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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2024

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Kitchener-Conestoga MPP Mike Harris and Minister of Seniors and Accessibility Raymond Cho were in Wellesley to announce a funding boost for senior programming through Community Care Concepts on Nov. 13. Photo by Lee Griffi

## Wellesley area seniors benefit from provincial funding announcement

LEE GRIFFI

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Seniors in Wellesley Township and surrounding areas have been given a funding boost by the provincial government to help them stay active and healthy.

Kitchener-Conestoga MPP Mike Harris and Raymond Cho, minister for seniors and accessibility, announced new investments

at the Aging Well in Wellesley Information and Active Living Fair Nov. 13 in the Bill Gies Recreation Centre. The government said the investments reflect Ontario's ongoing commitment to seniors by enhancing services and programs that promote health, fitness and social engagement closer to home. More than 100 area seniors attended the event with two dozen booths offering supports.

Community Care Concepts (CCC) of Woolwich, Wellesley and Wilmot is getting over \$50,000 in annual investments, up from about \$42,000 in previous funding.

"We can deliver more programs and operate longer hours," said CCC executive director Cathy Harrington.

The organization delivers services for older adults in the area.

Continued on page 2

## CAO leaves Wilmot Township; Clark continues double-duty role

LEE GRIFFI

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Sharon Chamber is no longer an employee of Wilmot Township.

The former chief administrative officer's last day was Nov. 15 according to a press release.

"Township council thanks Ms. Chambers for her contributions during her tenure and acknowledges the dedication she brought to the role," the release states. "Her efforts have supported the township through several significant projects and initiatives, and we extend our best wishes to her in her future endeavors."

"Transitions of CAOs are not uncommon in municipalities, and I want to assure residents that council is fully committed to ensuring we have the right supports in place to keep township business moving forward smoothly," Mayor Natasha Salonen told the Gazette. "This includes the upcoming budget process, which will kick off in the coming weeks. As mayor, I have full confidence in our staff's ability to continue delivering quality work during this time."

Salonen said she is working closely with the acting CAO to ensure staff has the resources necessary to succeed.

Acting CAO and current chief financial officer Greg Clark said he isn't able to comment on any human resources issues but did say staff are bringing a report to council in mid-December.

"It will be in the closed session of the meeting to tell councillors the procedures for recruiting and moving forward with a new CAO," Clark said.

Each member of Wilmot council are

Continued on page 3

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# Provincial funding benefits Wellesley area seniors

Continued from page 1

“We need to ensure the programs we offer are in our unique communities. In this space, people who are residents of Wellesley, St. Clements, Hawkesville and Linwood; it’s about ensuring people (have access to our programs) within their communities, particularly when we do not necessarily have accessible transportation to go to another community.”

She added being able to respond to the unique needs of older adults and work with them to organize activities and services that get them connected and linked to other services is an important component of the active-living centre.

“They may come out to play cards, crokinole or just to visit with friends, but they can learn about all the other supports and services we have,” Harrington said.

“Our government remains committed to investing in senior communities across our province,” said Harris. “Wellesley is home to a growing and vibrant seniors’ community, and now more than ever, we need to continue investing in the services, activities and programs that empower our seniors to live active and fulfilling lives.”

Cho, who is 88, said there are a few reasons for the funding increase.

“Inflation is one. Everything costs more,” he said.

He added social isolation is very dangerous for seniors and explained the United



Well over 100 seniors from the Wellesley area attended the Aging Well in Wellesley Information and Active Living Fair last week where a funding announcement was made to offer more services for older adults in the area.

Kingdom has a minister responsible for loneliness. Cho shared a story during his time in provincial government when he spoke with an older woman.

“She told me the senior centre she attended saved her life. She lost her husband a few years ago and she just stayed home. A few of her friends offered to take her and she agreed to take part. Since then, it changed her life. Now, she is meeting old friends and making new friends and is full of life. She looked so happy. That’s a true story.”

Along with active-living centres, Cho said the province provides funding for senior-living fairs, such as the one in Wellesley last week, and community grants local, non-profit organizations can apply for.

“Seniors helped build Wellesley, as well as all the communities in Kitchener-Conestoga and across Ontario,” said Cho. “When we invest in our seniors, we are building a better province for all. These investments help our seniors live happy, healthy and

independent lives.”

Harris said the unique number of services available at the Wellesley Township Recreation Complex is partially thanks to the presence of Woolwich Community Health.

“If a group qualifies, they can get up to \$25,000. The idea is to bring seniors together to avoid isolation.”

“One of the things Cathy and her team are good at, aside from offering games and companionship, is the ability to identify some risks or issues that could be going on in someone’s life. She can work with some of the other area agencies to build a plan to help that person,” Harris said.

He added it could be something as simple as Meals on Wheels or programs that address more complex medical needs.

“They run a diabetic clinic here. Having these integrated hubs is a huge part of what minister Cho is looking for and, of course, what Cathy and her team have tried to develop.”

Cho jokingly said he sees himself as a missionary for seniors and accessibility.

“I try my best. It’s a blessing to have this post. I can’t do it alone. I need collaboration and support like what’s happening here in Wellesley. They are doing a great job.”

There are now 316 Seniors Active Living Centres in Ontario and the province said it is investing \$15 million in similar programs.

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## Community Care Concepts' Annual Christmas Benefit Breakfast

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# CAO leaves Wilmot Township

Continued from page 1

rookie politicians and have not gone through the hiring process. They have asked staff to write a report outlining next steps.

"They gave me direction to bring that back to them, so HR and I are working to get information from best practices and other municipalities about the process and give council some options. Do we do it internally, hire a consultant or have a temporary internal CAO?"

Clark added the process is expected to take several months to move the organization forward with someone in the role permanently.

"As the mayor's press release said, I am continuing in an acting role until such time as I am not," Clark said. "That's about all we can share right now."

Chambers' departure is the second high-profile position at the township to become vacant recently. Donna Kell, former manager of communications and strategic initiatives, left her post abruptly on Sept. 12. The township has not said if they left voluntarily or were terminated. Chambers was on a leave of absence when her departure was announced.

Clark faces a tough task with the 2025 budget process well underway. He admitted it's more work than he thought he would be doing but added he has a great team around him and they are ready for the challenge.

"We have a lot of good people at the township who are helping me. Council has been very supportive of my need for additional resources here and there and also prioritizing projects. Part of deferring the budget (by one month) was because of me wearing two hats."

He added council approved a project manager to oversee the township's Prime Minister's Path consultation, an ongoing process which involves seeking public input on the future of the statues in Wilmot Township.

"I feel we are managing very well and my goal while in this role is to keep communication going open with you and other

media, council and the community so we are all moving in the same direction."

He added the township doesn't want people to feel something is missing or not being shared.

"I know there has been a historical perception of that, but I am really trying to break that."

Clark wants residents to know the current team is serving them well.

"I have seen a dedicated workforce that is focused on providing service that is expected and the service people pay for. I think there is a lot of hard work going on in terms of value. Can we do better? Every organization can do better," he said.

He added his goal is to identify places where Wilmot can do better through the 2025 budget.

"I don't think it's a reflection of our staff. I think it's a reflection of other impacts. We haven't had funding for certain capital, or had reserves, some of the things that have been talked about. Those impact our ability to be as good as we can but based on what we have, I think everyone is giving 100 per cent, pulling their weight and pulling in the right direction."

Wilmot hires new communications specialist

Brett O'Reilly has been hired as the township's communications specialist within the office of the CAO.

In an email, the township said "Brett brings a wealth of experience to the role, having worked for over 12 years in municipal communications. Most recently, she served as the corporate communications manager for the Town of St. Marys where she developed and executed the municipality's first-ever corporate communications strategy."

The township said her work has consistently focused on building strong, positive relationships with both the media and the community, as well as driving effective social-media strategies to foster engagement with residents.

O'Reilly's first day on the job is Nov. 26.

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# Wellesley firefighters to receive additional medical training through new agreement with Hamilton Health Sciences

GALEN SIMMONS

*Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

Firefighters in Wellesley Township will soon have the opportunity to pursue additional medical training that will better equip them to respond to calls involving opioid overdoses and life-threatening allergic reactions thanks to a new agreement with Hamilton Health Sciences.

Currently, the fire department is limited to managing airways, oxygen administration and taking patient vitals while responding to people experiencing opioid overdoses and severe allergic reactions. The new agreement with Hamilton Health Sciences – the base hospital for Region of Waterloo Paramedic Services – will provide medical oversight and training that will allow local firefighters to perform delegated medical acts such as administering naloxone to people experiencing opioid overdoses or epinephrine to people experiencing severe allergic reactions.

“The skillset is not going to change significantly,” said Wellesley Fire Chief Paul Redman at township council’s committee of the whole meeting Nov. 12. “We’ve had discussions in the past about bringing on epi and ... we’re not really adding a lot of skillsets, we’re just doing what we can do at the calls we already go to. The big one there would be the possibility of epi, which is one I’d personally like to see, just with the distance and the timing and the need for it. We’re already doing defibrillation ... so that’s not going to change. ... It will be reviewed by the base hospital, so



Wellesley Township firefighters are set to receive enhanced medical training under a new agreement with Hamilton Health Sciences. Fire.fandom.com photo

every time we have a (vital signs absent), they will take our printout from our defibs and they’ll analyze the time structure of how effective our CPR is.

“There will be peer review from our advanced-medical committee reviewing what we’re doing. Overall though, it won’t be a big push. There’s probably going to be some firefighters who don’t want to do it. We have 65-plus (firefighters) and we find a lot of them do; a lot of our younger recruits are coming in, they’re going out on their own and doing advanced medical training. We don’t find a lot of problem with people trying to take that extra stuff on. It’s a win for the community and for the service we’re providing, and I think we’ll have a pretty good buy-in from most of the firefighters.”

The protocols for administering epinephrine and naloxone – a drug that temporarily reverses opioid overdose – are set out by the base-hospital physician and every call

involving a delegated medical act will be reviewed for quality assurance. Hamilton Health Sciences will also be providing focused training for local firefighters in airway management and birthing.

Hamilton Health Sciences operates the Centre for Paramedic Education and Research (CPER), which offers outreach programs that provide medical, health and safety education to clinicians and fire services. CPER will train Wellesley firefighters who possess advanced medical skillsets (i.e. paramedics) to be the in-house trainers who deliver the yearly recertification to all department members. The cost to certify firefighters is approximately \$80 per member and will be paid out of the department’s operational-training budget.

“Naloxone, when administered to some patients, the patients become very excitable after,” Coun. Shelley Wagner said. “... What are we going to do to protect our firefighters who are on scene for that type

of an event as far as protecting them from being injured by somebody who they’ve gone to assist?”

