.

His other interests included collecting antiques, driving his refurbished 1930 Model A Ford in parades and for weddings, in his later years he participated in the tractor club and the tractorless club.

He was a lifelong member at East Zorra Mennonite Church where he had many close friendships and served in various roles.

Although there is no evidence to prove it, we believe he was the inventor of dad jokes, the punchline of which was always preceded by the legendary Delmer grin. All three of his children inherited this trait.

Delmer was a connoisseur of root beer and cheese, being particularly partial to limburger, which he felt the need to age until it had reached peak odor and taste.

He was an avid fan of the Jays and the Leafs, whose success he got to enjoy in his earlier years.

Visitation will be held at Mark Jutzi Funeral Home in New Hamburg on Thursday, October 29 from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. A funeral service will be held at East Zorra Mennonite Church on Friday, October 30 at 2 p.m. with burial and reception (including root beer and limburger) to follow.

In lieu of flowers you are invited to donate to Hidden Acres Camp or Mennonite Disaster Service.

Personal condolences can be posted for the family and donation information can be done through the funeral home website at www.markjutzifuneralhomes.ca

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# OBITUARY

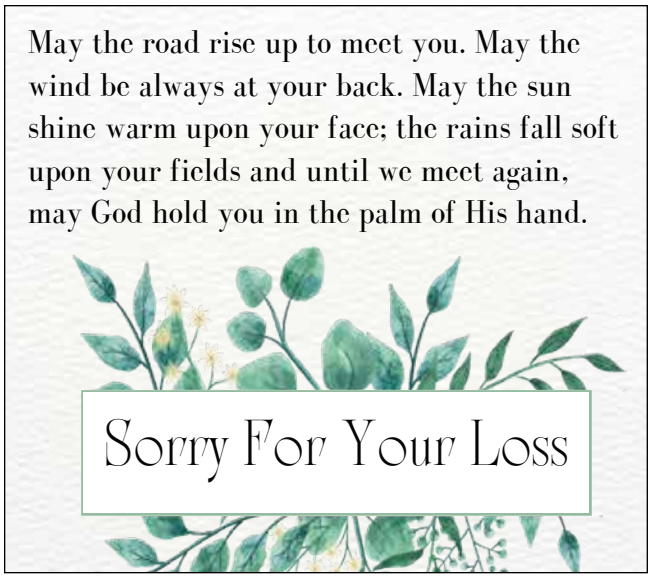
## Dr. Kenneth Hook

Dr. Kenneth Hook, age 80, of Stratford, passed away peacefully at his residence with his family by his side on Tuesday, October 20, 2026. He was born in Cape Town, South Africa, son of the late Cecil and Catherine Hook. Ken is survived by his true love and best friend, Janet. He was the proud and supportive father of Karen (Abdul) Afghan, Dave Hook and Andrea (Sean) Webster. He was a loving Poppa to Anna and Julia Afghan and Collin, Grace and Owen Webster. Ken will be fondly remembered by his siblings Margaret (Jack) Dunphy, Graham (Lillian) Hook, Peter (Norzila) Hook and their children. He will be missed by Janet's three sisters and their families. Ken was also predeceased by Janet's parents, Ray and Ruth Simpson.

Dr. Hook graduated from McGill University in 1971. He completed his residency in Family Medicine in London, ON where he met a nurse who would become his wife. In 1975, Ken and Janet were married and travelled Malawi, Africa to fulfill Ken's dream to provide medical care in an underserviced area. In 1976, Ken joined a rural practice in Tavistock, Ontario. Dr. Hook was a respected Family Physician in Tavistock for over 40 years. Here, he cared for his patients and in 1991 took on a role teaching Residents for the department of Family Medicine at the University of Western Ontario. In 1993, Dr. Hook joined the Board of the Ontario College of Family Physicians where he met and enjoyed working with another group of like-minded physicians. He served as College President from 2000-2001. Following this he enjoyed participating on several provincial working groups. Dr. Hook was pushed into retirement in 2020 when his immune system was compromised by cancer. In retirement, he has been very actively involved in the promotion of Advanced Care Planning as a volunteer with Hospice Palliative Care Ontario.

Ken's visitation was held on Tuesday, October 27, 2026 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. and 6:00 -8:00 p.m at the W. G. Young Funeral Home, 430 Huron St, Stratford. The funeral had taken place on Wednesday, October 28, 2026 at 11:00 a.m at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 41 Mornington St, Stratford, with reception following the service.

In lieu of flowers and as expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to Doctors Without Borders or to Holy Trinity Anglican Church through the funeral home. www.wgyoungfuneralhome.com




# IN MEMORIAM

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

## TOM BILINSKY

October 31, 2017

**Loved you then**
**Love you still**
**I always have**
**I always will**

*Lovingly remembered by Joan, Joanna, Mike, Kristin, Dune, Keith, Bren and Josh*

1. Who played the role of Hannah Montana?
2. Andy Bernard from "The Office", attended what University?
3. How many Prime Ministers has Canada had?
4. What year was Make-A-Wish Foundation founded?
5. What major network bought Warner Brothers?
6. What is the name of Thor's hammer?
7. A 24-clock is known as, _____ time.
8. What was Rasputin's cause of death?
9. Who was the first female commander of NASA's Space Shuttle?
10. Ascorbic acid is commonly referred to as what?

**Answers found on classified page**

by PeterS 2026

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| | | 1 | 2 | 8 | | | 6 | |
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**Answers found on classified page**

# The Old Gazettes

**By Sydney Grant**

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

**October 28 - November 4, 2021, Edition (5 years ago)**

For the past two weeks, we have combined the Wilmot Post and the Tavistock Gazette. As 95 per cent of the feedback received has supported the concept of a merged newspaper, we are going to continue this on a go-forward basis. The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette is now a free paper! In early October, we shifted the Wilmot Post from a "paid" newspaper to a "free" newspaper and our readership has greatly increased as a result. People are loving how they can easily grab a copy at local grocery stores, variety stores and we are adding more locations all the time thanks to reader suggestions.

The minimum wage across Ontario will increase to $15 per hour starting Jan. 1, 2022. Premier Doug Ford made the announcement at a Unifor meeting hall in Milton alongside Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development Monte McNaughton and Minister of Finance Peter Bethlenfalvy. "Workers deserve to have more money in their pockets because they've earned it. They've worked hard and put in long hours," said Premier Ford.

Let's Tree Wilmot member Marlene Knezevich was surprised to find four trees stolen just before the group's planting at Petersburg Park on Oct. 23. The incident occurred between Oct. 22 after 6 p.m., after volunteers had set up trees for the next day, and Oct. 23 before 8 a.m., when volunteers were prepared to plant. One White Pine, one Hemlock and two Tamerachs went missing.

