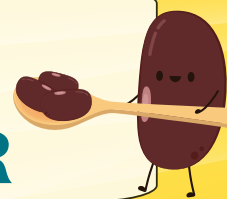


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(MORGAN GRIFFI PHOTO)

This photo appears to show one of the EFO0 tornadoes which struck the Tavistock area last week. It was taken from a home in the village's south end.

Tornado research group confirms tornadoes in East Zorra-Tavistock

Investigation into Wellesley storm ongoing

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

An investigation by the Northern Tornadoes Project (NTP) has confirmed two tornadoes and a downburst in the Tavistock area on Sept. 2. No injuries were reported, but there were several reports of property and crop damage along with power outages.

The three extreme weather events occurred as a line of strong storms passed through much of Southern Ontario late in the afternoon. The first tornado formed west of Tavistock and moved into the town, causing tree and house shingle damage. It was rated an EF0 and carved a clear path through crops in the township.

This tornado started at approximately 5:23 p.m. with an estimated maximum

wind speed of 125 km/h, a track length of 6.24 kilometres and a path width of about 410 metres.

"A second tornado began north of Tavistock near Shakespeare and tracked toward the southeast. This tornado caused significant damage to agricultural structures and trees, rated at EF1. Its path could also be clearly seen at times in

Continued on page 2

New Hamburg Veterans' Crosswalk Creates a Lasting Place of Remembrance

SCOTT DUNSTALL

Gazette Correspondent

A new Veterans' Memorial Crosswalk in downtown New Hamburg now offers residents a year-round reminder of the service and sacrifice of Wilmot veterans.

The crosswalk was officially unveiled September 3 on Huron Street in downtown New Hamburg, with veterans, Legion members, municipal officials, business owners, donors and residents in attendance. Its completion marked the end of more than a year of planning, fundraising and cooperation involving the Royal Canadian Legion, New Hamburg Branch 532, the New Hamburg Board of Trade and Wilmot Township.

The idea originated with the Legion, which wanted to create a visible public tribute to those who have served—and continue to serve—in Canada's Armed Forces. When the Legion needed help navigating the approval and fundraising process, the New Hamburg Board of Trade agreed to become its community partner.

"When the Legion needed a community partner to help guide them through the process, we immediately stepped up," said Lillianne Dunstall, president of the New Hamburg Board of Trade and Wilmot Township councillor for Ward 4. "The Board

Continued on page 3



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Tornadoes, downburst cause damage near Tavistock

Continued from page 1

crops,” added a statement on the group’s website.

It started around 5:25 p.m. and had an estimated maximum wind speed of 155 km/h, a track length of 8.29 kilometres and a maximum path width of 420 m. Damage to several farm buildings, including a destroyed barn, along with tree and crop damage, was reported north and east of Tavistock.

The NTP is a research initiative based at Western University in London, dedicated to finding, documenting and studying tornadoes across Canada. It was launched in 2017.

“Finally, both tornadoes converged toward a downburst that developed just east of Tavistock and travelled more than 17 km toward the east-southeast. EF0-rated damage to agricultural structures and trees occurred with this downburst as well,” added the statement.

Trees, farm buildings and the roof of a home were damaged east of Tavistock. The downburst had an estimated maximum wind speed of 125 km/h, with damage found over an area approximately 17.0 kilometres long and up to 7.5 kilometres wide.

A downburst is a powerful column of air that sinks rapidly from a thunderstorm and spreads outward when it reaches the ground, producing very strong, often damaging winds. Think of it as a burst of air that spreads out in all directions when it hits the ground.

The NTP says there is evidence a tornado likely occurred near Bamberg in Wellesley Township during Wednesday’s severe storm, with investigators continuing to assess the damage and determine the tornado’s strength and path.

NTP Director David Sills said the group’s investigations are extremely thorough.

“We watch the storms in real time just to get an idea of where damage might be. We actually produce our own tornado and downburst forecast so our team members know when they may have to fly across the country.”

The next step is to comb social media for damage reports to populate a map which shows where damage has occurred.

“Then we start planning where our teams might head for ground and drone surveys. We go to the areas of worst damage and go out from there. Typically, for a tornado, you’re talking about a long, narrow path of damage.”

Once a tornado is confirmed, it is rated using the Enhanced Fujita, or EF, scale.

“Sometimes we end up doing some forensic analysis if a large tractor or combine was thrown a great distance; then we can do the engineering calculations for that, which helps us with rating. The last part is trying to document how long and how wide the track would be.”

Sills said the NTP has investigated thousands of tornadoes since the project began. He added the organization recently signed an agreement with Environment and Climate Change Canada clarifying the roles and responsibilities of each agency when it comes to severe weather.

“Their space is forecasting and warning and ours is the post-event space. We confirm the events and give the rating. It’s been like that for a while, but the agreement makes it clearer. It was a long time negotiating it, and it certainly helps everyone understand what their roles are.”

Sills explained he spent 20 years at Environment Canada and part of his role was conducting damage surveys, a role which was never given much in the way of resources.

“We did our best, but with the NTP we are spending upwards of \$1 million a year

doing this, and the results show it. We’ve nearly doubled the tornado count across Canada, and that’s the kind of effort that’s required to do this the right way.”

The University of Western does provide some support for the organization, but because it does not receive any government funding, it is forced to rely mainly on a private donor to perform its duties.

“It’s called ImpactWX out of Toronto. It’s led by someone who is a storm chaser, weather enthusiast and philanthropist. That was the core of the funding that goes into both the NTP and the Canadian Severe Storms Lab at the University of Western,” he explained.

NTP data is used to verify Environment Canada’s tornado warnings through performance assessments, something that has led to improved forecasting of major weather events.

“We also use it for risk analysis and informing the building code. We also look at trends over a longer time frame to see how things are changing. Some regions may see an increase and some a decrease. There are lots of changes going on due to climate change, and that’s what we need to sort out.”



(UWO.CA PHOTOS)

Aerial view shows the path of an EF0 tornado through a crop field west of Tavistock.



Drone view shows EF1 tornado damage to a barn, trees and crops near Tavistock.

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Crosswalk of Remembrance

Continued from page 1

of Trade is not only business-minded; it is also community-minded.”

“We said to the Legion, ‘You pick the design, and the Board of Trade will do the heavy lifting,’” Dunstall recalled.

That work included design discussions, meetings with municipal staff, obtaining approvals and raising the required funds. Dunstall thanked Wilmot Township staff, including Director of Public Works and Engineering Ken VanderWal, Amy Kroetsch and Jason Zehr, for helping overcome the many challenges encountered along the way.

“I cannot describe the number of challenges and obstacles we faced over the last year and a half,” she said. “With their help, we walked around them, under them and over them—and we got through them.”

The New Hamburg Board of Trade also took on the challenge of raising the \$18,000 required for the project, which included installation and future maintenance costs. Board member Scott Dunstall led the fundraising campaign, developing the promotional materials, tracking donations and collecting contributions from local residents. The campaign was carried out in partnership with the Township of Wilmot, which collected donations online, while some contributions were made in person.

During the unveiling, Wilmot Mayor Natasha Salonen thanked everyone who contributed and spoke about the responsibility shared by the entire community.

“It is wonderful to see this Veterans’ Crosswalk come to fruition,” Salonen said. “Thank you to everyone who helped bring this vision to reality. It stands as a lasting reminder of the service and sacrifice of our veterans, and of our shared responsibility to remember and honour them.”

The crosswalk joins several other local tributes that help preserve the stories of those who served. These include Wilmot’s veterans’ banner program, annual Remembrance Day ceremonies and the new tribute mural on the exterior of the New Hamburg Legion.

Bob Neubauer, the Legion’s former and long-serving Sergeant-at-Arms, led the Colour Party in from the adjacent parking lot and performed a “right wheel” onto the Cross Walk. When the cross walk disbanded after the ceremony, Morningside

resident Mike Disney was selected to be the first veteran that was not a member of the Colour Party to make the walk across. The attendees remained silent until he reached the opposite curb. As an observer, both moments were very moving.

Neubauer noted “this tribute ensures that we remember and honour their service not only for one day and one hour in November, but every day,” he said. “Each time people come downtown, they can stop and think for a moment about the hardships and sacrifices made for the people of New Hamburg today.”

Bill Pearson, president of the New Hamburg Legion, Branch 532, welcomed those attending the ceremony and described the crosswalk in this way. “This is a tribute to the men and women who are still serving in our Armed Forces, as well as to the many veterans who did not return home to their loved ones,” Pearson said. He also thanked Wilmot Township and the New Hamburg Board of Trade for helping transform the Legion’s idea into a permanent community memorial.

The location of the crosswalk makes remembrance part of everyday life in New Hamburg. Residents will see it while shopping, travelling to work or attending community events. Children may ask what it represents, and visitors will encounter it as they pass through the downtown. Veterans and their families will know that their service and sacrifices have not been forgotten.

The project also demonstrates what can be accomplished when community organizations, municipal staff, businesses and residents work together toward a shared purpose. What began as an idea from the Legion has become a visible promise that New Hamburg will continue to remember.

Pearson closed the ceremony with the familiar words, “At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.”

Those gathered responded, “We will remember them.”

The Veterans’ Memorial Crosswalk will remain in the heart of New Hamburg, ensuring remembrance is not limited to one ceremony or one day in November, but remains part of the community’s daily life.

Lest we forget.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Standing at the center of a supporting community are New Hamburg Board of Trade President, Lillianne Dunstall is flanked by Wilmot Mayor Natasha Salonen, New Hamburg Legion President Bill Pearson and Ward councillors Stewart Cressman and Steven Martin.