Redman said the medical criteria a patient needs to meet to have naloxone administered will come from the base-hospital physician, meaning firefighters will only administer the drug in specific circumstances.

“When we can get to that point, we can actually add in extra criteria and ... with most of our medical committee being paramedics, there is a push to keep firefighters mostly doing adequate airway, as opposed to (administering) Narcan (naloxone),” he said. “One of the problems is the patients can come out in a very heightened state – aggressive, violent. So, if we are to get to that point, our protocols in-house on top of the medical requirements would probably be very strict on how many people we have there, law enforcement being on scene, that type of backup because our firefighters are there to provide medical assistance. We’re not there to subdue people.”

Redman said the process for getting firefighters trained to administer naloxone and epinephrine will be a long one, the first step of which is to train those members who will be peer trainers.

“By the end of next year, we might have only hit the oxygen-administration (training) and then defib the year after that. It’s a lot to get 65 firefighters coming in. We could not even be, maybe, at the delivery of naloxone for two or three years.

“These are big steps,” Redman said.

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# Local egg farmer and volunteer presented with King Charles III Coronation Medal

GALEN SIMMONS

*Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

An egg farmer and local volunteer who has lent his time and efforts to countless organizations throughout the region, including with this newspaper, was recently presented with the King Charles III Coronation Medal by Senator Robert Black.

Black presented the coronation medal to Gary West during a small ceremony for friends and family at Stratford city hall on Nov. 16. Following the coronation of King Charles III on May 6, 2023, the Canadian government created the King Charles III Coronation Medal to honour Canadians who have distinguished themselves through outstanding contributions and service to Canada.

"Gary, you have worked tirelessly in many areas, contributing to and supporting your organizations and communities, professional and personal, with little fanfare or recognition," Black said. "Your unwavering commitment, driven by a deep sense of responsibility and care, is a source of inspiration for all Canadians."

"Gary, you remind us of the values that define our nation: selflessness, compassion and a dedication to helping others. Though your work may not always receive the spotlight it deserves, rest assured, it has not gone unnoticed, and is appreciated by many."

Born into a Shakespeare dairy farming family in 1952, West spent his youth involved in local sports, 4-H and junior-farm organizations. After graduating from Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary



Area egg farmer and volunteer Gary West was presented with the King Charles III Coronation Medal by Senator Rober Black at Stratford city hall Nov. 16. Photo by Brenda West

School, West studied journalism and worked as a radio broadcaster. He later returned to his agricultural roots, working with Western Ontario Breeders for six years before coming home to partner with his parents on their dairy farm.

West has served in numerous local organizations, including as president of Ontario Animal Breeders, the Stratford and District Agriculture Society, the Shakespeare Optimist Club and the

Shakespeare Community Athletic Association. West also volunteers with Family Services Perth-Huron visiting palliative patients in their homes and he served on the Alzheimer Society of Perth County board of directors for seven years.

In the early 2000s, West and his family transitioned from dairy farming to egg farming and, today, the family cares for

41,000 laying hens at Westlandyn Farms.

After seeing a need for greater nutrition in schools roughly a decade ago, West launched a program that provides peeled, hardboiled eggs to schools free of charge. The program now serves more than 140 schools across Perth and Oxford counties and the Region of Waterloo.

"The King Charles III award came as a very big surprise to me, and I am absolutely humbled by the recognition," West said. "I have received so many incredible comments from friends and neighbours that I can't begin to say how emotionally happy I am that I can live, work and help out in any way I can in the area I have grown up and still live in."

"The Perth County area and organizations that are within it certainly would be the best in anyone's books, and I am so privileged to be a small part of a very caring community."

The King Charles III Coronation Medal isn't the first accolade West has received for his volunteer service. West was named Stratford and area Citizen of the Year in 2013, he won the Perth County Federation of Agriculture's Outstanding Contribution to Agriculture Award in 2009, he was inducted onto the Perth County Agriculture Wall of Fame in 2017, he was presented with Egg Farmers of Ontario's Get Cracking Award in 2018 and he was presented with the 70th anniversary Queen's Jubilee pin in 2022.

Congratulations, Gary!

## WRPS investigating commercial break-in in Wilmot Township

WILMOT-TAVISTOCK GAZETTE STAFF

[thewtgazette@gmail.com](mailto:thewtgazette@gmail.com)

Waterloo Regional Police are investigating a commercial break-and-enter in Wilmot Township.

On Nov. 17 at approximately 5 a.m., four unknown males broke into a business in the area of Gerber Road and Nafziger Road and stole tools.

According to Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) public information officer Const. Melissa Quarrie, the suspects broke the business' glass front door and used a vehicle to further pull the door

away from the building, granting them access to the store.

The suspects stole Milwaukee tools and fled the area in a white Chevrolet Express van, the vehicle used gain entry to the store, with running boards and damage on the passenger side.

Police were unable to provide an estimated value for the stolen tools.

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



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# Rae acclaimed as Progressive Conservative candidate in Perth-Wellington for next provincial election

WILMOT-TAVISTOCK GAZETTE STAFF

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Matthew Rae has been acclaimed as the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party candidate for Perth-Wellington in the next provincial general election.

“It is an honour to be acclaimed as the PC candidate for the next provincial election,” said Rae in a press release. “I remain focused on ensuring Perth-Wellington receives its fair share of provincial funding and that we continue to build a better, stronger and safer rural Ontario.”

“Matthew Rae has been instrumental in delivering results that matter to the people of Perth-Wellington,” said party leader and Ontario Premier Doug Ford in the release. “Whether it’s helping to grow Ontario’s electric-vehicle industry, investing in vital infrastructure, or expanding access to health care, Matthew’s leadership has had a real impact on his community. He’s committed to making life easier and more affordable for families and businesses, and I’m proud to have him on our team as we continue to build a stronger Ontario.”

Since 2022, the Conservative government has invested over \$161 million in health care, schools and infrastructure across Perth-Wellington.

“We have achieved a lot. However, there is more work to be done to ensure we are building the infrastructure we need, investing in our rural health-care system and ensuring that the next generation is set up for success,” Rae told a crowd of supporters at his acclamation in Monkton.



Perth-Wellington MPP Matthew Rae will be the incumbent Conservative candidate for the riding in the next provincial general election. Photo courtesy of Matthew Rae



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## Tavistock Scotiabank raising money for TAP until Christmas

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

The Scotiabank in Tavistock is again getting in the Christmas spirit by helping out the Tavistock Assistance Program (TAP) with collecting funds and, at the

same time, selling cards created by M.L. Herlick Photography.

A portion of the sales from the cards will be donated to TAP. The local bank invites all area residents to drop in and help out a worthy organization at this time of year.



Pictured to the right are samples of the locally crafted cards for sale at Scotiabank in Tavistock, just in time for Christmas. Those who purchase a card will be helping the Tavistock Assistance Program (TAP) with a portion of the proceeds going to support the organization. Photo by Gary West

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# Campaign for 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence highlighted by local organization

NANCY BIRSS

*Associated Country Women of the World*

As a member of the international women's organization Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW), I would like to share some information regarding an upcoming worldwide campaign called 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.

It is no secret that violence against women and girls is both a local and worldwide issue. Locally and in Canada, there are many stories of intimate-partner violence, abuse, abductions and trafficking of women and girls, homicides, missing and murdered. The stories are both sad and horrific. We only need to read and watch the daily news.

In Waterloo Region, a report in The Record published in December 2023 said the Waterloo Regional Police Services Board learned of disturbing statistics on incidences of human trafficking, intimate-partner violence and gender-based violence in Waterloo Region. According to the article, victims have ranged in age from 13 to 95 years old and 94 per cent were female. Waterloo Regional Police Chief Mark Crowell indicated raising awareness of the problems and the local supports available is an important way to addressing the issue.

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence aims to do just that.

According to trends in police-reported family violence and intimate-partner violence in Canada reported by Statistics Canada from 2022, overall rates of family violence and intimate-partner violence were higher than in previous years, regardless of victim gender, with increases ranging from 2 per cent to 6 per cent. However, the rate of

**16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence**

**One in three** women experience **physical or sexual violence** at least once. Violence against women and girls is one of the most prevalent and pervasive human rights violations. The solution lies in robust responses, including investment in prevention.

**We call on governments worldwide:**  
**Invest in prevention to eradicate violence against women and girls.**

**25 NOVEMBER**  
International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

 **Associated Country Women of the World**  
www.acww.org.uk  
Registered Charity No. 1174798

**Associated Country Women of the World and Southern Ontario Support is calling on locals to participate in the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence from Nov. 25 to Dec. 10. Contributed image**

police-reported family violence was nearly twice as high for girls than for boys.

The large majority of victims of police-reported intimate-partner violence are women and girls, with the rate being especially high among those aged 12-24 years. In terms of age group and gender, intimate partner violence was almost seven times higher among women and girls in that age bracket.

The campaign of 16 Days of

Activism against Gender-Based Violence was spawned at the United Nations in June 1991. The Centre for Women's Global Leadership (CWGL), alongside participants of the first Women's Global Institute on Women, Violence and Human Rights, called for a global campaign of 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.

The 16 days begins Nov. 25 with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence

Against Women and ends with International Human Rights Day on Dec. 10 highlighting that violence against women is a fundamental violation of human rights.

According to the International Women's Development Agency website, "Violence against women continues to occur at an alarming scale in every country in the world. Too often it is accepted as normal behaviour and the global culture of discrimination against women allows violence

to occur with impunity. Recent movements such as #MeToo and #TimesUp have propelled this issue onto the global stage.

"... However, violence against women is a global problem and it requires global action. Calls for action like the 16 days of Activism are crucial because they shine a spotlight on the issue of violence against women. They are a moment to create public awareness about what needs to change to prevent it from happening in the first place at local, national, regional and international levels."

ACWW/Rural Women in Action is bringing these issues to the forefront with the symbol of the hand stopping this violence. Many other women-led organizations in Canada and around the globe will be participating in and sharing a similar message.

The ACWW has consultative status at the United Nations, and now has associate status in United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). By sharing this awareness campaign, we want to help raise our collective voices and advocate for these and other women's issues.

Southern Ontario Support (SOS) is a member society of ACWW and, as such, helps in raising awareness and funds for the advocacy and project work of the ACWW international organization. To learn more or donate and become a member, adding your voice to supporting women's issues locally and globally, contact SOS president Nancy Birss at nbirss@uwaterloo.ca.

It is time once again to highlight the conversations and encourage awareness to educate ourselves and our communities – male and female, young and old – about safety, prevention, acknowledgement and resources for help.