**October 26 - November 2, 2011, Edition (15 years ago)**

Members of Tavistock Memorial Legion Branch 518 hosted their annual Children's Hallowe'en Party on Saturday afternoon with more than 70 children attending. Winners for best costumes in the costume parade were Liam Doan, three, (firefighter) of Tavistock; Ethan Bruinsma, four, (skeleton) of Thamesford; Jacob Jackson, eight, (wizard) of Shakespeare; and Mason Roth, 12, (Legoman) of Hickson. Morgan Griffi, 11, of Tavistock won the freeze dance. The best wrapped mummy contest went to Lea-Anne DeVouge (parent) and Katie DeVouge, 11, and Victoria Ackersviller, 12, all of Tavistock.

Tavi-Fit, Tavistock's only fitness and health centre, may have only moved three doors down the street, but it's made a real difference. The facility is bigger and brighter and allows the owners to offer many more services than previously available. Partners Sandy Haight and Marie Whitton opened the new fitness centre at 43 Woodstock St. S in Tavistock on Oct. 1, 2011. The new studio space offers onsite classes including core, ball, cardio, bootcamp, running, tush n' abs, and TRX/Pole specialty classes.

**October 23 - 30, 1996, Edition (30 years ago)**

The crowd waited breathlessly in anticipation through 25 quality shots on the Belmont goal. Finally, after 19 long minutes and 55 seconds of play, it happened. The first Braves' goal in the new arena was scored. Jeremy Bartlett popped in a rebound after shots by Todd Wilker and Trevor Ballantyne, and took his place in Braves' trivia history. The Friday night crowd of over 300 spectators was treated to a very entertaining hockey game.

Popular local children's entertainers "Picks and Sticks" held their first concert in Tavistock Public School on Thursday evening, Oct. 24, hosted by the Tavistock Public School council. An enthusiastic crowd of youngsters got down to dancing and singing along with the actions of the group's most popular songs.

# WORSHIP with us!

**TOWNSHIP OF EAST ZORRA-TAVISTOCK**

**GRACE UNITED CHURCH**
116 Woodstock St. S., Tavistock
Service starts at 10:30 am
Phone: 519-655-2151
All are welcome
Service led by Rev. Marilyn Arthur
Music by Marilyne Nystrome

**TRINITY LUTHERAN (ELCIC)**
Sebastopol - Tavistock
2210 Perth Line 29
Pastor Steve Hoffard
Worship In Person or on Zoom
Sundays at 10:00 AM
(519) 655-2372
trinitylcoffice@gmail.com
**www.trinitytavistock.com**

**TAVISTOCK MENNONITE**
Pastor Julie Ellison White
131 Wettlaufer St., Tavistock 655-2581
Sunday Worship services begin at 9:45am, with coffee and fellowship to follow at 11am.
All ages Junior Sunday School will follow after the service.
All are Welcome
**Stream services online at www.tavistockmennonitechurch.ca**

**TAVISTOCK BIBLE CHAPEL**
**32 Oxford Street, Tavistock, Ontario**
Questions or Need Help?
Text or Call: (519) 655-2413
tavistockbc.org
Family Bible Hour - 11am Each Sunday

**ST. PAUL'S EV LUTHERAN CHURCH - LCC**
Regular Service - 2 pm Sunday
19 Wellington St., Tavistock 519 276 0701
stpaulstavistock@gmail.com
Pastor Rev Michael Mayer

**EAST ZORRA MENNONITE**
677044 16th Line Road, East Zorra
Pastors Ray Martin & Mike Williamson
www.ezmennonite.ca
Service audio recordings available at:
**https://ezmennonite.ca/worship/**

**WILMOT TOWNSHIP**

**ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**
Corner of Waterloo St and Byron St, New Hamburg
Weekly Sunday services at 10:15 am.
All are welcome.
https://www.stgeorgesnewhamburg.com

**St James Chapel of Ease**
4339 Huron Rd, Wilmot Township
All are welcome.
Contact Carol Massel: 519-502-8648
carol@masselsmarine.com

**ST AGATHA MENNONITE CHURCH**
1967 Erb's Road St Agatha 519-634-8212
Pastor Jim Brown
Worship service 10am followed by coffee hour and sermon discussion.
All are welcome

**OASIS MENNONITE CHURCH**
**66 Mill Street, Baden, ON**
Sunday School at 10:15 AM
Worship service at 11:00 AM
Pastors: Richard Bean and Gabriel Jantzi
**www. oasismennonite.com**

**To have your place of worship listing included here, please contact thewtgazette@gmail.com**

**SEND STORY IDEAS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO GALEN SIMMONS AT GALEN@GRANTHAVEN.COM**

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette SPORTS

# PJHL roundup: Braves drop a pair of weekend games; division lead down to two points

(ALEC RICHARD PHOTOS)

**Jack Hodge fires a shot from the blueline during the Tavistock Braves' 4-3 overtime loss against the Norwich Merchants Oct. 25.**

**Members of the Tavistock Braves celebrate one of their goals during their Oct. 25 game against the Norwich Merchants.**

**LEE GRIFFI**
*Gazette Reporter*

Two weekend losses by Tavistock, combined with a Wellesley victory, have tightened the Provincial Junior Hockey League's (PJHL) Doherty Division standings and just three points separate first from third.

The Braves dropped a 5-0 home-ice decision to Paris on Friday before losing 4-3 in overtime in Norwich on Sunday afternoon.

The Mounties held leads of 1-0 after the first and 4-0 after 40 minutes. Tavistock outshot Paris 34-27 but weren't able to beat Owen Closs, who earned his first shutout of the season.

On Sunday, a third-period goal by Keenan McGrath forced the extra period in Norwich, but Tyler McDole scored for the Merchants in overtime while Tavistock's Jacob Skuta sat in the penalty box after taking a cross-checking minor.

Nolan Miller, a Stratford native and son of former NHL linesman Steve Miller, led the Braves with three assists and now has 11 points on the season. Tucker Otto and McGrath added two points apiece.

Braves general manager Brent Lange said his team deserved to lose on Friday.

"We didn't play well as a team, and the guys were getting too comfortable. We can't think it is going to be handed to us each night. Paris came out hard, and their goalie played well also."

He added Tavistock needs to bring its A-game night in and night out if they want to be a top team in the league or in the province.

"Teams will be gunning for us. That's a good problem to have and a sign of respect. We did bring a better effort on Sunday, then took a dumb penalty in overtime that cost us. We're a bit banged up right now and have three or four key players out currently. But we will be fine."

The Braves have acquired defenceman Joshua Wilkie from the Hespeler Shamrocks in exchange for a Player Development Fee. The Markham native joins the Braves after suiting up 40 times last season for the Shamrocks, tallying four points.

"He's a nice add to our D core. He brings in a veteran presence, and he's just a good, stable, stay-at-home D-man at six foot five. He keeps it simple and he brings good size to our backend. As we learned last year in the playoffs, it's always good to have reinforcements on the backend to be safe," added Lange.

The Braves haven't needed to remove or release anyone from their roster since the start of the season.