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Tornado confirmed as Wellesley and Wilmot Townships sustain storm damage

Gazette Reporter

While the organization's full report has not been released, confirmation was made to the Gazette just before press time.

The NTP will release more information this week.

“A number of hydro poles were knocked down on Hutchison Road between Deborah Glaister and Streicher Line, as well as a transformer fire on Queensbush Road and hydro lines being down along Weimer Line. Trees and branches were uprooted and broken off throughout the Township. David Street in the Village of Wellesley was closed due to trees on the road, making access impossible.”

“No injuries have been reported and no livestock lost. The public works department called in staff to clean up debris and close roads, and all three township fire halls and available firefighters responded.”

Wellesley Township Mayor Joe Nowack released a statement the day after the storm.

Enova stated a severe thunderstorm moved through Waterloo Region at approximately 5 p.m., bringing strong winds with gusts of up to 110 km/h, heavy rain, lightning, and tornado warnings.

Wilmot Township also released a statement on Tuesday.

An aerial photograph showing a large, multi-story wooden building, possibly a warehouse or industrial structure, that has suffered significant structural failure. The building features a prominent red metal roof. A large section of the roof and the upper walls has collapsed, exposing the internal wooden framework. The remaining structure is situated in a grassy field. To the left of the main building, there is a smaller, partially collapsed structure with a blue tarp nearby. In the foreground, there is a fenced-in rectangular area containing a small white shed and a white vehicle. The background is filled with dense green trees and vegetation. A body of water is visible on the right edge of the frame.

A drone photo of a barn shows missing parts of its roof and some tree damage on Weimar Line, the location of the worst damage in Wellesley Township

along trails are encouraged to report them by emailing publicworks@wilmot.ca.

“We thank residents for their patience and understanding as staff continue this work,” added the statement.

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The 2026 Wellesley Fair Parade



(GRACE NEEB PHOTOS, CUTLINES BY GARY WEST)

The Wellesley Fair Parade would not be complete without the music of the Milverton Brass Band. Wellesley’s Calvin Schmidt always makes sure his trailer is hooked up and ready to go, so their music can be heard throughout the town.



This agricultural float, pulled by Tina Gerber’s Massey Ferguson 2823 mini tractor, included the mini train holding her family and friends.



The Wellesley Fair always wraps up with a super Fireworks display, as the Wellesley-North Easthope Agricultural Society says thanks to the area for the continued support for another year.



Tim Gerber and his Allis Chalmers CA pull these young competitors who competed in the 2026 ABC talent contest.



Contractor Dan Bisch is seen pulling this Pirate’s Ship with his children and grandchildren in this year’s parade.



2026 Wellesley Jr. Ambassador contestants, who were interviewed to become this year’s Jr. Ambassador. gallerygalleryThe winner was 15 year old Riley Purdie pictured in the centre of the trailer.



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Six contestants vie to become 2026-2027 New Hamburg Fall Fair ambassador

WILMOT-TAVISTOCK GAZETTE STAFF
 thewtgazette@gmail.com

Six young women with connections to agriculture, community service, sports and the arts will take the stage at this year's New Hamburg Fall Fair, each hoping to be named the 2026-2027 fair ambassador.

The annual ambassador program offers local youth an opportunity to develop leadership skills, learn more about agriculture and become involved in their community. Participants must be at least 17 years old and either live in Wilmot Township or attend, or have attended, Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School (W-O).

This year's contestants are Lauren Holst-Burnard, Ella Jones, Maddie Lichti, Kaylyn McCallum, Eliana Schaaf and Kaelynn Schlegel.

Holst-Burnard, 17, grew up on a horse farm and has attended the fair for as long as she can remember.

"For my whole life, I have always loved going to the fair and would dream of being

the fair ambassador," she said.

A longtime figure skater who is entering Grade 12, Holst-Burnard will also compete on W-O's cross-country team and participate in school choirs this fall. She is considering studying in a biomedical program after high school.

Jones, 17, is an avid reader, writer and photographer. A published author with two short stories appearing in Polar Expressions contest books, she is considering post-secondary studies in policy and administration, public health or urban planning.

Jones has also shown a calf through 4-H at the fall fair, an experience she describes as a cherished memory because of the sense of community surrounding it.

Lichti, 17, lives on a small dairy-heifer farm outside New Hamburg and has spent years showing dairy calves through 4-H at the fair.

A Wilmot Wolverine hockey player, Lichti also volunteered at Shantz/Steinmann Vacation Bible School and

worked as a camp counsellor at U-Turn Ranch this summer. After graduating from W-O, she hopes to study concurrent education and become a primary school teacher.

McCallum, 17, is a soccer player, life-guard, babysitter and longtime fall fair volunteer who hopes to one day become a commercial or Ornge pilot.

Among her favourite fair traditions is the demolition derby, something she hopes to participate in herself one day.

Schaaf, 17, is active in W-O's music programs, helps organize school and community events and participates in community outreach through her church youth group. She also hopes to become an elementary school teacher.

Her favourite fair memory is watching the demolition derby with friends and family, a tradition dating back to when she was young.

Schlegel grew up on her family farm, an experience she says taught her hard work, responsibility and the importance of caring for animals and working as a team.

Active in school clubs and teams, she also enjoys drawing, hiking and caring for animals. Schlegel hopes to become an aerospace engineer and sees the ambassador program as an opportunity to promote agriculture and encourage others to get involved in their community.

The contestants have already completed workshops on resume building, public speaking and agriculture. On Sept. 9, they will be interviewed by a panel of judges at Puddicombe Banquet Hall.

The competition concludes Sept. 18 at 6:45 p.m. during the fair's opening ceremonies at the New Hamburg Community Centre. Each contestant will deliver a two-to three-minute speech and answer an impromptu question before the new ambassador is selected.

All six contestants will remain involved throughout the New Hamburg Fall Fair, running Sept. 17-20 at Norm Hill Park, helping with events including the baby show, 4-H shows and demolition derbies.



Lauren Holst-Burnard, sponsored by the Baden Chamber of Commerce.



Ella Jones, sponsored by the New Dundee Board of Trade.



Maddie Lichti, sponsored by the Wilmot Lions/Lioness Club.



Kaylyn McCallum, sponsored by the Optimist Club of Wilmot.



Eliana Schaaf, sponsored by the New Hamburg Board of Trade.



Kaelynn Schlegel, sponsored by the New Hamburg Optimist Club.

CORRECTION:
 In last week's edition of the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette, on page 9, peopleCare was referred to as a retirement residence; however, peopleCare Tavistock is a long-term care home licensed, regulated, and funded by the Ministry of Long-Term Care. We regret any confusion this may have caused.

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Bell brings fresh perspective to Wilmot Ward 4 council race

AMANDA NELSON

Gazette Reporter

Though Jeff Bell has not served directly on council, he brings a deep passion for community advocacy as he steps forward as a candidate for Ward 4 councillor.

"I have not served on council before, and I think a fresh perspective can be valuable," he said. "I'm coming in with eyes wide open and no political baggage, but with years of experience analyzing complicated issues, asking difficult questions, listening to stakeholders and making critical decisions."

His interest in municipal decision making grew during the recent CCTV proposal, where council ultimately decided against the cameras due to a lack of need and privacy concerns.

Bell says he independently reviewed six years of police data, discussed the issue and his findings with local Wilmot residents, and delegated his findings to council.

"That experience reinforced for me how important it is for council to dig into the details before taking positions on issues that will shape our community for years to come," he said.

With a 25-year tech background, Bell has spent the last 13 years at Microsoft advocating for customers, navigating complex organizations with multiple stakeholders, working through difficult problems and helping drive change within the company.

Bell also brings personal experience and

perspective to the table, saying he grew up in Mississauga and watched much of the farmland around him gradually give way to subdivisions, strip malls and industrial development.

"Growth brought opportunity, but it also permanently changed the character of the community," he said. "That experience is part of why I believe growth needs to be managed carefully, with a clear understanding of what we may be giving up along the way."

Alongside his extensive experience, he's also built a local entertainment business, which he says has given him firsthand insight into the challenges small business owners face in Wilmot and helped him make connections and build relationships throughout the community.

Bell says Wilmot has been and will continue to be seen as a prime candidate for growth, which has brought about strong opinions and difficult decisions over the last several years, and he believes he's ready to face those challenges as a councillor.

"The key issues, as we look forward, include managing growth while protecting what makes Wilmot distinct, ensuring our infrastructure and services can keep up with it, and making sure residents are seeing real value for the tax dollars they contribute," said Bell. "Property tax increases have been significant in recent years, and like many residents, I've felt that increase in my own household budget."

The Ward 4 candidate said that makes it

even more important for council to clearly explain what residents are getting in return and to show that spending decisions are necessary, responsible and delivering value.

He believes council also has work to do to rebuild trust through meaningful public engagement and transparent decision making.

"I'll start by making sure decisions are based on evidence, not assumptions, and by asking the questions needed to understand both the immediate impact and the long-term consequences," said Bell. "I want residents involved while decisions are still being shaped, not after the direction has already been set. Growth will require careful planning around infrastructure, services and farmland, and council needs to be clear about the trade-offs involved."

"I also believe every significant spending decision deserves scrutiny," he continued. "That doesn't mean automatically opposing spending or tax increases, but it does mean asking whether the expense is necessary, whether there is a better way to achieve the same result and whether residents are receiving reasonable value for what they're being asked to pay."

Bell said he owes a lot to Wilmot for welcoming his family, providing a safe and comfortable community to raise his daughter and cheering him on as he starts and runs his small business.