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## Proposed development-charge increases for Wellesley Township presented at public meeting

GALEN SIMMONS

*Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

The fees used to recover the costs of infrastructure necessary to support growth and other costs associated with residential development could soon increase by more than 50 per cent.

As Wellesley council prepares to consider a new development-charges bylaw, consultants from Watson and Associates presented the results of a background study necessary to inform the new development charges, both for residential and non-residential development, during a statutory public meeting Nov. 12.

“The intent of development charges are to recover the capital costs associated with new development in a municipality,” said Sean-Michael Stephen, a managing partner with Watson and Associates. “Municipalities are able to impose these bylaws under the authority of the Development Charges Act. We’re typically looking at the broader, growth-related needs of the municipality from a capital standpoint in addition to the local development costs of an individual subdivision or plan of development.”

Revenue collected through development charges typically goes toward the costs of infrastructure that is normally built as part of a subdivision like internal roads, watermains, sidewalks and streetlights, as well as infrastructure projects that expand a municipality’s capacity for future growth like parks and recreation or fire-protection services.

The calculation for determining development charges takes into account projected residential and non-residential growth, the projected increase in need for service to accommodate that growth, the capital cost to provide that increased service and the recoverable cost of infrastructure to accommodate that growth.

In Wellesley, the consultant said the township is expected to grow by six per cent, from 11,388 to 12,105, over the next decade, which will require an additional 320 residential units of all housing types. On the non-residential side, the consultant said the number of people working in the township is expected to grow by 11 per cent, from 3,018 to 3,358 employees, requiring an increase of nearly 39,000 square metres of commercial or industrial

floor space.

With approximately \$19.4 million in anticipated capital costs over the next 10 years, Stephen said the township would likely be able to recovery nearly \$6.3 million or 32 per cent of that cost.

The vast majority of that development-charge revenue, he said, would be funnelled into parks and recreation services (59 per cent or just over \$3.7 million) to help pay off the recent construction of the Wellesley Recreation Complex. A little more than \$1.4 million or 23 per cent of those recoverable costs would go to highways and related services, 12 per cent would go to fire-protection services, five per cent to library services and roughly one per cent to growth-related studies.

For new, single-detached, residential builds, that means the township’s development charge will, if the bylaw is approved by council later this month, increase by 53 per cent from the current rate of \$13,551 to \$20,779.

Meanwhile, the development charge for new, non-residential builds would actually decrease by 46 per cent, from \$43.40 per square metre to \$23.32 per square metre.

“We can see the majority of that (residential development-charge) increase is related to the increase in the charge for parks-and-recreation services, the reason being including the full amount of the growth-related share over the 10-year period for the recreation complex and associated long-term debt repayments for that facility,” Stephen said.

The consultant noted the proposed decrease to the non-residential development charge is because businesses don’t see the same benefit from parks-and-recreation services that residents do, which means builders of non-residential developments pay less to support those services. As the construction of the recreation complex was the main driver for the increase to the proposed residential development charges, that impact is not as big a factor for the proposed non-residential development charge.

While no members of the public spoke during the public meeting on Nov. 12, the consultants will incorporate any feedback from council and the public into the new development-charges bylaw before it is brought back to council for final consideration at its Nov. 26 meeting.



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# Dramatic dog rescue by Perth East Fire Department

LEE GRIFFI

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A frantic dog owner was forced to call 911 last week after her dog wandered off the trail and ended up stuck in a swampy area near Shakespeare.

Barb Myers is a captain at the Shakespeare station of the Perth East Fire Department. She said she was looking to find the best path to retrieve the dog, but there wasn't one available.

"The area was covered in leaves so we couldn't see any of what was there. Then all of a sudden, the water was over my knees. I managed to pull myself out by leaning over and grabbing onto a tree. Another captain came through with a ladder and ended up three feet deep as well."

Myers said she couldn't even see the dog, a decent-sized collie.

"I asked what are we setting up for here because I didn't see it. All we saw was his eyes and nose eventually."

The dog owner left the animal and went back to the road just off Perth Road 107.

"She had to come out so we knew where we were going. We had a ballpark idea where to go, where the Avon Trail meets the road. We went in with ropes and a couple of shovels because we didn't know what we were getting into."

The dog was found about half a kilometre

into the bush and Myers explained they went back to the fire truck to retrieve the equipment they needed.

"We brought an extension ladder that folded out into one long piece, but it wasn't long enough. We laid it down as kind of a bridge. We went back to get another ladder and backboard, like what is used to do a spinal rescue. Anything that would give us a bit of a float and not drag the firefighters down to the bottom."

One of the crew was able to crawl out and grab the dog by the collar. Myers said there was no pushback from the collie.

"I am sure he was exhausted because he had gotten in and tried to get out but ended up going further into it. Another firefighter went out and they passed the dog from one to the other and we got him out. Once he got some footing he ran to his owner."

Myers provided some advice for hikers and dog owners using the trail.

"According to the Avon Trail rules you are supposed to stay on the well-marked trails and dogs are supposed to be leashed. So, this owner did not have her dog on a leash and it took off into the bush which is how we ended up there."

She added while volunteer firefighters are not dog rescuers, she understood the owner didn't have any other option for help.

"She had a phone but how would she get



The red circle on the photo marks the spot where the dog was found by firefighters. Photos courtesy of Perth East Fire Department



Ladders and backboards were used to safely extract the dog from the swampy area off Perth Road 107.

someone to come with something to help? She tried to rescue him as well and was muddy, but she couldn't get in there far enough."

Myers added some humour at the end of the interview with the Gazette.

"We haven't had any cats in trees, but we've had dogs in swamps."

## CLARIFICATION:

Following the publication of the story, "East Zorra-Tavistock holds first virtual meeting in new headquarters," on the front page of the Nov. 14 Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette, the Township of East-Zorra Tavistock requested a clarification about how it will promote and advertise council-meeting livestreams. On Nov. 19, a notice was posted to the township's Facebook page announcing the meeting

livestreams and noting recordings of meetings will be posted to the township website the day after a meeting occurs. Livestreams begin approximately five minutes before a meeting is scheduled to begin and both the livestreams and recordings can be accessed on the township's agendas and minutes webpage. More information about meeting livestreams can be found at [www.ezt.ca/en/news/council-meetings-livestream-and-recordings.aspx](http://www.ezt.ca/en/news/council-meetings-livestream-and-recordings.aspx).



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# Shakespeare Presbyterian Church dedicates new pipe organ

GARY WEST

*Gazette Correspondent*

It was a night of celebration for members and friends at Shakespeare Presbyterian Church.

For a church that was established in the 1800s, an updated pipe organ was a welcome addition to enhance the beauty of this well-preserved house of worship.

The pipe organ was originally purchased by Emmanuel United Church in Sebringville. Once that church closed, it was donated and moved to Parkview United Church in Stratford and, just recently, after the sale of Parkview Church to the Anchor of Hope Anabaptist fellowship, organist Paul Hyatt was asked if he knew anyone who would be interested in the pipe organ.

He said he immediately knew of a good home for the organ where he would be able to play it during weekly services. That home was Shakespeare Presbyterian Church.

It took three days to disassemble the organ at Parkview and have it ready to move. A group of volunteers was ready to assist on moving day and they had the entire organ moved to Shakespeare in about three hours.

Reassembling and installing it at the church took approximately five weeks to complete.

The first service for the new musical



**Music director and organist Paul Hyatt, who has been Shakespeare Presbyterian Church's organist for 15 years, talks to church members about the newly decorated church pipe organ.**

instrument was on June 30.

The church's minister, Rev. Rob Congram, said during the recent night of dedication and prayer, "Be with your servants, who will use this beautiful instrument to make music

for your people, as you prepare us on earth to sing your praises of heaven through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and Forever."



**Longtime church member and pianist Shirley Kraus filled the air with song and played a melodious duet with organist Paul Hyatt on the pipe organ recently during a dedication ceremony for the new organ last week.**

## WORSHIP IN WILMOT TOWNSHIP

### St George's Anglican Church

Corner of Waterloo St and Byron St, New Hamburg  
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<https://www.stgeorgesnewhamburg.com>

### St James Chapel of Ease

4339 Huron Rd Wilmot Township  
All are welcome.  
Rev Margaret Walker; Office: 519-662-3450  
[sgacnewhamburg@gmail.com](mailto:sgacnewhamburg@gmail.com)

### St Agatha Mennonite Church

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

## OBITUARY

### McIntosh, Donna Mae



August 19, 1954-November 15, 2024 - passed away at Stratford General Hospital with her family by her side, in her 71st year.

Beloved wife of Roger McIntosh whom she married in September, 47 years ago. Dear mother of Jason and his wife Janna of Stratford, Ontario and Jeff and his

wife Stefanie of Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. Sadly missed by her grandchildren Connor, Kailynn, Carly, Charlotte, Nolan, Troy, Colin and Jacob. She is survived by her mother Hilda (Jutzi) Wagler, her sister Judy and her husband Richard Lebold, her brothers and sisters in law Bill and Janice McIntosh, Jeanette McIntosh, Morris McIntosh and Keith and Dianne McIntosh. She will be remembered by many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and extended family.

Predeceased by her father Elmer Wagler, her in laws Scott and Florence (Preiss) McIntosh, sister in law Susan McIntosh and brother in law Ken McIntosh.

Donna took great pride in taking care of her home and farm, and was always tending to her flowerbeds and lawn. That same strong pride was also demonstrated through years of dedication facilitating her boys' love of sports. Naturally, she showed the same commitment to attend her grandchildren's sports activities as well. In true grandma fashion, Donna loved to spoil her grandkids. Surprise visits to see her at work always ended with treats. Donna was a dedicated front shop manager at Sinclair pharmacy in Stratford, and was working hard to reach 40 years as an employee. It was a job she truly enjoyed. Roger and Donna were also privileged to travel with friends and relatives throughout the years.

Family and friends are invited to a funeral service for Donna on Thursday, November 21, 2024 at the Trinity Lutheran Church, Sebastopol-Tavistock at 11:00 am with a reception to follow. Private burial in the church cemetery.

Donations to the Canadian Cancer Society, or Trinity Lutheran Church would be appreciated by the family. Personal condolences can be posted at [www.francisfh.ca](http://www.francisfh.ca)

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Francis Funeral Home, Tavistock.

## ANNIVERSARY

Happy  
60<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary

GLEN & RHODA  
BAECHLER



## The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Weekly Quiz

1. What does Ariel give to Ursula in exchange for legs?
2. What do you call an animal that sleeps during the day and is awake at night?
3. Who was the Egyptian pharaoh known for building the Great Sphinx?
4. How long is a millennium?
5. What country has the most oil reserves?
6. How many dice are used in Yahtzee?
7. What year did Blockbuster close?
8. Who won the Jake Paul vs Mike Tyson fight?
9. What company is known for their Pumpkin Spice Latte?
10. What year did then US introduce 2 letter state abbreviations?