"All in all, we will be fine and bounce back here. Nothing is won in October. One game at a time and we will bounce back and be fine."

Wellesley began the weekend with a 3-0 loss at home to New Hamburg on Saturday. The game was scoreless through 40 minutes, but Kaiden Cormier scored his 14th and 15th goals of the season in the third period while Rhett Calder earned his fourth of the campaign. Deklan Jermol stopped 37 shots for the Firebirds as he earned his second shutout of the season and lowered his goals-against average to 2.80.

The Applejacks bounced back with a 4-1 victory in Hespeler on Sunday. Luke Schofield picked up a hat trick to lead Wellesley as Brock Schauss stopped 34 of 35 Shamrock shots. He now has a goals-against average of 2.31 with a save percentage of .928 in five appearances.

New Hamburg kicked off the weekend with a 5-2 home win over Hespeler. Jack MacDonald, Jayden Fischer, Tate Davidson and Cormier each had two points to lead the attack. Jermol was again solid as he kicked out 35 of 37 shots to earn the win.

The Firebirds sit just a single point behind Wellesley in the Doherty and have a game in hand over the Applejacks.

**SOUTH - DOHERTY** gamesheetstats.com

| RK | TEAM | GP | W | L | OTL | T | OTW | PTS | SOW | SOL | GF | GA | DIFF | PCT | PIM | RW | ROW | STK |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Tavistock Braves | 13 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 62 | 32 | +30 | .846 | 329 | 9 | 10 | Lost 2 |
| 2 | Wellesley Applejacks | 14 | 10 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 20 | 1 | 0 | 60 | 43 | +17 | .714 | 336 | 8 | 9 | Won 1 |
| 3 | New Hamburg Firebirds | 13 | 9 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 19 | 0 | 1 | 57 | 42 | +15 | .731 | 185 | 8 | 9 | Won 2 |
| 4 | Norwich Merchants | 14 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 14 | 2 | 0 | 42 | 62 | -20 | .500 | 358 | 3 | 5 | Won 2 |
| 5 | Dorchester Dolphins | 13 | 5 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 1 | 51 | 57 | -6 | .423 | 305 | 5 | 5 | Won 1 |
| 6 | Paris Mounties | 14 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 1 | 47 | 59 | -12 | .357 | 332 | 4 | 4 | Lost 1 |
| 7 | Hespeler Shamrocks | 13 | 2 | 9 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 36 | 60 | -24 | .231 | 261 | 2 | 2 | Lost 4 |

# Carter Maue wins gold in OFSAA boys golf

**SPENCER SEYMOUR**

*Sports Director*

Carter Maue of St. Agatha and student at Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School (W-ODSS) captured a gold medal at the OFSAA golf competition Oct. 14-15 at Ambassador Golf Club in Windsor.

Maue entered OFSAA striving for a podium finish, but his performance soon showed he could genuinely contend with the open-level division golfers.

"I have been working on my iron play and around the greens, and I feel very confident in those areas now," said Maue. "My hope going in was to win, or at least be in the top three, but after the first round was so good, I was really hoping to score better than the open-level players attending the tournament. I felt good in most areas of play; my game progressively got better throughout the day, and I kept calm and really kept my focus on the game."

Maue further described what was working so well for him, especially during the first day of the tournament.

"I have been practicing this sport for so long that I have been able to improve all areas of my game," Maue said. "I feel like I was able to play well considering the windy conditions, and I was able to avoid most of the bunkers. I am generally a strong golfer off the tee, and my short game has been good. These two areas of strength made me a competitive golfer at OFSAA."

Val Pedley, W-ODSS golf coach, described Maue's strengths as a golfer.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

**Carter Maue won the gold medal at the OFSAA golf competition Oct. 14-15 at Ambassador Golf Club in Windsor.**

"Carter has been part of the Waterloo-Oxford golf team for three years," Pedley told the Gazette. "Overall, Carter has really developed his skills further over that time and become more consistent, and his ability to gauge and strategize the next move has improved greatly."

Pedley added Maue was an early favourite to have success at OFSAA from the beginning of the year.

"Carter has stood out since the beginning of golf tryouts as a real contender for OFSAA," Pedley said. "His consistency was demonstrated early at WCSSAA and at CWOSSA. His confidence was evident as he started each round, and his game only got better throughout."

Maue called the OFSAA win an exciting conclusion to the golf season.

"This is a good way to end the golf season. I have been part of other tournaments during this golf season and was not able to qualify to move on with the high level of competition. This was an opportunity for me to end the season on a high note.

"My family has a history of being part of high school golf. My father and my two brothers have been part of boys' golf in high school, and all went on to play at CWOSSA. My brother, Brett, also had the chance to compete at OFSAA. My family had such a great experience themselves, and they were excited for me when I qualified to compete."

Maue also highlighted the importance that golf holds to his family, who have owned golf courses across the Waterloo Region and currently own Creekside Golf Course in Woodstock, and how his grandfather and 2026 PGA Ontario Hall of Fame inductee, Gus Maue, played a role in helping him develop into such a strong golfer.

"I grew up around golf, and I have been more interested in the sport in the last four years. When I was younger, I spent more time playing hockey than golf. But in the last four years, I have changed my focus to spend more time playing golf. My grandfather has more recently been coaching me with my game, and I appreciate the time and advice he has given me."

# Royals suffer first OEHL loss

**LEE GRIFFI**

*Gazette Reporter*

The Ontario Elite Hockey League's (OEHL) South Division is a tight one in the early stages of the season as Tavistock finds itself in the middle of the pack following a 4-3 loss to Petrolia on home ice Saturday.

The Royals now sit in fifth place in the division with four points, but they have two games in hand on Seaforth and three games in hand on Dunnville, the two teams tied for first.

Tyler Schwindt scored his second goal of the season on a feed from Mitch Atkins just past the 11-minute mark of the first period before the Squires tied it up heading into the second frame. Petrolia took a 2-1 lead in the second, but Sam Rhodes' goal deadlocked the game at 2-2 after 40 minutes.

The Squires scored two straight goals in the third period before Atkins found the back of the net on a penalty shot with 90 seconds remaining, but the Royals couldn't score again to force overtime. Tavistock outshot Petrolia 44-37.

Deven Kropf leads the OEHL with nine assists in three games and sits fifth in the scoring race. Goalie Andrew Masters is the ninth-ranked goalie in the league with a 2.33 goals-against average and a .939 save percentage along with one shutout.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF TAVISTOCK ROYALS)

**Tavistock Minor Hockey player Emerson Dronfield (forefront) was the Royals flagbearer on Saturday night as Tavistock dropped a 4-3 decision to Petrolia.**

# Ontario Pork Congress celebrates successful 2026 event and $52,000 raised for Emily Murphy Centre

**GARY WEST**

*Gazette Correspondent*

The Ontario Pork Congress (OPC) is celebrating another successful year, both financially and through its continued support of local charitable organizations.