"I hope to give something back by serving on council. I'm committed to doing



(PHOTO COURTESY OF JEFF BELL)

Jeff Bell is running for a seat as Ward 4 councillor in Wilmot, bringing 25 years of technology experience and a passion for community advocacy to the campaign.

the homework, being accountable for my decisions and continuing to show up week after week, just as I always have."

Residents can expect Bell to be campaigning door-to-door to meet people face to face. He can also be reached at jeffbell-4wilmot@outlook.com.

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Family and friends discover Campbell's paradise railway

DIANE DANEN

Gazette Correspondent

Jim and Pat Campbell welcomed family and friends to their backyard this past weekend to enjoy a look at Campbell's Paradise Railway (CPR).

Visitors had the opportunity to explore the Campbells' impressive garden railway and discover the story behind the miniature railroad they have been building for nearly two decades.

When the Campbells began this adventure, they had no idea where to begin. Determined to learn, the couple joined two garden railway clubs in 2005, where they gained advice from people who had already been through the process. They toured members' layouts and attended the London Garden Railway Open House, gathering ideas and inspiration along the way.

Back home, they marked out a large oval area measuring approximately 45 feet long by 25 feet wide. After drawing their plans on graph paper, construction of Campbell's Paradise Railroad began in 2007.

The railway operates on what is known as "G" scale, with the trains and cars built at approximately one twenty-fourth to one thirty-second the size of the real thing. The buildings are built to a scale of one-half inch to one foot.

To put the size into perspective, the railway track is two inches wide, while some of the cars are an impressive 30 inches

long.

Campbell's Paradise Railway includes a Canadian Pacific model of the train used by Queen Elizabeth when she travelled across Canada in the early 1950s. Another favourite is a model of the White Pass diesel engine, which operates between Skagway, Alaska, and the Canadian border in Yukon.

Six engines operate on the layout, taking turns making their way along the tracks to their destinations. Each engine has its own electric motor, powered by low-voltage current supplied through the track.

Most of the engines are equipped with sound. One is a diesel, while the others are steam engines. One even features the actual train sound of the South Simcoe Railway, which operates between Tottenham and Beeton, Ontario.

The Campbells chose a Western theme for their railway, which meant that mountains would be essential.

Creating the mountainous landscape was no small undertaking. The couple brought in large fieldstones, many of them collected from their own farm, while friends also donated stones for the project. Some of the massive rocks weigh more than a ton.

What began with a simple question about how to build a garden railway has grown into a unique backyard attraction, reflecting years of planning, learning and hard work, providing family and friends with a miniature railway world to explore.



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Pat Campbell dressed as the engineer at Campbell's Paradise Railway, wearing traditional striped denim overalls and engineer's hat.

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STRATFORD NISSAN



Annual Poor Boy's Luncheon returns to support WWRC

AMANDA NELSON

Gazette Reporter

The Wilmot & Wellesley Resource Centre (WWRC) Annual Community Luncheon fundraiser, also known as the Poor Boy's Luncheon, will once again take place this year at the New Hamburg Community Centre, 251 Jacob St., New Hamburg, on Sept. 24, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and then from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The annual event, which has taken place since 1994, is a fundraiser for corporate and sponsor donations that are used to fund programs and services offered at WWRC.

"There's some programs and departments that are not funded and some that are only partially funded," said Trisha Robinson, executive director. "The bulk of the food bank is not funded. We get a small portion from the Region of Waterloo, but we rely on donations to support our food bank and so many other programs."

This year's fundraising goal is

\$40,000, which will be used across several different departments throughout the WWRC, including children's programming, coffee house talks, free income tax prep, food bank deliveries, mental health support, family violence counselling, harm reduction kits, community lunches and outreach.

Robinson says that as prices for everyday expenses and living costs rise, the need within the community rises, too. This, along with lower funding, makes events such as the community luncheon vital to overall operations at WWRC.

"As things get harder, funding reduces, and our numbers go up, we feel it," said Robinson. "The food bank just keeps growing and growing and the need in the community gets bigger and bigger. We're really happy to provide food for people, but the numbers just keep getting higher."

Half of the funds WWRC needs to function throughout the year come from community donations, meaning

they need to raise close to \$500,000 to keep operating and supporting the community.

The goal of the day is not just to fundraise, but to break bread together, without barriers, said Robinson.

"It's about the community coming together to share a meal," she said. "Some people depend on it, some people come twice because they really like beans and wieners, some are our volunteers, some from our local service clubs and others are local businesses and business owners; it's for the whole community."

The Annual Community Luncheon Fundraiser ensures that WWRC can continue to serve the community year-round. Several local businesses have stepped up to be sponsors or offer donations, and the WWRC is thankful to all sponsors and donors.

To donate, please visit the WWRC sponsorship page at <https://wl.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E363271QE&id=19>



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Tamara Robinson serves beans at last year's Annual Community Luncheon fundraiser in support of the Wilmot & Wellesley Resource Centre, coming again on Sept. 24, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and then from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

We will never forget



(MIKE GRUMMETT PHOTO)

Preparing the crosswalk in downtown New Hamburg to honour our heroes.



Region of Waterloo

Region of Waterloo Public Notice

Notice of New Procedural By-Law

The Region of Waterloo is proposing to pass a new Procedural By-law to replace Procedural By-law 26-017, as amended. The proposed changes focus on compliance with amendments to the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, under Bill 100 – Better Regional Government Act.

The Region's Procedural By-law will be considered at the Council meeting on October 14, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at 150 Frederick Street, Kitchener.

For more information or a copy of the proposed by-law, please contact the Regional Clerk's Office at RegionalClerk@regionofwaterloo.ca or 519-575-4400



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Aitcheson speaks on her work at the Stratford Mission Depot

LAURA GREEN

Submitted to the Gazette

Stratford's Jean Aitcheson, a retired Canadian nurse, founder and leader of the Stratford Mission Depot, was a guest speaker at the Reaching Ontario Sharing Education (ROSE) program, co-hosted by Braemar Women's Institute and the Anglican Church Women, Christ Church. Aitcheson was also appointed to the Order of Canada in 2023.

The event was held on September 3, 2026, at 2 p.m. at Christ Church, Huntingford.

Aitcheson's story of the Stratford Mission Depot's beginnings intertwines with her 55-year nursing career and her membership in Rotary International. The first seeds were planted in 1995 when Aitcheson and her local mission group were preparing to embark on a medical trip to Guatemala.

Aitcheson was told by the mission doctor that there were no medical supplies or equipment in the area that they were travelling to, so they would need to bring whatever they could with them. Pleas were sent out to community groups and off they flew with packed bags and suitcases.

Stratford Mission Depot outgrew many storage areas and now their newest home is at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, using the Sunday school rooms.

Without any kind of funding, or even status as a registered charity, the Stratford Mission Depot relies entirely on donated space and the support of a team of roughly a dozen dedicated volunteers to take in, sort, process, package and label donations of second-hand medical supplies, equipment and other items on their wish list and prepare them for travel with locals to some of the poorest regions in the world.

In total, Aitcheson estimates Stratford Mission Depot works with groups and individuals from as many as 16 different organizations and service clubs.

"All of those supplies have already healed our citizens and now they don't need them anymore," Aitcheson said. "That's what we need – their walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, air casts, their medications either personal or over the counter. All manner of medical supplies is what we need to fill our space."

Everything from warm blanket and socks or other humanitarian supplies are accepted and then shipped worldwide to areas in need.

The mission depot is open at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

"It's probably only a small, little, tiny bit of care, but it's what these people need to survive."

Aitcheson can be reached at 519-276-1975 to answer your inquiries.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Jean Aitcheson (left) from the Stratford Mission Depot was surrounded by donations for the depot from members of Braemar Women's Institute (president Anya Donaldson, centre) and Anglican Church Women, Christ Church (president Barbara Bruce). It took more than one car to transport the donations back to the depot and lots of work for the Tuesday crew of volunteers to sort and organize.

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Canada's Outdoor Farm Show ready to showcase local innovation and technology

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

From locally developed agtech to automation and precision agriculture, organizers of the 2026 Canada's Outdoor Farm Show say this year's edition will be packed with innovations for Canadian producers.

The event takes place Sept. 15 to 17 at the Outdoor Farm Show property in Woodstock, and brings together farmers, industry leaders and technology innovators for three days of agricultural discovery.

"Ontario is home to an incredible network of innovators who are helping shape the future of agriculture," said show director Rob O'Connor. "Canada's Outdoor Farm Show connects those companies with farmers to have conversations about upcoming technology that will make a difference on the farm."

O'Connor points to several areas of the show where visitors can experience the latest advancements first-hand, including the Dairy Innovation Centre, which will highlight technologies to help dairy producers meet evolving challenges and opportunities. Visitors can explore on-farm innovations that support animal care.

The AgTech Breakfast returns on Sept. 16, bringing farmers, startups and industry leaders together for a morning focused on the future of agriculture. Participants will hear from emerging companies and innovators sharing fresh perspectives on technology adoption, farm management and the next generation of agricultural solutions.

Field demonstrations will continue to be a cornerstone of the show experience, providing farmers with the chance to see equipment and technology operating in real-world conditions and side-by-side comparisons.

Farmers can see how crops perform in real-world conditions and stay informed about the latest agronomic advancements.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

This year's edition of Canada's Outdoor Farm Show will include equipment demonstrations.

Canada's Outdoor Farm Show features 10 company crop plots showing a variety of crops, plant health and crop protection products. Featured crops in 2026 include corn, soybeans, forages and more.

Livestock Central brings livestock exhibits and demonstrations together in one area and features companies with products for livestock producers.