Answers found on page 26

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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.*

**November 20-27, 2019, Edition (5 years ago)**

The Tavistock Men's Club 61st Annual Roast Pork and Sauerkraut Supper was another great success. Held on Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2019, 625 people sat down for the family-style meal at the Tavistock Memorial Hall while another 206 had the same meal at Quehl's Restaurant. Another 559 meals were picked up at the Tavistock Men's Club Hall and 128 meals were delivered to homes and faculties.

Carrie Fischer, manager of firefighter relations for Muscular Dystrophy Canada (MDC), was in Tavistock last week to accept a cheque for \$7,048.62. The money was raised at the Tavistock Fire Department Boot Toll on Labour Day weekend. Staff of Scotiabank once again helped working at the toll and the amount they collected during that time (approximately \$1,600) was matched by the bank. The Tavistock department has been supporting MDC since 1971 and their donation last week brings their grand total to \$176,805.57

The home of Earl and Carol Yantzi in Tavistock was badly damaged by fire on Saturday morning, Nov. 16. The Tavistock Fire Department was called sometime before 1 a.m. after the homeowners evacuated the house due to smoke. According

to Mr. Yantzi, he and his wife were awake when they smelled smoke in the house just after midnight. Mr. Yantzi attempted to extinguish a hot spot with a fire extinguisher but was unsuccessful. When the lights went out, he and his wife quickly exited the house and called 911 on a cell phone.

**November 18-25, 2009, Edition (15 years ago)**

Numbers may have been down slightly, but the enthusiasm was high last Wednesday evening when the Tavistock Men's Club and a host of community volunteers put on their 51st Annual Roast Pork and Sauerkraut Supper in the Tavistock Memorial Hall. About 725 paid meals were served in the hall with another 110 served at Quehl's restaurant. The pick-up and delivery crew in the upstairs of the hall were also kept busy as 336 meals were picked up and another 99 delivered to local residents.

The PeeWee Reps were the top team in Port Dover over the weekend. Friday night, the Titans battled to a hard-fought 2-0 win over Lincoln. In Saturday's contest, the PeeWees found the back of the net in each period skating to a 4-1 win against Lambton Shores. On Sunday morning, they finished the round-robin play with a convincing 5-1 triumph over Delhi which put them into the finals against Blenheim where they won 2-1. The PeeWee Reps Port Dover Tournament Champs include Tyler Stock, Jackson Hergott, Jeremy Kropf, Jakob Wiffen, Tayler Trachsel, Tristen Wilhelm, Jamieson Hergott, Justin

Wagler, Jenssen vanBoekel, Derek Hyde, Jacob Bender, Zac Berg, Matt Remseyer, Michael Johnson, Jacob Bauman and Cohen Myers with coaches Ryan Yantzi, Eugene Bender, Steve Yantzi, Andrew Stickney and Eric Bender.

**November 16-23, 1994, Edition (30 years ago)**

Mr. Dave Oilphant is the new Mayor of East Zorra-Tavistock. He narrowly defeated Mrs. Betty Yeoman by 29 votes with an unofficial 1,403 to 1,373 margin. Although Mrs. Yeoman led in nearly all the township polls, Mr. Oilphant was able to secure a winning margin with votes from the village residents.

Yundt Bros. Construction of Stratford completed the base coat of asphalt on William, Oxford and Mogk streets in Tavistock last week as the final phase in the infrastructure program work approaches completion. The Street now has a totally new look with curbs and grass boulevards (grass hopefully in the spring). Residents should be pleased they don't have to contend with gravel and dirt all winter long.

Newly signed Detroit Red Wing Tim Taylor, a resident of Stratford, was the special guest at an autograph and information night held at the Tavistock Optimist Club in conjunction with Youth Appreciation Week. About 50 youngsters and parents turned out to talk with Tim and get his autograph on everything from hockey cards to sticks and t-shirts. Tim gave away an autographed hockey stick won by Lisa Bender, and two signed hockey cards, won by Jeff Lange and Sarah Small.

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Pastor Rev. Michael Mayer

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# Tavistock Men's Club's Sauerkraut Supper another success

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

The Tavistock Men's Club's annual Sauerkraut Supper has become a much-loved tradition since it began in the early '70s.

The town's Men's Club has been getting ready for months and comments from area eaters on the meal said this year's kraut and pork chops has never been better.

Now run as a drive through, it was still amazing to drop into the hall and see not only dozens of men's club members working, but also wives, partners and friends helping out.

Ross Schumm, who chairs the annual feast, said the club was more than thankful to the community for again supporting their major fundraiser.

He also wanted to give special thanks to the major donors and suppliers that made the night a success.

They include Beanhaven Family Farm, Cascade Boxes, Murray's Produce, Quehl's Restaurant, Sam's Your Independent Grocer, Saputo Cheese, Tavistock Fire Department and the Butcher Barn.

Members of the men's club are reminding everyone that they are selling two-and-a-half to three-pound bags of their sauerkraut until supplies run out from their Kraut House behind their hall on Woodstock Street North.

Sale dates include Dec. 7, 14, and 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call Schumm at 519-535-3201 for more information.



The Tavistock Fire Department pork chop barbecue masters included, from left, Jacob Hutchinson, Matt Lamers, Paul Brenneman, Scott Zehr, Jaclyn Lange, Chris Roth and Nic Hendry. Photos by Gary West

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<b>2019 Mazda CX-9 GS-L</b>  <b>\$28,000 OR \$242 B/W</b> <b>LOW KMS - 98,697 KM</b> + HST & lic	<b>2021 Chrysler Grand Caravan</b>  <b>\$28,495 OR \$221 B/W</b> <b>LOW KMS - 85,938 KM</b> + HST & lic	<b>2022 Hyundai Tucson ESSENTIAL</b>  <b>\$28,999 OR \$225 B/W</b> <b>LOW KMS - 30,200 KM</b> + HST & lic	<b>2023 Volkswagen Tiguan</b>  <b>\$29,888 OR \$232 B/W</b> <b>LOW KMS - 36,232 KM</b> + HST & lic	<b>2020 Toyota Prius Prime PHEV</b>  <b>\$29,999 OR \$259 B/W</b> <b>LOW KMS - 45,677 KM</b> + HST & lic

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# The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette SPORTS

## Duckies win OFSAA field-hockey gold

SPENCER SEYMOUR

*Sports Director*

Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School (WODSS) captured the gold medal at OFSAA finals on Nov. 9.

The OFSAA title capped off a dominant season for the WODSS Duckies that saw them win 26 of their 28 games, including league and tournament play, with the other two games ending in ties. WODSS didn't suffer a single loss all year and outscored opponents 84-6.

Head coach Amanda Smith told the Gazette the team's lessons a year ago propelled them to reach even greater heights this season.

"I'm really proud of this team and what we accomplished," said Smith. "Because of the experience we had last year in getting to the finals at WCSSAA, CWOSSA and OFSAA, and losing at each of those finals last year, we felt we had unfinished business and a point to prove. They were hungry to get the job done."

WODSS began the day on Nov. 9 with a semi-final clash against Saltfleet District High School from Hamilton, and a slow start resulted in Saltfleet scoring around two minutes into the game. It took approximately 10 minutes for the Duckies to find their footing, but once they did, they controlled the majority of the play for the rest of the half, ultimately resulting in a penalty stroke buried by Tatjana Knezevic to tie the game at one apiece.

According to Smith, the team's resilience was a consistent theme for the Duckies on the rare occasion they fell behind this season.

"What impressed me most about our team this year was when we did get down



Members of the WODSS field hockey team celebrate Leah Thompson's game-winning goal during the OFSAA gold-medal game. Contributed photo

a goal in the WCSSAA final, or in OFSAA play, we always came back with determination and scored. It didn't happen very often, but when it did, we never gave up."

The Duckies kept Saltfleet on their heels in the second half, causing the opposition's

defence to become more frantic. Finally, Leah Thompson scored for the Duckies and, thanks to some strong goaltending and stifling defensive play, WODSS held on for a 2-1 win, booking their spot in the final game.

The championship game pitted WODSS against Bluevale Collegiate Institute of Waterloo, a game that saw both teams go back and forth right from the start of the match. However, despite both teams getting chances to score, neither team found the back of the net in the first half.

WODSS managed to frustrate Bluevale with tenacious poke-checking in the second half, which ultimately led to an offensive opportunity that culminated in a net-front rebound which Thompson jammed into the net with around four minutes left.

The Duckies held on to their 1-0 lead to claim the OFSAA banner.

"The last four minutes seemed like an eternity, but we played smart defense and kept good possession to prevent any real chances from Bluevale," Smith said. "The key for us was our tenacity. We were getting second and third efforts to strip them of the ball and doing a good job working the ball up our strong side to beat their defense."

Smith credited the team for its strong veteran talent coupled with significant improvements made by younger roster members.

"This year's team was special because we had a lot of veteran experience in our Grade 12s, three of whom have played field hockey at the provincial level. We also have a Grade 11 goalie who plays provincially and has become very difficult to beat over the last year.

"Our Grade 10s and 11s stepped up to fill the gaps left behind by last year's graduating players," Smith continued. "Our Grade 9 rookies learned a tremendous amount from our veterans in both their pure field-hockey skills and their positioning and execution of our strategies."



The Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School (WODSS) field hockey team earned the gold medal at OFSAA on Nov. 9. Pictured in the front row, from left to right, are Lauren Fidler, Victoria Shipp, Julia Amyotte, Jaden Greenlee, Maeve Turner, Tatjana Knezevic, Leah McPhee, Samantha Wright, Leah Thompson, Lauren Leis, and Willow Harris. In the back row, from left, are Natalie Otterbein, Janine Walmsley, Payton McPhee, Katelyn Pfohl, Olivia Luchetti, Ella Kittel, Avery Schaub, Ashley Woolcott, Reese Moore, Dana Kropf, Terri-Lyn Stewart and coach Amanda Smith. Contributed photo

# Royals lose on Minor Hockey Night but kids go home entertained

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Correspondent

Tavistock’s two-game win streak was snapped Saturday night by visiting Creemore.

The Coyotes jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the first period before Drew Gerth’s eighth of the season gave the Royals some life. It was short-lived as the visitors took a 4-1 lead before the end of 20 minutes.

Matt Zilke’s powerplay goal, his second of the campaign, made it 4-2 midway through the second period but Creemore scored the final frame’s only goal. Deven Kropf added a pair of assists for Tavistock, which outshot its opponents 43-28.