Members and volunteers of the long-standing agricultural organization gathered at Stratford's Arden Park Hotel Monday evening for their annual general meeting, where they reflected on the success of the 2026 event and welcomed a new executive for the coming year.

Those in attendance heard from representatives of accounting firm MNP, who presented the organization's financial results and confirmed another successful year for the annual agricultural showcase.

Outgoing OPC president Victoria Stewart thanked the many volunteers, exhibitors and organizers who helped make the two-day event a success, despite some challenges along the way.

Stewart said favourable weather leading up to the June event allowed many pork producers to catch up on work around their farms, giving them and their employees an opportunity to attend the congress, explore new agricultural innovations and reconnect with neighbours and industry representatives.

Among the highlights of this year's event was the popular Taste the Best showcase, which attracted a large crowd eager to sample locally produced pork prepared by Stratford-area restaurants and food vendors.

The Bacon Maker Classic youth pig show was another crowd favourite, with young 4-H members proudly displaying their projects before an enthusiastic audience of family members and supporters.

Stewart also noted the success of the biosecurity measures implemented during the event, helping ensure the safety of participating animals and producers.

She emphasized that the continued success of the Ontario Pork Congress would not be possible without the dedication of its many volunteers, who contribute countless hours to organizing and hosting the annual event.

The meeting also provided an opportunity to recognize the charitable impact of the annual Hog Jog and Wiener Run, held each June in conjunction with the Ontario Pork Congress.

This year's event raised more than $52,000 in support of the Emily Murphy Centre in Stratford.

Centre executive director Lisa Wilde attended Monday's meeting to personally thank OPC members, volunteers, runners and sponsors for their generosity.

Wilde said the funds will support the development of tiny homes behind the centre's property at 67 Barron St., providing additional housing opportunities for families in need.

Over the years, the Hog Jog has supported numerous local organizations, including area food banks, Shelterlink, the Alzheimer Society, the Stratford General Hospital Foundation and Stratford's Optimism Place women's shelter.

(GARY WEST PHOTO)

**Members of the 2027 Ontario Pork Congress executive gathered at the organization's annual general meeting Monday evening at Stratford's Arden Park Hotel. Pictured, from left, are Victoria Stewart (past president), Mike Mitchell (director), Samantha Villeneuve (board secretary), Mandy Ropp (second vice president), Abel Lopez (first vice president), David Ross (president), Sabina Czacher-Mills (director), Maddy Merrick (director) and Matt Aarts (treasurer), a Tavistock resident. Absent is Henry Groenestege (director).**

The Ontario Pork Congress also introduced its 2027 executive, with David Ross taking over as president from Stewart.

"We have a strong OPC executive board, and I am confident we will put on a stellar OPC show in 2027," Ross said. "I am asking our board to consider if there are any new features we could add or old elements we should end to help provide more value to support producers and exhibitors in 2027."

The 2027 Ontario Pork Congress will return to the Stratford Rotary Complex June 16 and 17, 2027, bringing together pork producers, industry representatives, agricultural businesses and visitors for another two days of education, innovation and community involvement.

# Lynn River Farm near Stratford earns provincial award for culinary agritourism

**GARY WEST**

*Gazette Correspondent*

A Perth County farm known for offering unique dining experiences featuring locally grown ingredients has earned provincial recognition for its contributions to culinary tourism.

Lindsay and Mike Higgins, owners of Lynn River Farm in North Easthope Township, recently travelled to Ottawa where their business received a first-place Ontario culinary agritourism award during a gala celebration.

Located on Vivian Line between Stratford and Shakespeare, Lynn River Farm was nominated by Perth County Tourism in recognition of the couple's efforts to promote local food, agriculture and tourism.

The Higgins family has built a successful culinary tourism business around its farm-to-table dining experiences, welcoming visitors from across Ontario and beyond to enjoy carefully prepared meals in a picturesque rural setting.

During a recent interview, Lindsay and Mike Higgins said they hosted 48 farm dining events in 2025, welcoming approximately 1,435 guests throughout the season.

With another busy season wrapping up, the couple expects those numbers to be even higher in 2026.

Their six-course dinners feature seasonal ingredients sourced almost entirely from Ontario, with approximately 25 local producers contributing ingredients to the menus offered between May and October.

Lindsay said roughly 99 per cent of the ingredients used in their meals come from Ontario, with spices and olive oil among the few exceptions sourced from outside Canada.

The couple's commitment to local food extends beyond the dinner table.

By purchasing ingredients from nearby farmers and producers, they help support the regional agricultural economy while significantly reducing the distance food travels before reaching their guests.

They also emphasize sustainability through careful menu planning, appropriate portion sizes and the use of seasonal ingredients to minimize food waste.

Any food scraps generated during meal preparation are fed to the farm's poultry, while rotational grazing practices help improve soil health and support biodiversity.

For the Higgins family, however, the experience is about much more than serving an excellent meal.

Their goal is to help guests develop a stronger appreciation for local agriculture, understand where their food comes from and discover the many businesses and attractions throughout Perth County.

That message is reaching visitors from well beyond the local area.

According to the couple's guest records, approximately half of their visitors come from Perth County, including Stratford and St. Marys. Another 18 per cent travel from the Kitchener-Waterloo area, 11 per cent from Oxford County, eight per cent from New Hamburg and Wellesley, five per cent from Toronto and four per cent from the London area.

Other guests travel from elsewhere in Ontario and across North America, often discovering the farm through its website or email communications.

Though reservations sometimes arrive

*Continued to page 21*

(GARY WEST PHOTO)

**Lindsay and Mike Higgins, owners of Lynn River Farm in North Easthope Township, recently received a provincial culinary agritourism award during a gala celebration in Ottawa. The couple was nominated by Perth County Tourism in recognition of their contributions to promoting local food, agriculture and tourism through their popular farm-to-table dining experiences near Stratford and Shakespeare.**

*Continued from page 20*

just two weeks before a scheduled dinner, the Higgins family encourages guests to book one or two months in advance.

Their outdoor dining experiences feature six-course meals prepared over an open hardwood fire, with guests enjoying the surrounding countryside, nearby wildlife and spectacular sunsets overlooking the water.

The couple's three sons, Blake, 12, Dylan, 11, and Sam, seven, also help with the family operation, along with Lindsay's sister, Jen McKone.

For Lindsay and Mike Higgins, receiving provincial recognition is an honour that reflects their ongoing commitment to celebrating the people, farms and communities that make Perth County such a special place to visit.

Through their culinary experiences, they hope to continue encouraging guests to explore the region, support local businesses and develop a deeper connection with the agricultural community.