Located in the area between 7th Street and Doug Wagner Way, Woodstock, participants will find the latest advancements in livestock management for dairy, beef, sheep or goats. Industry experts will be available to talk about cutting-edge practices or watch live demonstrations for low-stress animal handling and pasture grazing.

There will also be live demonstrations showcasing effective and low-stress livestock handling, an important factor for both animals and their handlers. Additionally, the Rural Pavilion will showcase exhibitors selling rural living products for the farm and items of interest to farm families.

Across the show grounds, visitors can connect with Canadian manufacturers, local entrepreneurs and established agtech companies demonstrating equipment and technologies designed specifically for Ontario growing conditions. Visitors can explore practical innovations that help farm businesses locally and on a global scale.

For more information, visit www.outdoorfarmshow.com.

QUIZ TIME

BY JAKE GRANT

1. Which animal has fingerprints that are so similar to humans they can confuse forensic investigators?
2. Which country consumes the most chocolate per person each year?
3. What is the largest moon in the Solar System?
4. What is the only continent with no active volcanoes?
5. What is the only metal that is liquid at room temperature?
6. Which famous scientist developed the three laws of motion?
7. What does UN stand for?
8. What was Dolly Parton's middle name?
9. Which animal's egg case is often called a "mermaid's purse"?
10. A tax or duty to be paid on a particular class of imports or exports is known as a ____?

Answers found on classified page

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Wilmot Terry Fox Run takes on special meaning for longtime participant Randy Thomson

GALEN SIMMONS

Regional Editor

For New Hamburg lawyer and two-time cancer survivor Randy Thomson, the Terry Fox Run has always been personal.

This year, it will be even more so.

Thomson is dedicating his participation in the Sept. 20 Wilmot and Surrounding Townships Terry Fox Run to the memory of his longtime friend and fellow cancer survivor Nancy Brodrecht, who was killed in a motor-vehicle collision earlier this year.

The two had known each other since the mid-1980s through Trinity Lutheran Church in New Hamburg and, beginning in 2022, regularly walked the Terry Fox Run together.

During those walks, Thomson said, they would have conversations they rarely had at any other time.

"Each year we would do the run together and each year we would, on that day, have that intimate conversation about our cancer journey," he said. "On the other 364 days of the year, we wouldn't mention it."

Thomson was diagnosed with kidney cancer in late 2019 and had his right kidney removed in April 2020, during the early weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic.

After recovering, he began looking for a way to give back and decided to support the Terry Fox Foundation and its cancer-research efforts.

Because of pandemic restrictions, Thomson completed his first two runs alone. In 2022, when participants were once again able to gather in person, he

walked with Brodrecht.

That first walk together began what became an annual tradition, with the exception of last year when Thomson completed the run in Halifax while Brodrecht participated locally.

"She was like my cancer muse, and I was hers," Thomson said. "We both understood what we were going through."

The pair also took pride in how much money they could raise. Thomson said he brought in just under \$8,000 last year while Brodrecht raised more than \$3,000.

This year, Thomson has set a \$10,000 goal. His fundraising page had raised \$6,270 at the time information was provided for this story.

After Brodrecht's death, he decided immediately that this year's effort would be for her.

"It's going to be an awfully hard run this year for me," Thomson said. "I'm going to walk by myself. ... I don't know; maybe I'll walk with someone, but it won't be Nancy."

He has also been reaching out to people who previously supported Brodrecht's fundraising and plans to personally match donations he identifies as coming from her former supporters.

"Hopefully, we'll raise lots of money," he said. "This time I'll raise it, but with Nancy's help."

The Wilmot and Surrounding Townships Terry Fox Run will take place Sept. 20 at the Wilmot Recreation Complex, 1291 Nafziger Rd., Baden. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., with the site open from 9-11 a.m. and the run beginning at 9 a.m.



(PHOTO COURTESY OF RANDY THOMSON)

Randy Thomson, left, and Nancy Brodrecht are pictured at the New Hamburg arena before walking together in the 2022 Terry Fox Run. Both cancer survivors wore the red shirts reserved for survivors, a tradition Thomson said they wore with pride. This year, Thomson is dedicating his Wilmot Terry Fox Run to Brodrecht's memory after her death in a motor-vehicle collision earlier this year.

Participants can choose one-, two- or five-kilometre routes, and bicycles, rollerblades and wheelchairs are welcome. The event also welcomes participants from Woolwich, Wellesley and North Dumfries townships.

Those wishing to support Thomson can donate through his personal fundraising page at run.terryfox.ca/page/randythomsonterryfoxrun2026.

General event information, registration and donations can be found at run.terryfox.ca/129734.

For Thomson, this year's walk is about cancer research, but it is also about carrying forward the memory of a friend who spent years doing the same.

"She was a tremendously giving person of her time, her talents and her money," he said. "We are grieving her every day."



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by PeterS 2026

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Answers found on classified page

Beekeeping keeps Devin Litt connected to family roots

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

There are days this time of year, on a farm near Shakespeare when the sound of bees buzzing is a regular occurrence every morning.

Devin Litt is a progressive beekeeper who manages his colonies the same way a dairy farmer manages his herd of milk-producing cows.

Taking over the bee farm from his father and mother, Wayne and Jean Litt, made it that much easier to get started. His Dad and Mom are now in their 40th year on their farm and sharecrop their land with local dairy farmer Gary Pletsch.

Beekeepers also produce a very healthy product, and the sweet, natural taste of honey is something Devin and his family remain most proud of.

A story can usually start with a call from a neighbour, who feels a 40-acre field blanketed with white-flowering buckwheat, where bees are abuzz this time of year, deserves recognition, and this writer surely did agree.

This beekeeping story has a history that we're sure most will find intriguing.

Devin says his Opa, Everet, and his Oma, Alderdina, on his mom's side, came from Holland to the Finch area of Eastern Ontario after the Second World War.

They initially did dairy farming, but his Opa kept a hive or two of bees back in Holland and eventually turned the farm

into an apiary in Canada.

At its peak, they had around 1,000 hives, raised seven children, three of whom eventually became commercial beekeepers.

Shortly after his mom and dad (Wayne and Jean) married, his dad started keeping bees as a hobby, and for years he worked with his brother.

They kept 30 to 40 hives, so Devin says, "he has always been around beekeeping in some way, whether working with his dad and uncle or visiting his grandparents as a kid."

The idea of beekeeping had always been somewhere in the back of Devin Litt's mind, and like many agricultural businesses, it is fairly capital-intensive to get to any meaningful scale.

He says, "There is also a lot of risk involved with livestock, and colony losses can vary significantly from one year to the next, too."

Because of that, he never really considered it seriously until about seven years ago when he was transitioning between jobs.

What did appeal to him was the lifestyle. Like any form of agriculture, there are plenty of things outside of your control, but there is also a pretty direct connection between the work you put in and the results you get out.

A lot of consumers appreciate the connection of "Farm to Table" when it comes to their food, and he thinks agriculture and "apiculture," in his case, offer a similar

connection from a labour perspective.

The 43-year-old says he loves being outdoors, and he liked the idea of eventually having the freedom to be his own boss.

When he started, he hoped to follow in the footsteps of his family members and eventually make beekeeping a full-time business.

As it turns out, he really enjoyed the career and company he had worked for and transitioned to (John Moses of Mitchell), and beekeeping has become more of a very busy hobby.

This year, he is operating around 70 colonies, although he generally likes to be closer to 100.

On average, his bees produce between 3,000 and 4,500 pounds of honey per year, although that can vary from year to year, depending on environmental conditions, availability of nearby crops and colony survival from one year to the next.

The provincial average for colony losses is around 25 per cent per year (depending on mite problems), and personally, he has had years with losses as high as 80 per cent, as well as years with 100 per cent survival, which can be very rewarding.

In the future, his ambitions to scale much larger may not be what he is aiming for now, with his full-time job, but he does really enjoy his summers in his bee yards.

He says it can make for a busy time when combined with his day job, but as most farmers know, there's nothing quite like being outside, and he says bees really



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

A suited-up Devin Litt shows how nectar is turned into honey on the Litt family farm near Shakespeare. The four boxes, one on top of the other, only have bees making honey in the top two boxes. The caretaking family says bees don't poop where they live; they go outside the hive for that.

are impressive creatures after a study of them.

He says, "he knows it's a small thing, but he really does enjoy the simplicity of it all. Try to give the bees what they need, and in return, you get to produce something special that local honey lovers can enjoy and trust, and at the same time help in the pollination of local plants and flowers in the area."

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Tavistock firefighters raise \$6,280 for Muscular Dystrophy

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

The Labour Day long weekend is always special for firefighters in Tavistock and many other fire stations across the province.

On Friday afternoon, the men and women from the local fire station took off their boots and collected cash from motorists at Tavistock's five corners. After counting all the \$5s, \$10s, \$20s, \$50s, and even \$100s, along with mounds of loose change, they raised a whopping \$6,280.50 for Muscular Dystrophy.

This organization has now been given thousands upon thousands of dollars over the years from members of the Tavistock Fire Department to Muscular Dystrophy, and all indications are that this will continue for years to come.

These local firefighters, who continue to answer the call day and night, would like to thank all those area motorists and even those walking for being so generous year after year in helping their very worthy cause.

They said they won't give up until a cure is found.



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Local firefighters show the boot as motorists throw in what they can for Muscular Dystrophy. From left: Firefighters Steffan Yantzi, Luke Bender and Connor Occleston.

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Former students revisit St. James school

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

Many one-room schools (with eight grades) closed in the early '60s, and students were sent to the newly built central schools in the area.