Next action for the Royals is Saturday in Thornbury against the Georgian Bay Applekings.

About 100 players from the Tavistock and District Minor Hockey Association were in attendance, each hoping to win the night’s top prize of free registration for the 2025-2026 season. Congratulations to current second-shift player Noah Waymouth, who will have his fee paid by the Optimist Club of Tavistock and the Royals.



Between periods the Ryals scrimmaged with the U9 Local League team coached by Nick Schumm. Former Titans on the senior team’s roster include Tristan Hohl, Trevor Sauder, Jeremy Munro, Deven Kropf and Andrew van Boekel.

ONTARIO ELITE HOCKEY LEAGUE STANDINGS- SENIOR MEN															
TEAM	GP	W	L	T	PTS	OTW	OTL	P%	GF	GA	DIFF	PPG	PPGA	SHG	PIM
Seaforth Centenaires	7	6	1	0	12	0	0	0.857	39	16	23	11	2	1	142
Ripley Wolves	6	6	0	0	12	2	0	1.00	31	17	14	5	2	1	150
Georgian Bay Applekings	8	5	3	0	11	1	1	0.688	36	28	8	9	7	6	204
Minto 81's	5	5	0	0	10	0	0	1.00	35	5	30	5	2	2	78
Tavistock Royals	8	5	3	0	10	1	0	0.625	33	25	8	16	3	1	149
Creemore Coyotes	7	3	4	0	7	0	1	0.500	26	22	4	8	10	1	156
Erin Outlaws	6	3	3	0	7	0	1	0.583	32	30	2	6	5	4	131
Saugeen Shores Winterhawks	9	3	6	0	6	0	0	0.333	39	50	-11	14	18	6	136
Milverton Four Wheel Drives	7	2	5	0	6	1	2	0.429	21	23	-2	6	4	1	84
Durham Thundercats	7	1	6	0	2	0	0	0.143	23	46	-23	5	13	3	104
Lucknow Lancers	8	0	8	0	0	0	0	0.000	7	60	-53	0	19	1	198



The flag bearer for the game was Sawyer Lange, a member of the Titans U9 Local League team. Lange is pictured beside Royals captain Tristan Hohl. Contributed photos

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# PJHL Roundup: League announces all-star game host cities

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Correspondent

The Provincial Junior Hockey League (PJHL) is pleased to announce the first PJHL All-Star Games on Dec. 28 and 29.

The games will feature the best and brightest stars in the PJHL as they showcase their skill to fans and compete for their division's home-ice advantage in the playoffs. Four teams have been selected to host their conference All-Star games for their fans, including the Tavistock Braves.

"The PJHL is excited to bring the All-Star Games to our fans," said PJHL commissioner Terry Whiteside. "We anticipate exciting and extremely good hockey games. The teams are playing for their division to gain the extra game in the conference finals which will make it super important for them. Showcasing the talent in our league is something we wanted to do and we are very confident that fans will be impressed with the calibre of the play."

"We here in Tavistock are very excited to be able to host this event," said Braves

general manager Brent Lange. "It will hopefully showcase some of the best players on both sides especially when it does mean something for home-ice advantage in the finals. We look forward to being able to host this game; it should make for a fun time and game for all involved with this."

The game is set for Dec. 28 at the Tavistock and District Recreation Centre.

The All-Star game is a chance for the PJHL's brightest stars to showcase their skill in a best-on-best game and skill showcases. The game will have something on the line as the winning division will have the home-ice advantage when the two divisions meet again in the 2025 PJHL Schmalz Cup Conference Finals.

The rosters for each conference will be announced closer to the game dates. Other hosts are the Hanover Barons (North), Clarington Eagles (East) and the Dresden Kings (West). Ticket information will be available on the host teams' websites closer to the date.

## Braves split weekend games

Tavistock started the weekend with

a disappointing 4-3 home loss to Paris on Friday but bounced back Sunday in Hespeler with an 11-1 drubbing of the Shamrocks.

Against the Titans, Izac Blur led the offence with a goal and two assists while Nathan Brenneman and Liam Gorman scored the other goals. The Braves outshot their opponents 43-27.

Tavistock jumped out to a 4-0 first-period lead in Hespeler and doubled the lead to 8-0 after 40 minutes of play. Lander Hartley's shutout bid ended with just one second remaining in the game. Grady Murphy picked up a hat trick to lead the attack. Nicholas Hambly scored twice with Carter Arsenault adding three assists. The teams combined for 82 penalty minutes, including four fighting majors.

## Firebirds sweep

A pair of wins for New Hamburg allowed the team to remain one point behind first-place Norwich in the Doherty Division. Aydan Burns had a goal and three helpers in a 6-1 home-ice win over Hespeler on Saturday. Josh Soulliere added a pair

of goals with single markers going to Owen Bruder, Michael Gear and Antonio Pasqualino. The game had just three minor penalties.

On Sunday, the Firebirds downed Woodstock 5-2 as the visitors outshot the Navy Vets 44 to 15. Matt Domm had his best game since returning to the team, scoring twice and adding a pair of assists. Owen Fischer, Jake Thompson and Burns also scored for New Hamburg.

In a rare Thursday night game last week, Woodstock pulled off a 6-5 shootout victory over the Firebirds. Bruder led New Hamburg with a pair of goals and an assist.

## Applejacks

Don't look now but the Titans are the hottest team in the Doherty Division. Paris won their fourth game in a row, a 3-2 home-ice decision over Wellesley, to move into a fifth-place tie with Dorchester.

Paris took a 2-0 lead before goals by Hudson Parker and Brennan Kennedy tied it up. The Titans scored the winning goal with just two seconds left on the clock in the third.



## SOUTH DOHERTY DIVISION STANDINGS

As of Wednesday, November 20

South Doherty Division	GP	W	L	OTL	T	SOW	SOL	PTS	OTW	GF	GA	DIFF	PCT	PIM	RW	ROW	STK	GPCT
1 New Hamburg Firebirds	19	14	4	0	0	0	1	29	2	83	61	22	0.763	317	12	14	2-0-0-1	0.576
2 Norwich Merchants	19	14	5	0	0	2	0	28	0	69	44	25	0.737	238	12	12	1-0-0-0	0.611
3 Woodstock Navy Vets	18	12	5	0	0	1	1	25	0	70	55	15	0.694	234	11	11	0-1-0-0	0.560
4 Wellesley Applejacks	18	11	5	1	0	2	1	24	0	61	44	17	0.667	394	9	9	0-1-0-0	0.581
5 Dorchester Dolphins	18	7	9	0	0	0	2	16	2	45	55	-10	0.444	303	5	7	0-2-0-0	0.450
6 Paris Titans	21	7	12	2	0	0	0	16	1	60	77	-17	0.381	286	6	7	4-0-0-0	0.438
7 Tavistock Braves	19	7	11	1	0	1	0	15	0	71	79	-8	0.395	465	6	6	1-0-0-0	0.473
8 Hespeler Shamrocks	18	3	13	1	0	0	1	8	0	43	87	-44	0.222	284	3	3	0-9-1-1	0.331



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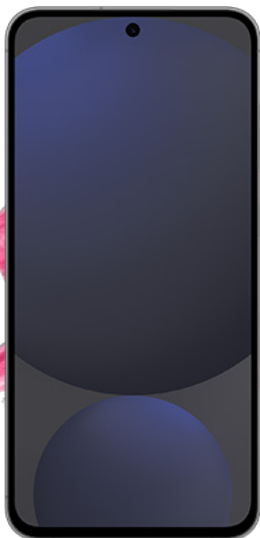
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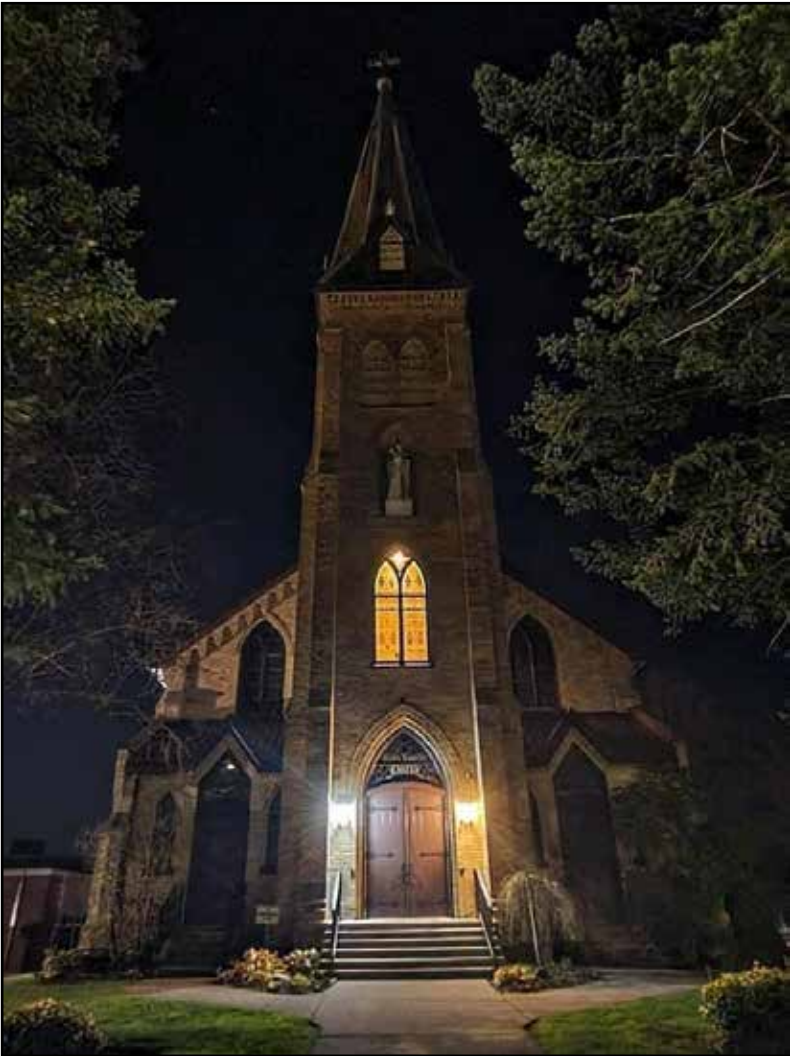
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This photo of Holy Family Parish Roman Catholic on Huron Street in New Hamburg lit up at night was recently shared on the Show Us Your Wilmot Facebook page by Paul Zehr. Photo courtesy of Show Us Your Wilmot

Gazette Puzzles

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# Model farm a highlight of recent North Easthope Antique Tractor Club banquet

GARY WEST

*Gazette Correspondent*

The North Easthope Antique Tractor (NEAT) Club at their recent annual banquet had the opportunity to see an intricate, scale model of a mixed farm and buildings the way they were at the turn of the century.