(GARY WEST PHOTOS)

**The outdoor dining tent at Lynn River Farm provides a picturesque setting for visitors to enjoy six-course meals prepared with ingredients sourced from local farmers and producers. Pictured preparing for a recent dinner for 40 guests are Mike and Lindsay Higgins and their three sons, Blake, 12, Dylan, 11, and Sam, seven. Missing from the photo is Lindsay's sister, Jen McKone, who also helps with the family business. Guests enjoy views of the surrounding countryside, nearby wildlife and sunsets over the water while experiencing some of the best food Perth County has to offer.**

**The Higgins family prepares a six-course farm-to-table dinner in the outdoor kitchen at Lynn River Farm, where meals are cooked over an open hardwood fire. Located on Vivian Line in North Easthope Township, the award-winning culinary tourism destination welcomed approximately 1,435 guests during 48 dining events in 2025. Owners Lindsay and Mike Higgins source nearly all their ingredients from Ontario, including products from approximately 25 local producers, while emphasizing sustainability, seasonal menus and support for the regional agricultural economy.**

# Gazette Puzzles

## HALLOWEEN

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| R | Y | Y | S | T | R | I | C | K | O | R | T | R | E | A | T | D | F | V | C |
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**Bat**
**Black Cat**
**Cauldron**
**Candy**
**Ghost**
**Halloween**
**Haunted House**
**Jack O Lantern**
**Pumpkin**
**Skeleton**
**Spider**
**Trick Or Treat**
**Vampire**
**Werewolf**
**Witch**

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# Pet of the Week

## NOTTINGHAM

Meet Nottingham, a two-year-old cat with a gentle soul and a heart full of potential. While he may be a little shy when meeting new people, this sweet boy blossoms with patience and understanding. Once he feels safe, Nottingham's affectionate and friendly personality begins to shine. He's looking for a calm home with adults or older children where he can settle in at his own pace and build confidence. For someone willing to give him a little extra time, Nottingham promises to be a loyal companion and a truly rewarding friend. Meet Nottingham by contacting our Kitchener Centre or online at kwsphumane.ca/adopt/cats

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# Craving some candy-apple love

## HEAPS OF HEALTHY TIPS

By Mercedes Kay Gold

Halloween is a beloved yearly holiday, and nothing is more fun than choosing a costume and carving pumpkins – except maybe all that candy.

In the Middle Ages, poor people and children went door-to-door offering prayers for the dead in exchange for sweet breads called soul cakes. Others performed in exchange for food and money.

Trick-or-treating began in the 1900s with a darker history. Children broke windows and started fires on Hallows' Eve, and people began giving out treats to put an end to the destructive behavior.

Post World War II, sugar was no longer rationed, and trick-or-treating became a community event. The '70s and the surge in factory-made food changed the Halloween treat forever. Handmade cookies, fruit and nuts were replaced with individual packages of refined sugar, synthetic-coloured and chemical-filled treats.

As a holistic nutritionist, I love walking. It gives me a sense of community and it's fun to do as a family, but I encourage people every Halloween to hand out healthier options. They are readily available. Candy is available free of synthetic dyes, corn syrup and with lower sugar. There are dairy- and gluten-free options, even organic and non-GMO.

Autumn and apple season plus Halloween have me dreaming of nostalgic candy apples, but that's a fright! Original candy apples had the goodness of the granny smith but an insane amount of granulated sugar, corn syrup, heavy cream, butter and dreaded dye.

Let's make a healthy version of the candy apple. There is no shortage of candy-apple combinations but here's my top three! They will stay fresh for a week in an airtight, sealed container.

Apples are nutrient dense, high in pectin or fabulous fiber and vitamin C. Dates are a digestive dream as well as packed with potassium. Natural nut butters add to our plant-based protein and good fats. Coconut is another fabulous fat with a side of liver love, and choosing chocolate with a higher cacao mass adds antioxidants and magnesium.

**Nutty candy apple love**

***Ingredients:***

- 4 apples of choice
- 1 ½ cups of pitted medjool dates
- ½ cup non-dairy milk of choice
- 4 tablespoons of natural smooth peanut butter*
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- ¼ tsp sea salt
- Crushed peanuts**
- Popsicle sticks

***Directions:***

1. Soak the pitted dates in the milk for at least an hour. Drain and squeeze the dates to remove any excess moisture.
2. In a food processor, combine the dates, nut butter, salt and vanilla.
3. Process until perfectly smooth.
4. Insert a popsicle stick into the stem of each apple.
5. Coat each apple with date mixture.
6. Roll through the crushed peanuts.
7. Place on a tray and refrigerate for up to a day.
8. Serve and enjoy!

*Use nut-free butter alternatives such as soy faux nut butter or sunflower butter.

**Roll in raw sunflower seeds as a peanut-free alternative.

**Coconut candy apples**

***Ingredients:***

- 4 apples of choice
- 1½ cups pitted medjool dates
- ½ cup full fat coconut milk
- 1 tsp coconut oil
- 1 cup of sulfite-free shredded coconut

***Directions:***

1. Soak the pitted dates in the milk for at least an hour.
2. Drain and squeeze the dates to remove and excess moisture.
3. In a food processor, combine the dates, coconut oil, salt and vanilla.
4. Process until perfectly smooth.
5. Insert a popsicle stick into each stem.
6. Coat each apple with the mixture
7. Roll in the shredded coconut.
8. Refrigerate at least a day.
9. Enjoy and serve!

**Chocolate candy apples**

***Ingredients:***

- 1 ½ cups pitted medjool dates
- ½ tsp sea salt
- 340 grams of chocolate 75% cocoa mass minimum
- 1 cup of chocolate chips or caramel chocolate chips

***Directions:***

1. Soak the pitted dates in the milk for at least an hour.
2. Drain and squeeze the dates to remove and excess moisture.
3. In a food processor, combine the dates, coconut oil, salt and vanilla.
4. Process until perfectly smooth.
5. Insert a popsicle stick into each stem.
6. Coat each apple with date mixture.
7. Melt the chocolate and dip the apples.
8. Cool the dipped apple before rolling in the mini chocolate chips.
9. Refrigerate at least a day.
10. Serve and enjoy!

Happy holistic Halloween. This holiday treat follows the 80/20 rule. Eat healthy and, from time to time, indulge but still choose the best option!

(MERCEDES KAY GOLD PHOTO)

**Try a uniquely health spin on the candy apple this Halloween!**

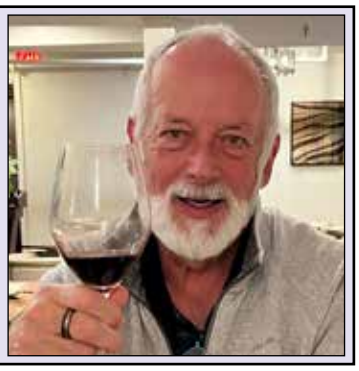
## SHOW US YOUR WILMOT

(PHOTO COURTESY OF SHOW US YOUR WILMOT)

**THE SPOOKY SEASON IS IN THE AIR! Morning dew highlights a delicate spider web against a backdrop of vibrant fall colours in this seasonal scene shared by April Willsey to the Show Us Your Wilmot Facebook page on Oct. 27.**

# The incredible dining options in a small town in the Gatineau region

## OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO



**By Paul Knowles**

Roberto Catervi is an Italian, Michelin Star chef. He won that highly prestigious honour at the age of 27 in his restaurant in Rome, Italy. He told us, "I have loved food since I was very young."