Such was the case for S.S. #5, St. James one-room school, south of New Hamburg, and not far from Punkey Doodles Corners on the Huron Road.

This country school was never torn down like some; instead, it was remodelled and made into comfortable living quarters to become a family home.

Ray and Daniela Albrecht invited many former students and neighbours back to the school on Sunday to have a look at what the inside and outside of the former S.S. #5 looked like today.

This large crowd of former students could be heard saying, "I remember when we played ball or soccer over in this part of the yard," and the next remembered going downstairs to the basement where the



A class picture from Oct. 13, 1924, at S.S. #5 Wilmot, courtesy of Gary Roth, whose father, Silvan, is pictured in the first row, second from the left. We hope readers can pick out their parents, grandparents, and other relatives in this early '20s, one-room school class picture.

big furnace used to be, and where they put their boots and coats to dry out on cold winter days.

It was a well-appreciated day, and the Albrechts were congratulated for inviting so many memories of past students back



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Many of St. James' students stopped by on Sunday at the invitation of homeowners Daniela and Ray Albrecht to tour the school on Huron Road, where they received their early public school education.

for a look.

Most in attendance are now grandparents and even great-grandparents, and the story told to the next generations is that

of "walking to school in six feet of snow where it was uphill both ways!"

As we age, this line is always worth a smile from those long-ago generations.

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STRATFORD NISSAN



Museum celebrates 100th birthday of poet and playwright Jamie Reaney

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

The Brocksden School Museum has long educated many young students in North Easthope Township, but earlier this week, it is more than just a school museum.

Many groups and organizations use the school and its grounds for camps, family reunions, hands-on demonstrations, and interesting displays, to name a few.

If you are a historian of sorts, the name Jamie Reaney will be familiar.



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Mrs. Wilma McCaig, Jamie Reaney's sister, was part of the Crerar family reunion in August at the Brocksden School Museum, northwest of Shakespeare on the 2nd Concession (Line 37, Vivian Line). She is seen with the museum's 1909 class photo, which is above the school's back entrance door. Wilma's mother, Elizabeth Henrietta Crerar, then aged 10, is third from the left in the back row.

In her 20s, Elizabeth Crerar married James N. Reaney. Their son became the famous poet and playwright James Crerar (Jamie) Reaney, who would have turned 100 in September.

He was a very important poet and playwright in his day and lived on his ancestral farm in South Easthope Township, near Stratford and what's known as the Little Lakes in Perth County, east of the city.

To add to this historical story, we spoke with Kelly McIntosh, executive director of the Stratford-Perth Museum.

The museum celebrated the centenary birthday of James Crerar (Jamie) Reaney on what would have been his 100th birthday on Sept. 1.

Reaney was one of Canada's most celebrated and influential poets, playwrights and writers, born and raised on a small farm in southern Perth County near Stratford.

McIntosh said, "They were deeply honoured to welcome Jamie's family: his son, James Stewart Reaney; his daughter, Susan Reaney, with partner Ian Chung; James's wife, Susan Wallace; and their daughter, Elizabeth."

The guest of honour was Jamie Reaney's sister, Wilma McCaig.

That day at the museum, according to McIntosh, "there were so many voices filling the room with stories, history, readings, and joyous recollections of Jamie Reaney's life, and his remarkable legacy."

Dorothy Chamberlain gave an intriguing presentation on Jamie's history and his life at the family farmhouse, while Susan Reaney's reading from biographical material about her father was deeply moving to the crowd on Sept. 1 at the museum.

The Stratford-Perth Museum continues to bring important historical moments to area residents interested in the stepping stones that make the Stratford and Perth County areas unique in their own theatrical and historical ways.

OBITUARY

McINTOSH: Dianne Kathryn



Passed away peacefully on Monday, September 07, 2026 at Hillside Manor Long Term Care Home in Stratford, Ontario. Dianne McIntosh of Embro, Ontario in her 76th year.

Beloved wife of Keith McIntosh, whom she married March 26, 1976.

Loving mother of Melissa McIntosh and husband Mike Hishon of Stratford, Jennifer McIntosh and husband Jesse Schmidt of Comox, B.C. and Brett and wife Janis McIntosh of Stratford. Cherished grandmother of Cole, Luke, Mabel, Poppy, Liam, Zoey and Levi. Survived by her brother Dave and his wife Carol Weber of Brisbane, Australia and sister Jan and her husband Lyle Bender of Hickson, Ontario.

Predeceased by her parents Eldon and Frieda (Welker) Weber, her brother Wayne Weber and his wife Marilyn.

A private family service will be held in the funeral home chapel with a burial to follow at Trinity Lutheran Church Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Trinity Lutheran Church would be appreciated by the family. Personal condolences can be shared at www.gffh.ca

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Francis Chapel of the Glendinning Funeral Home, 77 Woodstock Street N, Tavistock, Ontario.

OBITUARY

SHANTZ, Jean Anna



After a short illness, Jean Anna Shantz (nee Ruby) died on September 5, with family by her side. She is predeceased by her husband Willard (Willie) Laverne Shantz, her brother Ralph Ruby, as well as several beloved brothers- and sisters-in-law. Survived by her children Lorrie (Ross), Colleen, Scott (Cindy), and Steve

(Marcia), eleven grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and oodles of much-loved nieces and nephews.

Jean grew up in Milverton and in recent years lived in the Nithview apartments and at Parkwood Seniors Community. But for most of her life she lived in Baden where she and Willie moved after marrying. There they enjoyed warm relationships with neighbours and active membership in Wilmot Mennonite Church.

Jean was both creative and industrious. She kept a large garden and spent the winter months knitting, sewing, and quilting. She loved to entertain, filling the table with her cooking, baking, and preserves—or at other times filling the tables of neighbours or friends who were sick or overwhelmed. Her handmade quilts have covered the beds of each of her children and grandchildren. Her love language was acts of service and the quickest way to her heart was to relish her food. She enjoyed travelling, skating, and reading books with brave female heroines.

Employed for 21 years as a receptionist at the New Hamburg Medical Center, Jean came to know many members of the community through her work. Following her retirement, she volunteered at Nithview Home and the MCC Thrift Store for several years. Like many women of her generation, Jean did not have opportunity to pursue education in proportion to her abilities. Instead, she encouraged and supported her children on their paths. She found much satisfaction in each of those forms of service too.

The family extends thanks to the staff at Parkwood Assisted Living and Grand River Hospital for their compassionate care in the last months and days of Jean's life.

Visitation will be held at Wilmot Mennonite Church from 5:00-8:00 on Wednesday, September 9. The funeral will be held at Wilmot Mennonite Church on Thursday, September 10 at 11:00, followed by lunch and opportunity to visit with the family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Mennonite Central Committee through the funeral home website. Personal condolences can also be posted for the family at www.markjutzifuneralhomes.ca

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

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.



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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.

August 31 - September 7, 2016, Edition (10 years ago)

The Tavistock Athletics U14 Girls capped off a brilliant season with a 4th place finish out of 19 teams at the Canadian National Championships in Winnipeg, Manitoba from August 17-21. The locals ran a record of 3 wins and 1 loss through the round robin portion of the event, good enough for a sixth seed and a berth in the top 8 champions round of the playoffs. Members of the team are: Danielle Bast, Bri Smith, Alyssa Forthuber, Danielle Brodrecht, Sarah Culp, Sarah Bailey, Hailey Scott, Mihret Eliasziw, Rianna Forthuber, Morgan Stock, Paige Schneider, Megan Bailey, Kamryn Lamond.

Jessie Carberry, 18, was crowned Tuesday, August 23rd, 2016 as Woodstock Fair Ambassador 2016. Jessie is the daughter of Steve and Lisa Carberry, who live on the 13th line of East Zorra-Tavistock. The Woodstock Fair has become a huge part of her summer. Almost every year for the last 7 years she has competed in either the Thursday night Holstein Show and or the Saturday 4-H Dairy Show. She has also been able to help with the set up and take down that the agriculture ladies do keep the auditorium looking great.

Families and staff at Sprucedale Public School in Shakespeare have been working together this part year to raise funds for new playground equipment at the school. With the kind donation of \$5,000 from the Libro Credit Union Prosperity Project, the group has reached the \$40,000 mark in their goal of raising \$120,000. It is a welcome addition for the purchase and installation of a new play structure that will be available to the entire community.

August 30 - September 6, 2006, Edition (20 years ago)

As you wander through Oxford taking in historic sites and buildings, Trinity Anglican Church, situated on Highway #59,

two miles south of Tavistock on Highway 59 is a must see. This quaint, country church is one of the first built in the area and is a portal back to 1846 when it began as a mission church. Trinity Church is modelled after the chapels in old England. With its austere exterior and beautiful grounds, it catches your eye as you travel the highway/ Many a traveller has longed to stop and enter so that they may go back in time to learn the history of this little church in the country.

Coaches of the Tavistock Atom Girls Softball team are praiseworthy of their players for a rewarding season. "Everyone played exceptionally well and had great team spirit to go along with their many cheers," the coach said. The girls finished second in league play and earned silver medals at the year-end play-off tournament in Tavistock. They lost to Baden in the finals. Although they were eliminated in the first round of Ontario Rural Softball Association play, they gave their all against a tough team from Six Nations. Of the thirteen players, four were playing ball for the first time and the team has three first-time pitchers.

September 3 - 10, 1986, Edition (40 years ago)

Several new attractions were part of the 135th annual Tavistock Fall Fair this past weekend with record attendance each of the three days. Exhibitors brought their work to the arena Friday morning for judging in the afternoon and the midway was in full swing by supertime. The cool night air had visitors shivering to the beat of Maple Lane, a Waterloo university-based band, who entertained, ad-libbed, and hosted the Fair Queen Pageant and opening ceremonies.