Club member Roy Berfelz, who is now retired and living in Stonecroft in New Hamburg, has a unique hobby. A few years ago, he endeavoured to recreate the farmstead where his ancestors farmed in Perth County and, at the same time, research his family tree.

Berfelz's family traces back to the Jungblut family in the mid 1800s and, along the way, the J was dropped in favour of a Y to become Yungblut.

In order to get to the history of the farm and buildings, Berfelz researched the interesting history of the family.

Johannas Jungblut was born Jan. 5, 1849, came to Canada in 1856 from Germany with his parents and settled in Tavistock. He was confirmed in Trinity Lutheran Church, Sebastopol, in 1862 and married Maria Becker of Wilmot Township in 1871. They moved to a 50-acre farm on Concession 10 in Perth County's Ellice Township.

On Jan. 8, 1900, the Yungblut family moved to a 150-acre farm in Wallace Township. They had all their belongings loaded onto sleighs for the trek to Gowanstown but had to reload onto wagons because of the lack of snow that year. The farm remains in the Yungblut family



**Roy Berfelz is shown with a scale model of the barn his ancestors owned and still farm to this day in Wallace Township of Perth County. Photos by Gary West**

to this day.

The barn shown is a scale model of John Jungblut's barn circa 1867 built from the scaled-down measurements drawn up by Berfelz, who is the great grandson of John

Jungblut.

He says he had it built by a 14-year-old Mennonite boy from Elmira, who took seven months to build the model shown.

Even though this is hard to show in

pictures, the barn was one of the largest Barns in Wallace Township around the time of Confederation.

At the time, the main barn measured 85 feet by 48 feet by 30 feet high, and a horse barn beside it was 60 feet by 30 feet by 26 feet high. Berfelz said this barn was called a high-end beam barn with the entrance at the end instead of the side, and the barn had squared rafters as opposed to round poles. Also, there was a poured-cement silo with an eight-sided wooden roof in the early 1900s when there were very few silos in Perth County.

He said it was one of the few barns that was painted red with a green roof and a white trim in the early 1920s.

What is also unique is a litter carrier throughout all of the stables that was used to clean out the manure before the advent of stable cleaners, and they even had another litter carrier coming from the silo in order to feed the cattle corn silage. They are all shown in the model.

Due to a lack of electricity, the engine room with a line shaft in the stable was run by a hit-and-miss gas engine, which ran a stable grain grinder, a cream separator, root pulper and table saw as well as other woodworking equipment. A pulley went to the upper story of the barn to run a grain grinder beside the wooden granary, as most farms had back then.

All of the above mentioned is shown in the model, which Berfelz is most proud of.

With his good nature, he said he would happily invite anyone to come and see his masterpiece depicting what was a modern mixed farm in its day.



**With a detachable roof on the barn to the right, it shows seven draft-horse stalls, pigs in one yard with sheep in another, all to scale.**



**With the detachable roof removed, observers can see how the Holstein dairy cows were tied head to head for easy feeding from the attached cement silo. All are meticulously painted black and white.**



**The rafters are shown in the side barn with the lumber cut to the size and scale of the barn that still stands to this day.**



**Roy Berfelz is shown with his hundreds of miniature tractors and toy farm equipment in a separate basement room, which would amaze many a collector.**

# Anyone else on Bluesky yet?

## FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

By Stewart Grant



The plethora of social media apps out there today provide such a wide variety of ways for people to interact with their close community or with the broader world.

What are your top social media apps? I tried this question with my family members recently and we all gave quite different answers. For years, my favourite has been Reddit with side

dishes of Facebook and Twitter, while my wife is a regular on Instagram and Facebook (and Pinterest when needed) while the kids prefer Snapchat and TikTok. It's also a dynamic question that changes over time.

I recently heard about X (Twitter) users migrating to a new app called Bluesky, so I decided to take a look over there. In short, I like it because it reminds



# Bluesky

me of the way that Twitter used to be. The feed is based on my interests and the comments to posts are actually relevant to the topic – something that has been lacking at X in recent times.

Bluesky Social originated as a side project within Twitter in 2019 but became independent when Elon Musk bought Twitter in October 2022. It launched as an invite-only social app in February 2023, and only opened to the public in February 2024. Since February, it has grown

from three million users to 20 million users. Currently, it's number one in the Apple App Store, ahead of ChatGPT and Threads, and is adding seven new users a second.

For me, Bluesky is feeling like a fresh start. Because it's not full of ads (yet), I'm easily able to follow major news headlines, sports updates and people whose opinions I'm interested in. Not everyone is over there yet, but I see new additions each day. For example, on the sports

side of things, I'm following The Athletic, the NHL (mirroring the NHL's Twitter account), Sean McIndoe (Down Goes Brown), Pierre LeBrun and Steve Dangle. This allows me to quickly see what's going on in sports without having to sift through all the other stuff that's in my X feed.

If you are disenchanted with X these days, or are simply looking for another social media option, you may want to give Bluesky a try.

# Online shopping demystified: Navigating without overspending

## DRESS SHARP. SPEND SMART.

By Scott Dunstall



Online shopping has transformed the way we buy clothes, and that purchasing behaviour went off the charts during the pandemic and has pretty well stayed with us ever since. So, for this edition, I thought I would share what I do and what I have learned along the way.

**Set a spending limit before you shop**

It's easy to lose track of costs when you're adding items to your cart. So, with online shopping, I set a mental image of what I want and what I want to spend. Some people keep a number in their head and then cut it off when they hit it. Instead, I will go through everything I like that is either clearance or on sale. I will never put a regularly priced item in my cart, but

when I'm done, I will look at everything and do a price/value/look review for each and then start tossing out items. I usually end up caught between a rock and a hard place because I will get it down to my predetermined budget and have to decide between two pieces that have made it through three or four rounds of cuts.

But this is not as easily done for many of us. If you're prone to impulse buying, consider using a prepaid card or setting a specific limit on your credit card. This forces you to pause before making unplanned purchases. Tools like budgeting apps can also help track spending as you shop online.

**Use technology to your advantage**

This is one aspect of value

shopping for clothes that I myself have not dialed into completely, so I learned quite a few helpful things. First of all, you try to leverage browser extensions and apps that help you find the best deals. Extensions like Honey, Rakuten, or Capital One Shopping can automatically search for and apply coupon codes when you're checking out. I just started using CamelCamelCamel, which is good for Amazon shoppers – it shows you the price history of a product so you can see if the current "sale" is actually a good deal or just a marketing tactic.

By the way, if you don't know, Amazon will show the returns history of a product. For clothing items, I would translate high returns to many things from "does not fit to size" or poor quality or the item looks different than pictured and usually not for the best.

Price-comparison sites like Google Shopping can also save you money. Enter the product name and these tools show you which retailer is offering the best price. For example, if you're eyeing a pair of headphones, a quick search might reveal that another store has them for \$20 less with free shipping to boot.

**Avoid the urgency trap**

Online stores often create a sense of urgency with tactics like countdown timers, "only two left in stock" notices, or flash-sale alerts. Most of the online retailers I visit don't do this, but don't get sucked in. Don't feel pressured to act quickly; take a step back. Ask yourself if the item is something you genuinely need or if you're being swept up in the excitement of the sale.

In fact, you should try doing what I learned to do. Create a habit of leaving items in your cart for at least 24 hours before checking out. This gives you time to think through your purchases. On top of that, retailers will even send you a discount code to encourage you to complete the transaction, sweetening the deal.

**Shop at the right times**

Timing is everything when it comes to online deals. Black Friday, Cyber Monday are top of mind right now, so this is an excellent time to have your list ready to go. Also, I have talked before about end-of-season sales being good opportunities to score discounts. Many retailers also have lesser-known markdown schedules. For example, retailers

offering clothing usually update their sales on Wednesday. This is the best time to look online for your size and colour before the stock-outs hit.

Amazon is the largest online retailer in the world, so they run sales just like Bay Days. Their Prime Day offers discounts on a wide range of products. Patience can pay off. Waiting until late December or January, for instance, can result in deep discounts on holiday items or winter apparel.

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

# The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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To book advertising space contact our sales representative

Sharon Leis, 519-580-5418, sharonbleis@gmail.com



# The many miracles of magnesium

## HEAPS OF HEALTHY TIPS

By Mercedes Kay Gold



Eating healthy and exercising are essential to overall wellbeing. Optimal health depends on consistency. Being active every day in some form while fueling the body with a wide range of nutrient-dense foods is imperative. You alone are responsible for your day-to-day choices. Genetics is not entirely to blame.

As a wellness expert, I wholeheartedly agree with people listening to their bodies, as well as their medical doctor and naturopath. We are unique. What works for one person can be positive and lifechanging while, for others, unwanted symptoms can heighten. You are unique, truly one-of-a-kind. That being said, there is one mineral we all need.

Magnesium is naturally present in many foods from plants to legume to nuts and seeds, but processed foods are void. The Standard American Diet (SAD) is sadly deficient. According to Health Canada, one in three Canadian adults are deficient in magnesium. This magical mineral plays a role in hundreds of enzyme reactions in the body. Experts recommend consuming between 310 and 420 milligrams

daily but very few people do. We need to replenish daily and even the healthiest meal plans can't keep up to the body's demands.

Is your body showing signs of a magnesium deficiency? Are you tired? Do you experience muscle weakness? Twitches? Numbness? Tingling? Do you wake up in the middle of the night with cramps or spasms? Do you suffer from headaches or migraines? Do you have high blood pressure? The list of symptoms is endless.

Magnesium may be your missing link to improved cardiovascular, sleep and bone health. For many, this key electrolyte provides the answer to anxiety, menopause and blood-sugar regulation. This personal trainer loves magnesium for improved athletic performance and recovery.

Are you at risk? As we age, our ability to absorb and store decreases. The list of lifestyle or health concerns increase the need; caffeine, alcohol, processed food, pregnancy breast feeding, exercise, medications, sweating stress and intestinal-health issues. Prolonged deficiency can lead to serious health issues.

The most commonly asked question is which one to take. There are several versions to choose from, and these are my top picks.

Magnesium citrate is formed by a reaction between magnesium oxide and citric acid. It's the most common and cost effective. Citrate powder is activated within thirty seconds of adding to boiling water. This version is readily absorbed addressing anxiety with a fast-acting calming effect, relieving muscle aches and pain and provides overnight relief of constipation.