Today, Roberto is making pizza in a small Canadian town. And behind this, there is a story.

It's actually a love story in two parts. It starts in his restaurant in Rome where a Canadian tourist, Geneviève Parent, came to dine. She was so impressed with the meal that she sent a glass of wine back to the chef. He was so impressed with the gesture that he came out to thank her and their lives changed because they fell in love and he followed her back to Canada and married her.

That's Roberto's first love story. The second has to do with the small town in which they now live and work, Chelsea, Que., only about 20 minutes from Parliament Hill in Ottawa. Chelsea (also apparently known as Old Chelsea) is in the Gatineau Region, an area famous for hiking, biking, cross-country skiing, birding, beaching and all manner of outdoor activities. Roberto told me, "I like living in the park. … We don't regret moving to Canada at all."

Chelsea is mere minutes from the ominous iron gates that guard Harrington Lake, the country retreat of Canadian prime ministers. And while uninvited visitors are not welcomed past those gates, Chelsea residents will tell you that prime ministers, past and present, frequently pop into town for a meal or a beverage.

That is not surprising because Chelsea offers some of the best eating options we have ever encountered, including, of course, Roberto Pizza Romano. This is pizza like you have never encountered before – Roman style, prepared with an infinite variety of ingredients and served in squares. We opted for five different options, each divided in half so we could sample all five tastes. They tasted like "more."

Geneviève staffs the food counter; she told us Roberto is constantly creating, using local ingredients. "Our food counter is never the same," she said. So, I'm not going to recommend any specific pizza because the pizzas may have changed by the time you get there. But I promise it will be equally amazing.

You can eat indoors, but in fine weather, most guests opt for the patio in the lovely gardens. Except for a break in November, the restaurant is open year round.

Geneviève was delighted to tell us that she and Roberto now own the building that houses their restaurant after leasing for a number of years. They have no intention of depriving Chelsea of their amazing restaurant.

Honestly, while Roberto and Geneviève's restaurant may be our favourite in Chelsea, because who doesn't love a great love story, they are not alone in making this community a food-lovers' heaven. Just outside town is the award-winning Les Fougères (The Ferns). Here, Chef Simon Beaudry creates culinary masterpieces using seasonal and regional ingredients, including food from his extensive (and beautiful) gardens that surround the restaurant.

We hugely enjoyed meals that included artisanal bread, wild-caught Atlantic halibut, Gaspesian bluefin tuna crudo, and ravioli with scallops, shrimp, cod and mussels. Yum!

And one thing that Les Fougères has in common with all of the eateries we visited in Chelsea is terrific, personal service. Ten out of 10 in every place.

Less upscale but a lot of fun is the Chelsea Pub, where in good weather, you can dine on the deck and watch the other tourists pass by – and also the locals! We met a lot of locals who are fully aware of the quality of food being served in their little town.

We opted for traditional pub food; I tried to order ribs, which are smoked on site, but they are so popular they were sold out and off the menu for a few days. Our fluently bilingual server (the norm here) recommended the pulled pork poutine. Well, we were in Québec, so it seemed almost obligatory. It was amazing and even I could not quite finish the serving!

Our fourth meal in Chelsea was at Biscotti & Cie (Biscotti & Company), where we had breakfast – delicious pastries, tea and coffee. But don't let the name "Biscotti" fool you; this is another excellent wood-fired pizza restaurant, with lots of other options.

People come to Chelsea to enjoy Gatineau Park, hiking, biking, skiing and swimming. There is also a thriving arts community. And yes, we did visit art galleries, we did hike and we did enjoy the forests and especially the lakes (Meech Lake, Pink Lake, the Gatineau River and other lakes are within minutes of downtown Old Chelsea), but we would encourage visitors to be sure to set aside time and opportunity to explore the culinary opportunities offered in this amazing small town.

You'll travel a long way before you find a small, friendly community with dining opportunities like Roberto Pizza, Les Fougères, the Chelsea Pub and Biscotti & Cie, and there are still more. We just didn't get to all of them, which seems a shame.

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

(PAUL KNOWLES PHOTOS)

**Michelin Star chef Roberto Catervi and Geneviève Parent, the owners of Roberto Pizza Romano in Chelsea, Que.**

**Roberto Pizza Roman, home of incredible, unique pizzas.**

**Les Fougères restaurant where award-winning chef Simon Beaudry produces culinary masterpieces.**

**Geneviève Parent at the food counter of Roberto Pizza with the incredible array of taste options.**

# Let's Tree Wilmot's Fall Celebration featuring 'A Dating Service for Lonely Elms'

CHRYSTINA MCNEIL

*Let's Tree Wilmot*

The American elm, or white elm, used to be quite common in Ontario, lining small-town streets, country roads and open farm fields with massive, vase-shaped canopies. Before the Dutch elm disease, the American elm was one of Ontario's largest native trees. Some of the mature surviving trees have trunks of more than 4.5 metres in circumference!

The American elm is a keystone species, providing a source of food and nesting habitat for several birds and small mammals. They are also host to butterflies, moths and other insects. The odourless, tough wood was also historically important for commercial uses.

The Dutch elm disease, an invasive fungal disease, swept into Ontario in the mid-1960s and decimated over 80 per cent of Ontario's elm population. Millions of large, mature elms were lost, and many more were cut down in a desperate effort to stop the spread of the fungus.

Henry Kock, the University of Guelph's arboretum interpretive horticulturalist, noticed that some elms had survived the waves of Dutch elm disease that had devastated Ontario's elm population. He wondered why these trees had survived and what could be done to bring mature elms back to Ontario's forests, roadsides and hedgerows.

That question became the foundation of the Elm Recovery Project, established in 1998. Over the past three decades, the project has focused on finding these survivor elms, learning from them, collecting and conserving their genetic material, and identifying trees with the potential to contribute to the recovery of the species.

The project has found and evaluated a remarkable number of survivor elms and archived their genetics in a pollen orchard. They are now moving into the next phase of the project: the seed.

Alison Morrison, current University of Guelph arboretum manager and ISA certified arborist, will be the guest speaker at Let's Tree Wilmot's (LTW) Fall Celebration. She will be telling us more about the Elm Recovery Project and how we can use the genetic diversity held within these survivor elms to support the long-term recovery of American elm, not simply by putting more cloned elms back into the landscape, but by giving them the genetic foundation to survive, reproduce and, once again, grow old.