Three classes of All-Terrain Vehicles were in the competition on Sunday afternoon at the park as part of fall fair activities. In the junior class, aged 10-13, Scott McGregor received the award and \$25 in prize money for the first place finish with a time of 1:28.6. Robbie Bender came out the second place winner in a playoff round with Jim Junker who took third prize. Seven drivers competed in the junior class.

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The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette SPORTS

PJHL finalists kick off regular season looking for another deep playoff run

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

The Tavistock Braves made it to the Provincial Junior Hockey League's championship series last May, something they are looking to repeat this season.

The team took the Fergus Whalers to five games after a gruelling playoff run, and with 14 returning players and some newcomers with solid hockey pedigree, the team has put itself in a good place on paper.

"Both our goalies are back between the pipes, which is big for us this year and trying to get back to finish the job," said general manager Brent Lange.

Those goalies are Blake Richard, who carried the majority of the workload during the Schmaltz Cup playoffs, and New Hamburg native Andrew Torchia. The team also stacks up among the league's best on the blueline.

"Our defence core has four returning from last year, which is another big factor for us. Carson Bernhardt is back for his fourth season, Keaton Bartlett and Jack Hodge their third, and Nathan Siebert. We also brought in Owen Yagar, a proven leader who just captained the Cambridge Riverhawks to the Southerland Cup championship last year in the GOHL."

Lange said defenceman Liam McHugh, who AP'd with the team last year, has been signed, a player who will bring a big body presence on the back end.

"We also signed local Tavistock native Rowan Bartlett as well, who has now graduated from the U18 program after spending the last two seasons with the New Hamburg Jr. Firebirds."

Returning forwards include Evan Palubeski, Yann Raskin, Jackson Andrews, Tucker Otto, Carter Otto, Nolan Miller, Felix Isert-Bender and Brett Bell.

"We have also signed and brought in a few more strong players as well that will help bolster our lineup. Jake Skuta, who was also on the Cambridge Riverhawks team last year, and Keenan McGrath, who brings a strong two-way game for us," added Lange. "Leo Lajeunesse and Levi Westwood, who will also be fun players to watch, along with Hayden Doerbecker and Tyler Klein, who will add to our forward depth this season."

The Braves also affiliated a few solid local players to call upon, including Marshall McKay, Jay Alexander and Gavin Greenlee.

Lange said last year's playoff run was



(PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TAVISTOCK BRAVES)

The Tavistock Braves recently announced the 2026-27 leadership team. From left to right are Evan Palubeski, Keaton Bartlett, Carson Bernhardt and Owen Yagar. The team opens the 2026-27 season on the road in Norwich on Friday, Sept. 11

memorable and it was an incredible experience to be a part of it. This year he hopes for something much similar and added everyone knows the task at hand now and what it takes.

"But we have to start the year ready to go and go at it one game at a time. We will have some kinks to work out like every team to start the year."

Tavistock recently named its four captains for the campaign, something Lange said wasn't overly difficult to do.

"Each one of them is great and leads on and off the ice. Keaton Bartlett is our captain this year, a good Tavi(stock) boy who leads on the ice and off and has a strong voice in the room people will listen to. He wore an A for us last year."

Another assistant from last season, Bernhardt, will again wear an A, as will the newly acquired Yagar.

"He came in this year and just brings such a strong presence to our team in the room and on the ice. Great young man who leads by example and is a very respectful and respected by everyone in that room.

Palubeski was another one we picked to wear an A for us this season. We will rely on him to lead us on and off the ice."

At a recent press conference, Bartlett said it's an honour to wear the captain's C for his hometown team.

"Growing up in Tavi and coming to watch Braves games was awesome and I hope to be able to lead these guys by working hard and doing all the little things right. There has been a lot of hard work coming from the leads we have had here in the past. Marc (Dionne) worked very hard ... and was a team-first guy. I think I'm just looking to keep that rolling."

Another positive for the team is the return of the entire coaching staff led by bench boss Zac Berg. Lange said it was an easy decision.

"Winning coaches of the year on the Doherty side and taking us to the Schmaltz Cup finals is something pretty impressive in only their second year as junior coaches. Not many people get that chance to do what they did in over a five- or 10-year career. Them all being Tavistock Minor

Hockey and Tavistock Braves graduates is also something pretty cool."

Lange doesn't expect the division to get any easier this season, and it is always one of the league's strongest.

"Wellesley has loaded up pretty good this year, New Hamburg will be a good strong team again like every year. Norwich and Dorchester have added some good young players as well and should be pretty good, and Paris and Hespeler will be improved as well."

He added the team will be ready for another solid season and perhaps another Schmaltz Cup run.

"It takes all 25 players to play as a family and a team and battle to the end. We did that and came up short. We will be ready to compete and try and get back to finish the job this year."

Tavistock begins its regular season on Friday, Sept. 11, in Norwich for an 8 p.m. start. The home opener is set for one week later as the Braves take on the New Hamburg Firebirds at 7:30 p.m.

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Regional Editor ties the knot with the love of his life



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

The newly married couple, Mrs. and Mr. -Julia and Galen Simmons-, are shown repeating their vows to each other, on the picturesque southern shores of Georgian Bay on the weekend, before friends and family.

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

In a beautiful location off the Southern Shores of Georgian Bay, the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette and St. Mary's Independent Writer and Editor, Galen Simmons, tied the knot on the weekend with Julia Paul, who he's been best friends with for over three years.

The Granthaven Media friends and colleagues, were sure all readers who enjoy the weekly papers, wish the newly wed couple all the best.

They own their own home and are happy to make Stratford the city they are both proud to work in, and at the same time, be part of, the wider Perth and Waterloo County areas.

Kris Wilkinson

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NEAT Antique Tractor Club members gather for breakfast at Hidden Acres

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

Near the end of summer, members of the North Easthope Antique Tractor Club (NEAT) were invited for breakfast at the spacious camp of Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp, northeast of Shakespeare on Line 37.

If you've ever thought the NEAT club was a small organization, once you see this picture, I am sure the wow factor comes to mind.

Dozens of antique tractors made their way to the camp, eager for a good photo with the executive, councillors, and kitchen staff from the picturesque Hidden Acres Camp.

Two nearby farmers and brothers, Lorne and Julius Lichti, donated the acres of land where the Mennonite camp is situated many years ago, wanting the camp to serve a much-needed purpose in the community.

If they could only see today how Hidden Acres has flourished over the last number of decades, their families, many of whom still live in the area, know that both Lorne and Julius would be very proud of how many the camp welcomes each and every year.

In speaking with Josh Penfold, the program director for the camp, they welcomed 568 campers through the nine weeks of programming this past summer.

They also have nine year-round staff and about 45 summer staff while camps are running.

They also welcomed over 10,000 guests across summer camps, retreats, rentals, and school programs.

Needless to say, they are one of the busiest camps around for 12 months of the year, and the Tractor Breakfast members were very happy to be able to help them out with some of their fundraising efforts.



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Dozens of NEAT club members show their appreciation to the breakfast makers at the Mennonite Camp, the camp's directors in the front of the group include, from left: Maryanne Lebold, office manager; Cyndi Cook, kitchen cook; Cassie Lebold, assistant program director; Joshua Penfold, program director; Cora Musser; Brent Messer, facilities and environmental stewardship director; Evie Musser; and Mary Anne Musser, facilities and environmental stewardship director. Missing is Chris Pot, executive director.

Farmers get look at Pride corn varieties near Tavistock

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

Tuesday was a sunny, warm day and a perfect day to view the Pride field corn plot of Trouw Nutrition and Yantzi Seed on Line 33 (Pork Street).

Manager Zenon Bender introduced many representatives from Pride Seeds, and all gave summaries of diseases that might be occurring or have occurred in corn in some parts of the province.

After five years of being with Pride Seeds, Agronomy Lead Olivia Van Doornik walked the local farmers through the many varieties in this plot of Scott and Bob Dietrich's.

She offered the many varieties that Pride Seeds says farmers should be looking for in the future, with the many high-producing new varieties that will be hitting the retail market next spring for planting.

Trouw Nutrition's Zenon Bender stated that this area near Tavistock received 24

inches of rain this growing season, which was twice as much as compared to last year, with very few days of drought, even though some corn was starting to spike in mid- to late July.

He said with all the smoke from Northern Ontario that farmers in this area witnessed, it was almost a Godsend to keep the extreme heat out, while the corn was under drought and heat stress at that time, with the lack of needed moisture.

Everyone in attendance felt this plot was a good one with large cobs at 1/4 to 1/2 milk line, and neither tar spot nor rootworm could be detected, with cobs filled in with kernels, up and over the very tip of the cob.

Even though fertilizer prices have increased, the importance of feeding the corn plant with the nutrients it needs should still remain as a high priority for those corn growers in the area who are expecting better-than-average yields.

Gazette Puzzles

FAIR DAYS

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Pet of the Week

ATLAS

Meet Atlas, a velvety gentleman who is as handsome as he is curious! Thoughtful and intelligent, this boy likes to explore his surroundings, investigate new toys, and just see what's going on with his people.

Atlas is the kind of rabbit who prefers to take his time getting to know new people. With patience and a little trust-building, his sweet personality begins to shine. He'll do best in a home where his adopters can give him time to settle in at his own pace.