Magnesium bi-glycinate is formed from elemental magnesium and the amino acid glycine. It's stable, bioavailable and has maximum absorbability. Bi-glycinate is a dream, literally helping support a deep restorative sleep. It's ideal for addressing inflammation, stress and depression while gentle on the stomach with no laxative effect even at larger doses.

Magnesium L-Threonate is a salt formed from mining magnesium and thereononic acid. It's highly absorbable and bioavailable. This magnesium has the unique ability to permeate the blood-brain barrier, increasing magnesium in the brain, and reducing depression. There's also a link to short- and long-term memory support.

Magnesium Taurate is magnesium combined with the amino acid, taurine, and also has good bioavailability and absorbability. This duo supports blood-sugar balance and improves insulin



Magnesium rich foods. Vecteezy photo

resistance. Relaxing the heart muscle, it helps with irregular heart rhythm and maintaining healthy blood pressure.

There are two other wondrous ways to maximize magnesium's body-boosting benefits. Magnesium flakes are a fabulous addition to a hot soak – not Epsom salts, but flakes. They both contain magnesium but are different chemically. Epsom salts are a compound of magnesium and sulphate while flakes contain chloride. Magnesium flakes are super soluble and easily absorbed by the dermis, our largest organ. Flakes are phenomenal for addressing aches, cramps and inflammation plus post-exercise – a bath is an enjoyable way to replenish electrolytes as well as soothing soreness.

Last but not least, this personal trainer and workout fiend loves

magnesium spray or gel as a pre- and post-workout go-to. Its benefits are too numerous to list. For the record, I have seen topical magnesium work miracles on aches and pains associated with injuries, arthritis, fibromyalgia and even carpal tunnel syndrome.

Mega-magnesium food sources are monumental when meal planning for living optimally, and experts recommend between 310-420 milligrams daily. This health guru says, "Hello breakfast smoothie." One whole avocado, one banana, a cup of berries and a cup of milk. That's 146 grams!

This is a great start but stress, medications and exercise, to name a few, deplete stores quickly, so add the supplement as well. Thrive alive!

Always check with your MD or ND before starting any new supplement.

# What Should I Do? Navigating buyer offers

## EXPERT REAL ESTATE ADVICE

By Isabel Livingston



How should you navigate receiving an offer? It is important to know when to accept, to negotiate and when to walk away. Receiving an offer on your home can be one of two things – thrilling and exciting when you get an offer you like or, on the flip side, frustrating and disappointing when the offer may not be all you had hoped it would be.

The three main things we look at in an offer are purchase price, conditions and completion date (closing or moving day). What are your expectations; how does the offer you received line up with these things? Are they acceptable or something worth negotiating? Your real estate agent will be able to help guide you on these things in a sense of the

market and industry norms. Are condition durations longer than they should be, is the closing date unreasonable, is the purchase price being offered matching what is happening in the market? At the end of the day, the decision is yours, but we are here to help.

An accepted offer may look like a price point close to the asking price, right on the asking price and in some cases above asking, but it is not all about the purchase price – conditions are important to consider when reviewing offers. These don't always make or break a deal and what I am referencing here is more the duration being asked to fulfill a condition. As a realtor, we know what the market reflects and when something is unreasonable, and we will consult you when it may be a good idea to counter with a lesser

amount of time for these.

Countering an offer, more commonly known as negotiations, can look like proposing a new price that is higher than the one being offered. It might be shorter conditions, a longer or quicker closing or maybe it is a combination of a few or all of these things. Your realtor may call the co-operating/buyer agent and get a feel for where the details of the offer are stemming from. Knowing these facts can help us determine if we want to put a counteroffer on paper, accept the original offer or walk away from the offer completely. I almost always recommend my clients to counter an offer rather than rejecting it because you truly never know what can happen.

Rejecting an offer is pretty standard and straightforward. This

would be an offer that is maybe way off on closing or has conditions that don't align with the seller's circumstances such as a sale condition (adding more time to the deal). This is also common with multiple offers – however with the current market, this is not too common right now.

Each situation is truly unique and I always prepare my clients to have an open mind because, even if an offer seems less than ideal, there is usually a way that we are able to work with it or try to!

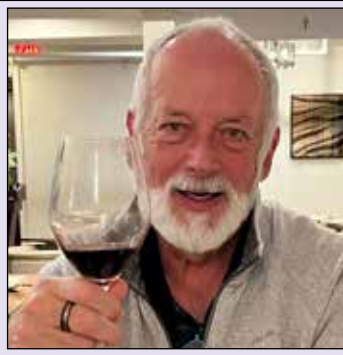
As always, for questions or article suggestions please reach out! 226-232-4236 or ilivingstonsells@gmail.com.

Isabel Livingston is a sales representative with Gale Group Realty Brokerage Ltd. and the Jennifer Gale Real Estate Team.

# Museum a labour of love in New Denmark

## OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO

By Paul Knowles



Let's be honest, here; you are unlikely to travel to New Brunswick solely for the purpose of visiting the small, quaint New Denmark Memorial Museum. But if you are in New Brunswick – and I can give you dozens of reasons why this wonderful province should be included in your travel plans – you really should schedule a stop at this small-town museum, a labour of love by local folks determined to preserve and honour their legacy.

Our hosts at the museum were Shelley Partanan and Ron Hansen, both volunteers and both descendants of the original Danish settlers who came to this part of New Brunswick in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The newly refurbished museum is a product of the energy and commitment of the local community, a group of people determined to honour their heritage as proud Canadians, but also as proud offspring of some pioneering Danish immigrants.

Partanan told us that the first shipload of Danes to come to the area arrived in Saint John in 1872 and took a smaller boat up the Saint John River to found what is now New Denmark. They were lured to Canada by promises of land ready to be farmed, a road system and places to live. These promises were exaggerations at the least, outright lies at the worst.

That first ship brought 29 Danes to New Brunswick. They were given 100 acres of land each but found they had to clear the land, build the roads and live together in one common building.

They persevered and over the next five decades or so were joined by friends and relatives from Denmark until eventually, the community numbered 119 families.

This history – and subsequent events in the community – are commemorated in the museum. The exhibits include a building a few metres away from the main museum, a small-scale replica of the original communal house shared by the first Danes to arrive. That building was constructed several decades ago by a

much younger Hansen, who was just 17 years old at the time the reproduction house was built.

The museum itself reopened in the summer of 2024 after extensive reconstruction of the building and reconfiguration and redesign of the exhibits.

The reconstruction was a challenging project. Partanan notes “every single thing in the building had to be packed up and removed” because they had to remediate mould and asbestos issues. But that also presented the volunteers with an unprecedented opportunity; they cleaned and labelled every artefact before they were returned to the museum.

The museum acknowledges the agricultural heritage of the area; New Denmark was home to dairy farms, a cheese factory and potato farming. Partanan says that in the earliest days, “I have heard stories that they were planting potatoes among the trees,” for food for the pioneer families. Today, almost all the local agriculture is about potatoes.

There are exhibits about almost every aspect of life in New Denmark. The Women's Institute – once a vital organization in New Denmark, as it was in many smaller Canadian communities – has a section dedicated to its work. So does the school – which is appropriate, since the building that now houses the museum was once the local primary school, which Hansen attended in 1968 for one year. The school was closed in 1969.

It may not be a surprise considering the community's Scandinavian roots that New Denmark was once home to ski-jumping competitions and this and other local

sports history is on display in the museum. One baseball team honoured bore the entirely appropriate name, The Spuds.

Hansen's grandfather was the first postmaster in the community, operating the post office out of his convenience store. His desk, chair and other memorabilia form one small exhibit at the museum.

And there are examples of unique Danish traditions carried on proudly in the newcomers' new homeland such as brightly coloured Danish dancing costumes.

One of the most moving exhibits in the museum is the wall of photos honouring the men and women of New Denmark who were in the armed forces during the world wars. I noted that the relatively small community had contributed a surprisingly large number of young people to the war efforts, and Partanan and Hansen said this was a reflection of the love the people of New Denmark had both for their adopted country of Canada and for their original homeland in Europe.

The New Denmark Memorial Museum is a moving tribute to the Danish pioneers who came to New Brunswick to start new lives, and to their descendants who continued that commitment. But it is also a tribute to the residents of today who have devoted so much volunteer time and effort to keep that history alive.

The museum is open to visitors, June through August, staffed by students thanks to government grants, but the local volunteers would be happy to give tours in the off-season to interested people as well. In a true reflection of rural hospitality, Partanan pointed out there is a sign with contact information and, if visitors call, “Somebody will run up.” Admission is by donation.

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



Near New Denmark is the second-longest railway trestle bridge in Canada.



New Denmark Memorial Museum volunteers Shelley Partanan and Ron Hansen. All photos by Paul Knowles



The Women's Institute exhibit.



The wall honouring New Denmark residents who volunteered for the armed forces.

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Can we trust Wilmot township's senior administration?

Dear Editor,

For those six people in Wilmot Township who do not regularly read the Wilmot council meeting agendas or the minutes and attached reports, and for those several thousand residents who have trust issues around how council makes decisions, the following examples might help explain the problem.

1. A Nov. 5 article in a local newspaper reported that \$1 million in renovations are proposed by staff for the Castle Kilbride administration centre. The article specified that space for 11 more staff would be needed within five years. Not 10! Not 12! That's because a consultants' report in 2022 indicated how the administration should be re-structured and a "people plan" was part of that report. Thus, 11 is the number.

I asked my ward councillor for a copy of the report. He had to ask permission from a senior administrator before he could give it to me. Not kidding; he really had to ask permission. No! I couldn't have it. He indicated that he also has not yet received the "people plan" part of the report, which is the apparent basis for needing 11 more employees, and thus \$1 million in renovations. How does the Wilmot senior administration practice its espoused value of transparency?

2. A Sept. 19 public meeting chaired

by the strategic-plan review consultant included an overview of some of the outcomes from discussions with the council and staff. He reported that the two groups had agreed on a need to "achieve common ground between council and staff and build momentum for positive change" and "gather meaningful input from staff and the community." A goal was to address the significant lack of trust by residents with the council and its staff.

The strategic plan, as approved by council, changed the stated outcome to, "Build a shared vision and achieve common ground among members of council." After passing through the senior-administration filter, that final draft's wording eliminated mention of staff as having a shared responsibility for finding common ground. The blame is now council's alone.

The citizens, at the Nov. 19 public meeting, requested that the consultant tell senior administration and council that we wanted public meetings to review the final draft before it was formally approved. He said he would pass it along. The strategic plan was approved without citizen review when the mayor was on a planned absence. When asked why citizens did not get the public review as requested, the response was, "I don't have to do what people tell me to do!" How does the senior administration practice its espoused value of trust?