Join us on Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 7 p.m. to celebrate the accomplishments of LTW over the past year and learn more about we can help save this keystone species, and all the native wildlife white elm's support. Visit letstreewilmot.ca/events for more information.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF LET'S TREE WILMOT)

**Let's Tree Wilmot's Fall Celebration will feature Alison Morrison, University of Guelph arboretum manager and ISA certified arborist, as guest speaker. Morrison will speak about the Elm Recovery Project and how to reintroduce elms to the area without them being susceptible to Dutch elm disease.**

Alzheimer Society
HURON PERTH

2026 DEMENTIA EDUCATION NIGHT

Join on ZOOM for an evening with
Dr. Heather Keller, RD, PhD
Professor and Schlegel Research Chair,
Unitversity of Waterloo

Diet and Brain Health

HOW WE SHOULD EAT AS WE AGE

FREE! Register Today

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 5
7:00 - 8:30 PM

REGISTRATION: www.bit.ly/Dementia-Night2026

For more information, contact Alzheimer Society Huron Perth
info@alzhp.ca | 1-800-561-5012

Central Huron
EVENT SPONSOR

# Pumpkin carving event draws families in New Hamburg

(OPTIMIST CLUB OF NEW HAMBURG FACEBOOK PHOTO)

**Families gathered outside Wilmot Township Fire Station 3 in New Hamburg for the New Hamburg Optimists' annual Pumpkin Carving Event, enjoying an evening of Halloween fun, costumes and activities for all ages.**

WILMOT-TAVISTOCK GAZETTE STAFF

*thewtgazette@gmail.com*

Beautiful weather and a great turnout of people young and old helped make the New Hamburg Optimists' annual Pumpkin Carving Event a success. Held at Wilmot Township Fire Station 3, the free family event invited participants to pick up a pumpkin, carve it at home and return in costume with their creations. The evening featured a children's costume contest, loot bags, face painting, Zombie Walks and fire truck demonstrations, offering plenty of Halloween fun for the whole family.

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR - OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2026

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

**Ostomy Support Group Meeting**
**7 p.m.**
Speaker – Kimberley Toohey RD, Dietician
'Dietary concerns and considerations for ostomates'
Social time and snacks. Everyone welcome.
(519)273-4327
*93 Morgan St., Stratford*

**Perth East council meeting**
**7 p.m.**
*Council chambers*
*25 Mill Street East, Milverton*

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

**East Zorra-Tavistock Council meeting**
**9 a.m.**
*Council Chambers*
*89 Loveys Street East, Hickson*

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

**Remembrance Day 2026 Wreath Laying Service**
**1 p.m.**
For more information, call Mary Boland 519-655-2992
Lawn signs and Poppy Lawn Ornaments are now being sold in support of the Legion. For more information contact Mary Boland.
*Tavistock Memorial Legion*
*223 Hope St. W Tavistock*

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

**Wilmot Council meeting**
**6-7 p.m.**
*Council chambers*
*60 Snyder's Road W., Baden*

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

**Free "Explore Your Future" career expo for Gr 7-12 students/parents**
**5-8 p.m.**
bepwr.ca/eyf
*Tapestry Hall,*
*74 Grand Avenue South, Cambridge, ON*

**Wellesley Council meeting**
**6:45 p.m.**
*Council chambers*
*4805 William Hastings Line, Crosshill*

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10 CON'T

**Let's Tree Wilmot Celebration of Accomplishments and Volunteers**
**7-9 p.m.**
Join us for a fun evening celebrating LTW's accomplishments and recognizing our volunteers. Our guest speaker for the evening will be Alison Morrison, from the U. of Guelph's Arboretum 'Dating Service for Lonely Elms: the Arboretum's Elm Recovery Project.
*Wilmot Rec Complex, Baden, Meeting Room A*
*1291 Nafziger Road, Baden*

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

**Community Care Concepts Lunch and Fellowship**
**12 p.m.**
Please register by Nov. 6 by calling 519-664-1900 or Toll Free: 1-855-664-1900
*Wellesley Recreation Complex,*
*1401 Queen's Bush Rd., Wellesley*

**Tavistock Men's Club Sauerkraut & BBQ Pork Chop Supper**
**4 - 7 pm (Pick Up Only)**
Tickets are available until November 10th from club members or call 519-655-3573 or at Tavistock arena booth or email: info@tavistockmensclub.ca or online at www.tavistockmensclub.ca or at Men's Club Hall (78 Woodstock St N) every Wednesday from 4-6 pm and Saturdays from 11am-2pm
*Tavistock Memorial Hall, 3 Adam St., Tavistock*

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

**High Noon Community Lunch**
**12 noon**
ATTENTION SENIORS!
Speaker: Jean Aitcheson
"Stratford Mission Depot"
*Grace United Church Tavistock*
*116 Woodstock St. South, Tavistock*

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

**The Catholic Women's League of Saint Joseph's Catholic Church Annual Christmas Market\Bazaar**
**9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**
Free admission. Crafts, baking, Silent Auction, lunch in the Church hall available for purchase. All proceeds allow the women to donate back to the church and community.
*Saint Joseph's Catholic Church*
*96 Huron St., Stratford*

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21 CON'T

**Christmas Bazaar**
**10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**
Bake Tables, Penny Sale, Raffle with top prize of $700.00, Lunch Tables.
*Holy Family Church 329 Huron St ,*
*New Hamburg*

**Morningside Adult Community New Hamburg Annual Christmas Bazaar**
**10 a.m. - 12 noon**
Crafts, Raffle, Baking, White Elephant, Cafe' Silent Auction. Free Admission
*Morningside Adult Community New Hamburg, behind McDonalds*

**Widow and Widowers Banquet**
**Doors open at 5:00 p.m.**
**Dinner served at 5:30 p.m.**
To register contact Merle by text or phone at 807-737-9215 or by email at merleburkholder@gmail.com. 40 seats available. If you are a widow or Widowers we want to bless you with this banquet
*Oasis Mennonite Church*
*66 Mill Street Baden*

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

**Community Care Concepts Lunch and Fellowship**
**12 p.m.**
Please register by Nov. 20 by calling 519-664-1900 or Toll Free: 1-855-664-1900
*Linwood Community Centre,*
*5279 Ament Line, Linwood*

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

**Tavistock Men's Club Santa Claus Parade**
**1 p.m.**
Theme – Favorite Christmas Carol
Entry & Details: call 519-655-3573, email info@tavistockmensclub.ca or online at tavistockmensclub.ca
*Downtown Tavistock*

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

**Wilmot Lions/Lioness Club 43rd Annual Tree of Light**
**6:30 p.m.**
Complimentary Hot Dogs & Apple Cider. Mixology Cappella Choir with New Hamburg Concert Band. Dress warm & see you there.
*Downtown New Hamburg*

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

**LYNN RIVER FARM PRESENTS CANDLELIGHT DINNER at Brocksden Country School + Museum**
**5:30 p.m.**
Join us for a family-style Lynn River Farm Christmas dinner inspired by the tables of generations past. Approximately 15% of ticket sales will return to Brocksden to support the school museum. For more information call 519-949-2871.
*2719 Perth County Line 37, Gads Hill*