If you have love and patience to give, this guy could become your new best friend! You can meet Atlas by contacting our Kitchener Centre or visiting our website at <https://kwsphumane.ca/adopt/small-animals>



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Baden Burgers – the place to go when you need a break from the kitchen

HEAPS OF HEALTHY TIPS

By Mercedes Kay Gold



Eating healthy is the best thing you can do to support overall health. The key is choosing minimally processed whole foods whether you eat a plant- or animal-based diet.

Not too long ago, Canada's Food Guide was revamped, and the website leads with a simple yet truthful slogan.

Eat well. Live well.

The new and improved food guide encourages Canadians of every age to eat a variety of healthy foods daily. It advocates incorporating plenty of fruits and vegetables, protein-rich foods, whole grains and making water your drink of choice.

Unfortunately, most people are so overwhelmed with the ever-changing studies, misinformation and onslaught of body-perfect social media stars doling out free advice, throwing in the towel is inevitable. Add in health concerns, budget and a busy schedule, and there's no wonder weight and type-2 diabetes have skyrocketed.

As a holistic nutritionist, I am a zealous believer in meal prep whether in advance or in the

midst of the morning rush. Of course, I encourage weekly meal planning for clients and packing the freezer with one-pan meals.

Many clients find success with the 80/20 diet. This is a flexible eating lifestyle where, you guessed it, healthy foods are 80 per cent of the time and the remaining 20 per cent allows more freedom. Consistency remains key rather than strict rules potentially leading to deprivation. The core belief is that by eliminating the typical all-or-nothing mindset, health goals are achievable. It's not about counting calories or macros. As a health expert emphasizing eating nutrient dense, I still push minimizing sugar, additives, food colouring, preservatives, artificial sweeteners and all processed food during the 20 per cent.

That being said, I also need a break from the kitchen from time to time and have my comfort food favourites. My diet is clean and at times lacks imagination, with hard-boiled eggs, sardines, fermented veggies and steak a staple.

Like most, I am a food fanatic. Baden Burgers is not new, but this local love is a must to satisfy a "diner" craving but still eat home cooking.

Owner Nik Abd is the main man behind the grill. If you aren't a regular already, it's time to try. The menu has something for everyone. From burgers to wraps to fish and chips and even pasta, the options are endless. Fries with gravy, mozzarella sticks, onion rings and Quebec's classic poutine.

With a hankering for an old-fashioned hamburger right off the grill, this holistic nutritionist decided to take a drive. Why travel far when the best burger in the area is right in Baden?

Homemade with whole food ingredients is the name of the game. Nik's burger patties are perfect; all meat, no fillers and cooked to juicy perfection. The buns are soft and gluten-free options are available. Taste buds can travel the world. The German burger is topped with sauerkraut, Swiss and bacon. Giddy up with a cowboy burger or take a trip to Italy with a

burger smothered in asiago and parmesan cheese.

I decided to make my burger one-of-a-kind, checking all the boxes. Protein in the patty, tomato and lettuce for colourful garden goodness, healthy omegas thanks to avocado, fat and fabulous flavour with a boatload of blue cheese and no added sugar thanks to mustard. Forgo fries? No way! I chose sweet potato fries knowing they are not coated in a white flour batter before frying. They were amazing.

There's no reason to live in a diet frame of mind. Balance is key. Live a life of love, lots of laughs and with a side of healthy choices consistently. Longevity!

Baden Burgers is open Tuesday to Sunday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and conveniently located at 15 Foundry St. in Baden. Follow on Facebook at Baden Burgers and Instagram @badenburger25 for mouthwatering menu options.



(MERCEDES KAY GOLD PHOTOS)

Nik Abd is the owner and burger boss at Baden Burgers.

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My burger of choice included plenty of healthy foods like lettuce, tomato, avocado and blue cheese alongside the all-beef patty. As a side, I chose sweet potato fries, a healthier alternative to regular fries.

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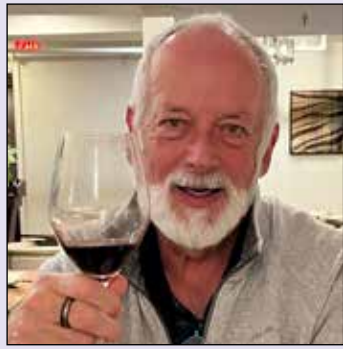
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Exploring Rhône River wine country

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO

By Paul Knowles



Sometimes, it's good to be reminded how little one knows.

Among our circle of friends, I am sometimes seen as something of an expert on wine. That's because I write about wineries from time to time and I organize an annual, one-day wine tour in Niagara for a group of about 30 friends. Oh yes, they know I drink wine on a very regular basis.

Turns out, I am simply a guy who likes wine. But an expert? Not so much.

I quickly realized how little I actually know when we were invited by Viking to take a Rhône River cruise in the south of France. It was a terrific experience; we visited famous cities like Lyon, Avignon and Arles; we saw impressive examples of Roman civilization; we learned about the area's key role in the French Resistance in World War II.

And to my great delight, our cruise included visits to both the Beaujolais wine region and to Châteauneuf-du-Pape, places about which, it turned out, I knew nothing except the names.

There are wonderful wines being produced all over the world, but you have to admit that the first nation that comes to mind when you talk "wine" is probably France. And wine country along the Rhône is an important contributor to that longstanding reputation. I learned that most of the major vineyards along the Rhône have been there since Roman times. So, they've had a while to get it right.

Wine production became even more important in the 1300s after the pope had moved from Rome to Avignon (that's a long and complicated story). What's crucial here is that the popes liked wine and encouraged the development of more vineyards.

Today, two of the important wine regions are the two we were able to visit – Beaujolais and Châteauneuf-du-Pape.

And here's where I confess my absolute ignorance. I had no idea that there are actually 12 appellations (sub-districts) in the Beaujolais district, which sits north of Lyon. More embarrassingly, I had always assumed that Châteauneuf-du-Pape was a single, prestigious winery. Nope. This

appellation includes 320 vineyards, supplying about 180 independent wineries. It covers 3,200 hectares.

Our cruise sailed from north to south, so the first wine tour we did was in the Beaujolais district, which lies north of Lyon. Here, there are about 200 wineries. We were welcomed at the Château des Ravatys, located in the Côte de Brouilly appellation (roughly in the centre of the Beaujolais district).

We learned that Beaujolais wines are almost exclusively made from Gamay grapes; and that 94 per cent of Beaujolais is red wine (yes, you can make either red or white from red grapes; it depends on your method).

Probably most importantly, we learned that the Beaujolais we tasted was really, really good.

A side note: sometimes large-group wine tours result in wineries serving their bottom-line wines for economic reasons. This was certainly not the case during our wine country visits with Viking; the wines were excellent – so good at times they were well out of my price range!

The Beaujolais visit was an included feature of our cruise. A few days later, we opted for an optional excursion, which comes at an add-on price. The tour to Châteauneuf-du-Pape was worth it.

This district, south of Lyon, is a direct result of papal love for wine; in fact, the name translates as "The Pope's new castle," and that castle (although hardly new) still stands. Here, we had tours and tastings at two wineries – Château des Fines Roches, part of Domaines Mousett, and Maison Bouachon.



A beaujolais wine cellar.

Unlike the Beaujolais wines, which are made from one grape variety, in the Châteauneuf-du-Pape district, 18 varieties of grapes are used in making the wine – not all at once, of course. Most Châteauneuf-du-Pape wines are red, though whites also bear the same appellation.

There are strict rules imposed on the vineyards, including when owners can harvest, minimum alcohol content in the wines (typically rather high, between 13 and 15 per cent), and vineyard management.

There is some good reason behind the strict rules. In the 1870s, an insect pest known as Grape phylloxera came to Châteauneuf-du-Pape (it ravaged vineyards all over Europe) and destroyed the vineyards. One result was wine fraud – inferior wines were sold, falsely labelled. But root stock was imported from North America, French vines were grafted onto it and eventually, the vineyards rebounded. By the 1920s, the strict regulations had been imposed to ensure that wine from Châteauneuf-du-Pape was indeed of the quality the brand name represented.

I was intrigued that one of the Châteauneuf-du-Pape rules is that vineyards must not use irrigation. However, this appellation is part of the much larger Côtes du Rhône region. The good news for wineries using that label, as opposed to the admittedly more prestigious Châteauneuf-du-Pape brand, is that irrigation is allowed. The good news for wine drinkers (me, for instance) is that Côtes du Rhône wines are both excellent and far less expensive than those bearing that iconic, Pope-inspired label.

I went to the Rhône region knowing less than I thought about wine. I return, probably still in the same boat, but having had a heck of a good time. Wine time, in fact.

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)

A vineyard in Beaujolais country.



The chateau at Château des Ravatys in the Beaujolais district.



Gamay grapes on the vine.

My memories from September 11, 2001

FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

By Stewart Grant



Long before I was in the newspaper business, I still wrote a lot of things down and kept a journal. Social media was not around yet, but lengthy emails to friends and family were a thing, especially for me living on an island away from home. On Sept. 11, 2001, I was a 27-year-old living in Bermuda and working as a Chartered Accountant for Marsh, an insurance company. My wife Laurie and I were hosting her parents Gary and Marg who were visiting us at our island home, and we were relieved that Hurricane Erin, the first Atlantic hurricane of 2001, had passed by Bermuda on Sept. 9 without incident.

On Sept. 11, 2001, my parents, Murray and June, were back home in St. Marys while my sister

Lori was living in Norway where she was working in finance with General Electric.

I wrote them the following email on the evening of Sept. 11 as I reflected on the horrific events. I just wanted to share this email to take you back 25 years to the thoughts of a regular guy in his 20s living through this when it happened. It's amazing how when I re-type this email all these years later how the feelings come flooding back.