3. A Nov. 4 report titled, "Council-Staff Relations Policy Review." is apparently staff's response to the issue of finding common ground. Wilmot staff's definition of the relationship includes:

a. "The CAO leads in three dimensions. Up to council, down to staff and out to the community stakeholders." Recall that it is the mayor who is the official spokesperson for the municipality.

b. "It is expected that members of council will:

+ Request corporate leadership team input prior to making policy decisions.

+ Discuss issues with the corporate leadership team and advise them of questions prior to council/committee meetings.

+ Understand their questions with staff may be communicated to others within the organization and that a member of council cannot compel township staff to confidentiality.

+ Consult with the appropriate director prior to responding to constituents' concerns or requests."

If there is any Wilmot citizen who still thinks:

- it is council that is really setting the direction and writing the policies;
- council is preparing the agendas, with the direction and policy items they and their constituents want, for decision making;

- council has unfiltered access to all the accurate information, with all the potential options needed for making decisions;
- that your councillor can freely answer your questions or address your concerns based on their personal judgement, and based on the criteria of trust you had in them when you voted;
- that the elected mayor is the real-life boss in Wilmot

then I invite you to re-read the numbered items above.

Maybe folks have been placing blame for a lack of trust, for a lack of available fulsome information and an inability to participate in decision-making on the wrong target? Maybe it is not the council where fundamental blame rests?

Citizens might consider joining me at the Nov. 25 council meeting to hear what councillors have to say about this proposed council-staff relations policy and how they plan to include citizens in the process of decision making?

*Sincerely,*

*Barry Wolfe,  
Baden*

## Notice of Community Improvement Plan Update and Upcoming Workshop

### YOU'RE INVITED!

The Township of Wellesley is working on an update to its Community Improvement Plan (CIP). The CIP is a planning tool that will allow the municipality to designate areas for improvement and offer various incentives (i.e., grants and loans) to stimulate growth and revitalization in our community.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024 | 6-8PM**

**TOWNSHIP OF WELLESLEY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**4805 WILLIAM HASTINGS LINE, CROSSHILL AND ONLINE**

**RSVP to Samantha at [ssernoski@wellesley.ca](mailto:ssernoski@wellesley.ca) by November 29th.**



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Trump's tariffs should kill the Wilmot land assembly

The American election will result in a significant shift of international and global economics. Based on election promises and the strong mandate he received from all sectors, the USA is poised to refocus internally and, in so doing, will become more protectionist of American jobs and American manufacturing and less involved with imports and global affairs.

Trump has attacked immigration, Mexico's cheaper labour, China's imports and he is threatening NATO, and proposes less military aid to Ukraine and less aid elsewhere. His goal is to now isolate the USA and become more self-reliant together with major tariffs about to be proposed on many imports.

Any proposal to move forward with a new "mega industry" in Ontario or elsewhere outside of the USA is extremely risky and unlikely to succeed. Investing the billions of dollars needed for a new battery plant or automotive assembly plant and the necessary infrastructure is completely contrary to the new "Build in the USA" agenda of the Trump

administration. The private sector will certainly not proceed to build outside the USA and our tax dollars should not be wasted on creating shovel ready land for what will surely be an unoccupied and undesirable mega site in the middle of nowhere.

This initiative is simply no longer viable.

I understand there is no factory identified for the Wilmot assembly. No one is waiting in the wings to build and any such building is highly unlikely in the future given this "isolation objective" south of the border.

So why continue? The Wilmot land assembly needs to be cancelled immediately as we have more than enough employment lands to meet our provincial targets to 2051 and the need for and the success of this mega site is clearly no longer in place.

*John Ariens,*

*New Hamburg*

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR - NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

**Learn about life-saving skills and become certified**  
**6-10 p.m.**  
Contact Ben to register at red5st@live.ca or phone 519-590-2147  
*Shakespeare Optimist Hall*  
*3976 Galt St., Shakespeare*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

**Tavistock Book Sale | We are currently accepting book donations up until this sale!**  
**10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**  
*Tavistock Public Library*  
*40 Woodstock St., Tavistock*

**Annual Xmas Bazaar**  
**10 a.m. - noon**  
*Morningside Adult Community, New Hamburg*

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

**Wilmot Council meeting**  
**7-11 p.m.**  
*Council chambers*  
*60 Snyder's Road West Baden*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26 CONT

**After School Hangout: Bad Art | Put your lack-of-skills to the test and make a disaster-piece!**  
**4 - 5 p.m.**  
*Tavistock Public Library*  
*40 Woodstock St., Tavistock*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

**Tales for Tots | Join Miss Kathy for storytime!**  
**10 - 11 a.m.**  
*Tavistock Public Library*  
*40 Woodstock St., Tavistock*

**TOPS - Taking off Pounds Sensibly**  
**10:30 am (Meets every Wednesday)**  
A non-judgmental weight loss support group. For info call Cathie 519-662-9273  
*St. James Lutheran Church*  
*66 Mill St, Baden*

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

**The 41st Annual Wilmot Lions / Lioness Club Tree of Light Ceremony**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
*The New Hamburg Concert Band*  
*Centennial Fountain by the Post Office.*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

**Tavistock Men's Club**  
**Santa Claus Parade**  
**1 pm**  
Info call 519-655-3573  
*Begins at the corner of Jacob St. W. and Woodstock St. Ends at Queens Park pavilion parking lot*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

**New Hamburg Santa Claus Parade**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
Bring a non-perishable food item or a new unwrapped toy for the Wilmot Family Resource Centre.  
*Downtown New Hamburg*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

**East Zorra-Tavistock Council meeting**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
*Council Chambers*  
*89 Loveys Street E., Hickson*

**Tales for Tots | Join Miss Kathy for storytime!**  
**10 - 11 a.m.**  
*Tavistock Public Library*  
*40 Woodstock St., Tavistock*

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

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

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

**Tales for Tots | Join Miss Kathy for storytime!**  
**10 - 11 a.m.**  
*Tavistock Public Library*  
*40 Woodstock St., Tavistock*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

**Wilmot Council meeting**  
**7-11 p.m.**  
*Council chambers*  
*60 Snyder's Road West Baden*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

**East Zorra-Tavistock Council meeting**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
*Council Chambers*  
*89 Loveys Street E., Hickson*

**Tales for Tots | Join Miss Kathy for storytime!**  
**10 - 11 a.m.**  
*Tavistock Public Library*  
*40 Woodstock St., Tavistock*



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 in Classified section (50 word max.) - \$10 + hst
  - Coming Events Boxed Word Ad in Classified section (50 word max.) - \$15 + hst
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## Weekly Quiz Answers

- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. Her voice   | 6. Five      |
| 2. Nocturnal   | 7. 2014      |
| 3. Pharaoh     | 8. Jake Paul |
| Khafre         | 9. Starbucks |
| 4. 1,000 years | 10. 1963     |
| 5. Venezuela   |              |

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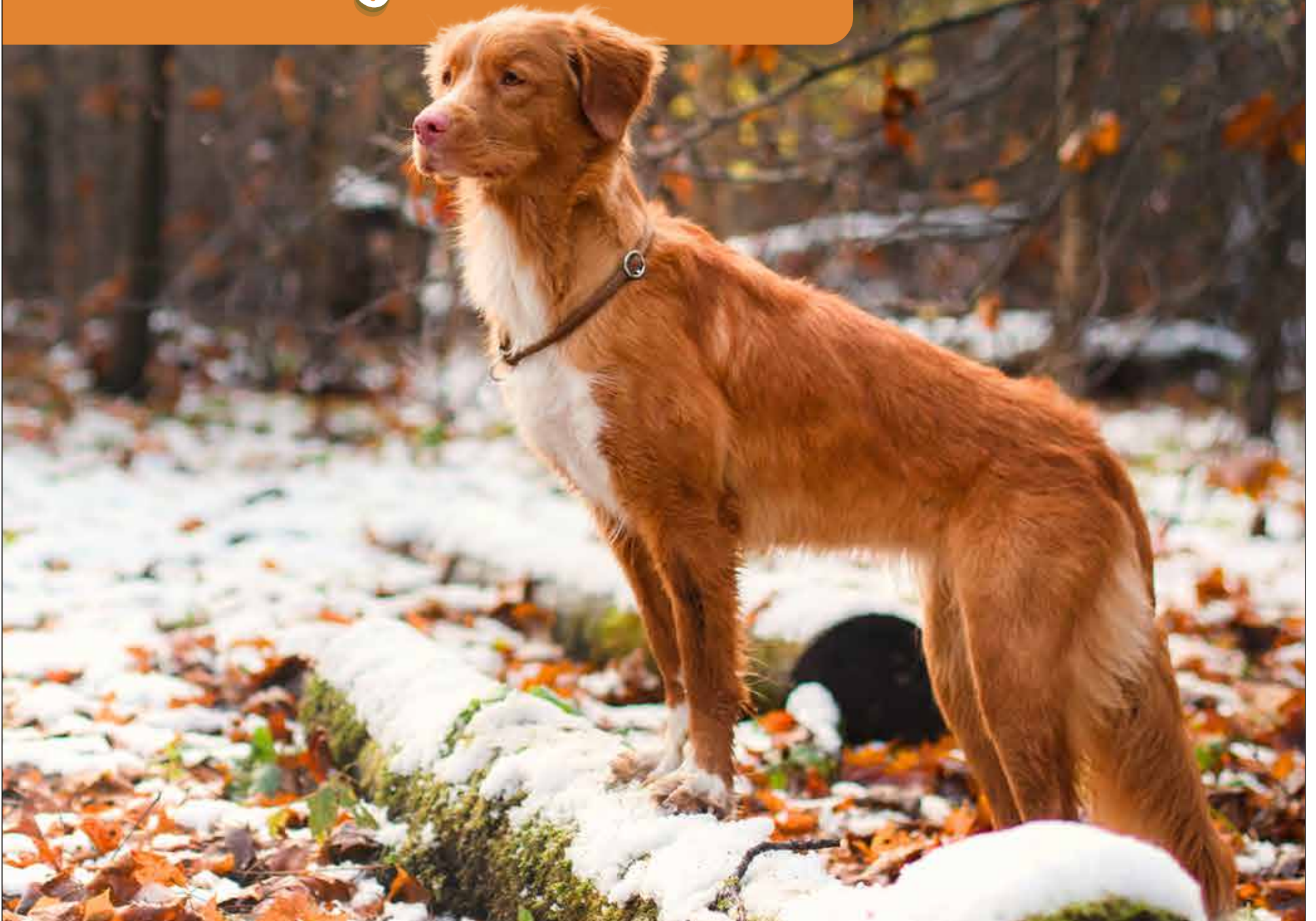
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