## EVERY WEDNESDAY

**TOPS - Taking off Pounds Sensibly**
**Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.**
Contact Cathie 519-662-9273
*St James Church, Baden*

**Euchre Night**
**Wednesdays at 7 p.m.**
*New Hamburg Legion*
*65 Boulee St., New Hamburg*

## FREE SENIORS ACTIVITIES

**Tavistock Seniors Pickleball**
**Monday, Wednesday & Friday 12-4 p.m.**
Contact: Don Junker 519-535-7052
*Tavistock Memorial Hall, 1 Adam St.*
**Tavistock Seniors Card Games**
**Monday drop in 1-4 p.m.**
Contact: Bob Routly 519-301-2118
*Tavistock Memorial Hall, 1 Adam St.*
**VON Senior Exercise Drop-In Standing Class**
**Tuesday and Thursday 9-10 a.m.**
To register contact 519-539-1231 ext. 6319
*Tavistock Memorial Hall, 1 Adam St.*
**VON Senior Exercise Drop-In Sitting Class**
**Tuesday and Thursday 10:25-11:25 a.m.**
To register contact 519-539-1231 ext. 6319
*Village Manner, 98 Woodstock St., Tavistock*

## TAVISTOCK & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM DISPLAYS

**Travelling Museum Display: "Heritage of Hickson's Sports Teams"**
Check out the earliest Hickson baseball teams and the display full of vintage equipment. History and photos of the Hickson Baseball teams dating back to the early 1900's complement the display.

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

Deadline: Tuesday prior at 3 p.m.
Contact: thewtgazette@gmail.com

## PROMOTE YOUR EVENTS WITH US! HERE'S HOW:

- The Community Calendar allows non-profit organizations to promote their free admission community events at no charge. Event listings can include your event name, date, time and location as well as contact information (ie phone number, email address or website).
- If your event is not free admission or you would like to include more details than stated above, The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette offers the following options for promoting your community events:
  - Coming Events Word Ad (50 word max.) - $10 + hst
  - Coming Events Boxed Word Ad (50 word max.) - $15 + hst
  - Display Ad - Sizes begin at a Small Classified Display ad (3.3" x 2.5") - $35 + hst

READ US ONLINE: GRANTHAVEN.COM/WILMOT-TAVISTOCK-GAZETTE

# CLASSIFIED ADS

### FOR RENT
Bedroom available in a 3 bedroom semi, separate living room and washroom, perfect for one person or a couple. To view call Stuart 226-220-7807. $500 per month, plus 1/2 of Hydro.

### FOR SALE
Shade Trees; Maples, Oaks, Birch, Beech, Honey Locusts, Elms, Magnolia, Hydrangea Tree, Tulip Tree, Crab apples, Ivory Silk Lilac, Chanticleer Pear, Golden Weeping Willows and more. Apples, Pears, Peaches, Plums, Apricots, Nectarine, Blueberry, Haskap etc. Lots of healthy strong Spruce, Cedars and White Pine for your privacy hedges and wind-breaks. Hundred of flowering shrubs. Reg Hours 7am-6pm Mon-Sat at Martins Nursery c/o Emanuel Martin. 42661 Orangehill Rd., Wroxeter, ON

### FOR SALE (New Hamburg)
Hitachi VHS camera/recorder, comes with all the attachments $110. Sony DVD, Dolby Digital, comes with all the attachments $110. Sony Digital 8 Handicam, comes will all the attachments $250. Electric Fireplace, new, 1500 watts, high/low setting, includes remote control $100. Work tools and accessories and stereo equipment. Free Playpen in excellent shape. Free Bed Rails excellent shape. Call 519-242-7904.

### WANTED
I will pay cash for antiques and collectibles. Coca Cola, Pepsi, any pop company, Brewery items Kuntz, Huether Labatts, etc. Old radios and gramophones, Wristwatches and pocket watches, Old fruit jars, Beaver Star Bee Hive etc. Any old oil cans and signs Red Indian Supertest etc Any small furniture. If you are moving or cleaning out stuff please contact me - 519-570-6920.

### WANTED
$ Cash Paid $ for your RECORDS and LPs. Jazz, Blues, Rock, Pop, Folk, Soundtracks, and more. Selectively buying CDs, Cassettes, Turntables, and Stereo Equipment. For more information: Diamond Dogs Music 114 Ontario St. Stratford / 226-972-5750

**TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD CONTACT HEATHER DUNBAR AT 226.261.1837 OR HEATHER@GRANTHAVEN.COM**

## UPCOMING AUCTION

**Herd Dispersal Live Auction Sale**

**of 135 Bred Cows/Heifers**

**Saturday November 21, 11:00am**

**to be held at 554447 Mono-Amaranth TLine, Mono, ON**
**Preview on day of sale, or by appointment**

Directions: Go west through Orangeville on Hwy 9 to County Rd 16 (Veterans Way at Greenwood Cemetery), turn north 5 miles to farm on East side. OR From Shelburne go east on Hwy 89 for 2 miles to Mono-Amaranth Townline, turn south & go 5 miles to farm on East side.Townline, turn south & go 5 miles to farm on East side.

**Cattle: (79 )Heifers: (18) Char, (17) Blk Simm, (33) Angus, (11) Red** -1st time calvers, bred Angus & Limo, vacc. **(18) X-bred Heifers** - bred Black Angus, vacc. **(17) Angus Heifers** - bred Black Angus. **(10) Blk Angus cows** - all bred Black Angus, vacc. **(8) Charolais Cows** - bred Charolais, vacc. **(3) Mixed Cows** - with calf at side, vacc.
All Cows will be preg checked prior to sale.
**Lunch Booth**
**Washroom Available**
**Terms & Conditions:** Cash or cheque with proper I.D. on day of sale. Owner & Auctioneer will not be responsible for any accidents or loss on day of sale. All announcements on day of sale will take precedence over printed ads.

**Auctioneers: Kevin McArthur (519) 942-0264**
**Scott Bessey (519) 843-5083**
**Email: mcarthurbessey@gmail.com**
**www.theauctionadvertiser.com/KMcArthur**
- full listing & photos

## SUDOKU SOLUTION

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## Quiz Time Answers

1. Miley Cyrus
2. Cornell
3. 24
4. 1980
5. Paramount Skydance
6. Mjölnir
7. Military
8. Gunshot wound
9. Eileen Collins
10. Vitamin C


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OR e-transfer: granthavenmedia@gmail.com


# SERVICE DIRECTORY —

## ASSISTANCE


TAP
Neighbours helping Neighbours since 2009
TAVISTOCK ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
**Assistance for people & families in Shakespeare, Tavistock, Hickson**
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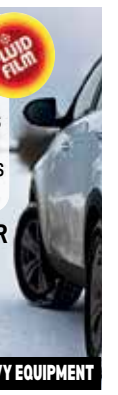
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