September 11, 2001, 8:45 am Eastern time, 9:45 am Atlantic Time – I was sitting at my desk when Tom White walked by and told me the news – the World Trade Center had been hit by two airplanes. That's where I was when the news came. As my

internet was down, I called Laurie at work so I could hear the broadcast from her TV over the phone lines to get more details on this shocking news. Following our talk, the next amazing wave of news came around – the Pentagon had also been hit. We at Marsh gathered in the meeting room where we watched the unbelievable news come in on ABC and CBS. For the balance of the morning, we silently stood and sat in shock as the pictures came across the screen. Then at about 12:00, there was a gathering in the training room where we prayed for world peace and had a moment of silence for the dead – about six or seven people got up and prayed aloud. This is when I felt saddest, thinking not only of those who died today but also about what this attack may mean on a grander scale.

Like the Challenger explosion in 1986, like the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995, and like the Kennedy assassination in 1963, this unfortunately will forever be a moment captured in time; a moment where everyone knows where they were when it happened.

Somehow

though this is scarier than all the other examples above. This was something out of a movie, something surreal – the first half of Independence Day comes to mind. Hopefully this is not a sign of things to come. Hopefully the terrorist actions which are now common in places like Jerusalem have not permanently found their way into our lives. Hopefully we do not travel in fear of being in the wrong place at the wrong time. Hopefully this doesn't start a chain of events which leads us into World War III.

The amazing thing is, although we are living in Bermuda, Canada, and Norway, we will find that none of us are unaffected by this tragedy.

I probably know people that died today. The Marsh headquarters were in the World Trade Center, floors 95 to 100. Last month I met in person a couple people from the Marsh NY office, including one woman who I've spoken with on 10-15 occasions and gotten to know. I hope she was out of the office today.

The largest companies in the world have offices in the World Trade Center. Marsh, Deloitte

& Touche, and Arthur Anderson are just the ones I know for sure. Some 50,000 or so work in the World Trade Center I've been told, so I'm sure we all know someone who knows someone who was there today.

Once we get over the terrible loss of the people that died, we will be left to deal with the consequences – the emotional impact on the survivors, the impact on the national psyche, and the changes in our lives as a result of this. Travel will definitely be impacted, as we will see increased lines at borders, customs, etc. due to increased searches, questioning, etc. People of certain races are going to be the subject of constant scrutiny just because of their skin colour – for them it might be very difficult.

Well, I don't know what else to say... I'm probably not thinking clearly anyway. I just wanted to get in touch with my family today and reflect a bit on what has happened. This is not just another news story that captures our interest for awhile, this is very sadly a day in which we have perhaps seen a significant turning point in world history.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR - SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2026

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

OPTIMIST CLUB OF PETERSBURG BREAKFAST IN THE PARK

8:30 - 12 noon
Petersburg Park
1338 Notre Dame Dr., Petersburg

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Perth East council meeting 7 p.m.

Council chambers
25 Mill Street East, Milverton

Garden Wilmot event: Youth Appreciation Night, and learn about Moths 7 p.m.

We'll celebrate the achievements of our Junior Gardeners. Our speaker, Alan Macnaughton, is an award winning amateur entomologist who will introduce us to the fascinating world of moths.
Wilmot Rec Complex,
1291 Nafziger Rd, Baden

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Community Care Concepts Lunch and Fellowship 12 p.m.

Please register by September 11 by calling 519-664-1900 or Toll Free: 1-855-664-1900
Wilmot Rec Complex,
1291 Nafziger Rd, Baden

East Zorra-Tavistock Council meeting 7 p.m.

Council Chambers
89 Loveys Street East, Hickson

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Morningside Community Fall Craft Show 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Free Admission. Wreaths, table decor, Halloween, hostess gifts, Raffle & more Coffee & a Slice.
10 Homestead Place, New Hamburg

Perth County Beef Farmers Annual Beef BBQ Dinner

Dinner 5-7:30 p.m. Live Music 6-10 p.m.
For tickets email perthcountybeef@gmail.com. For more information contact Angela Schneider 519-291-8668
Milverton Agri Centre (MAC)
17 Pierson Street, Milverton

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Wilmot Terry Fox Run 9-11 a.m.

Wilmot Rec Centre,
Schmidt Woods Trail

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

STRATFORD SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING - Free Open House class

7:30-9:15 p.m.
For information contact stratfordscd@gmail.com or (519) 272-1398
St. Paul's Anglican Church
9 Douro St. (at Waterloo)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Wellesley Council meeting 6:45 p.m.

Council chambers
4805 William Hastings Line, Crosshill

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Community Care Concepts Lunch and Fellowship 12 p.m.

Please register by September 18 by calling 519-664-1900 or Toll Free: 1-855-664-1900
Linwood Community Centre,
5279 Ament Line, Linwood

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Team Unity Synchronized Skating Teams- Tavistock Skating Club are holding a fundraising drive (bottle and clothing) 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

To raise money to help offset travel costs this season. Donate by curbside pick up (contact a Team Unity skater for details) or drop off at Tavistock arena
Tavistock & District Recreation Centre (Arena),
1 Adam St, Tavistock

CMHA Huron Perth Recovery Breakfast, in recognition of Recovery Month 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

By donation. Eggs, Bacon, Hashbrowns, Toast, Fruit, Sweet Treats, Coffee, Tea Juice
Generous Donations by: Ontario Pork Congress, Egg Farmers Of Ontario, Cobs Bread, The Local Community Food Centre, Festival City Dairy, Joe's Diner, To Bean Or Not To Bean, Zehrs.
Holy Trinity Anglican Church (formerly St. James) 41 Mornington Street, Stratford

The Nith Valley EcoBoosters are hosting another Repair Café 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Contact us at: nvebrepaircafe@gmail.com or check out www.nvecoboosters.com
Zion United Church,
215 Peel St., New Hamburg

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Get Pumped! The Nith Valley EcoBoosters are hosting a free information session about heat pumps with local experts 7 p.m.

More information at nvecoboosters.com
Wellesley Rec Centre,
1401 Queen's Bush Rd., Wellesley

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Vigil Service - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

5:30 p.m.
All are welcome for this service of lament hosted by the Wilmot Indigenous Relations Interfaith Working Group. Please bring a lawn chair as this is an outdoor event on Trinity's Peel St. lawn. Attendees are invited to wear orange shirts.
Trinity Lutheran Church
23 Church Street, New Hamburg

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

Oxford Philatelic Society Circuit Book (Stamp) Fair

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Free Admission & Parking
Stop in and buy some stamps and meet fellow stamp collectors.
About 8 participating stamp clubs.
Contact: dheaton3e3@gmail.com
Website: http://www.rpsc.org/chapters/oxford
Church of the Epiphany,
560 Dundas Street, Woodstock

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

Rescue Junction: Gospel Bluegrass Concert 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Free Will Offering taken.
Rosebank Church
1434 Huron Road, Petersburg

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

TAVISTOCK FAIR BOOK SALE

The Second Hand Book Nook Sale

Friday, Sept. 11, 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 12, 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 13, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Lots of books, magazines and puzzles for sale
For more information, call (519)590-1617
Tavistock Fall Fair in the arena
1 Adam St., Tavistock

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.

FREE SENIORS ACTIVITIES CONT

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.

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm
runs until until the end of September 2026.
Ezt Township Administration Building (lobby),
89 Loveys Street, Hickson

PLATTSVILLE & DISTRICT HERITAGE SOCIETY

Plattsville & District Heritage Society exhib- it "Holidays & Celebrations That Bring Us Together"

June 6 to September 19 | Saturdays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Donations accepted. Refreshments. Contact
plattsvilledistrictheritage@gmail.com or call
519.535.1417.
Archive & Museum at Chesterfield,
816661 Oxford Rd 22, Bright

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

CLASSIFIED ADS

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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.

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1	2	5	3	8	6	9	7	4
7	8	3	4	9	1	6	5	2
4	9	6	7	2	5	3	1	8
3	5	8	2	7	4	1	6	9
6	4	1	8	5	9	2	3	7
2	7	9	1	6	3	8	4	5

Quiz Time Answers

1. Koalas
2. Switzerland
3. Ganymede (Jupiter)
4. Australia
5. Mercury
6. Sir Isaac Newton
7. United Nations
8. Rebecca
9. Shark
10. Tariff

HELP WANTED



HIRING EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

The Township of Perth South Public Works Department is seeking a qualified Equipment Operator. Reporting to the Operations Manager, applicants will be experienced with the ability to operate and maintain various pieces of equipment, such as road graders, wheel loaders and tandem dump trucks. The candidate will also be required to complete roadside maintenance activities including, trees, signage, potholes, and debris clean up.

Applicants should have road maintenance and construction knowledge, experience in equipment operation and maintenance and a valid "DZ" license. This position is subject to weekend and winter scheduling and some emergency call-out.

The 2026 salary range for this position is **\$27.73 – \$34.67 per hour** based on a 40-hour work week.

The Township of Perth South offers excellent benefits and a competitive compensation package. For a detailed job description of this position, please visit www.perthsouth.ca

We thank all candidates for their interest, however, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

Interested candidates are invited to submit a detailed resume expressing their interest to the undersigned clearly marked as "Equipment Operator" by **Thursday, Sept 24, 2026**.

Ken Bettles, Director of Public Works

Township of Perth South

3191 Road 122

St. Pauls, ON N0K 1V0

E-mail - kbettles@perthsouth.ca

Information gathered is under the authority of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and shall only be used for candidate selection purposes.

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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