WILMOT OFFICIAL PLAN PAGE 7

TOP TEAMS CONTINUE TO WIN PAGE 22

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Former Toronto Maple Leaf captain Wendel Clark entertained guests with stories from his hockey-playing days along with a candid question-and-answer session following a delicious three-course dinner and the live and silent auctions during the Tri-County Mennonite Homes' second annual fundraising dinner. Full story on page 5.

TCMH working on outdoor revitalization plan

Project going hand in hand with long-term-care home rebuild

LEE GRIFFI

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Work is well underway in New Hamburg on a new Nithview long-term-care home, and going hand-in-hand with it is an outdoor development along the Nith River flats.

Tri-County Mennonite Homes (TCMH) is working with Wilmot Township on an initiative to revitalize stormwater management and enhance access to the river flats with an accessible trail system. The trails will connect to barrier-free pathways at Nithview Community and preserve the flats natural grasslands while protecting wildlife habitats.

"The new Nithview will feature barrier-free pathways for families and residents to access the grounds and the river

Continued on page 2

Province offering municipalities traffic-calming funding to replace speed cameras

LEE GRIFFI

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Ford government passed legislation that abruptly ended speed-camera programs across Ontario, but affected municipalities are being offered a pot of money to implement other traffic-calming measures.

The legislature passed Bill 56, Building a More Competitive Economy Act, 2025, which includes amendments to the Highway Traffic Act prohibiting the use of automated speed-enforcement systems across the province. As a result, the region ended its municipal speed-camera program on Nov. 13.

The community can expect to see new provincially mandated school zone signage installed across the 28 school zones where speed cameras were in use. The region released a statement advising residents of some important information:

- Tickets issued on or before Nov. 13 remain valid. Speed-camera tickets may be received in the mail on or after Nov. 14, and vehicle owners are responsible for paying or disputing a ticket by the date indicated on the ticket.
- Unpaid tickets are sent to the Ministry of Transportation. Outstanding fines will impact drivers' ability to renew their vehicle license.

Continued on page 3

Plans move ahead to revitalize river flats with new trails and safety upgrades

Continued from page 1

flats," said TCMH director of communications Emily Shannon.

"These pathways are intended to enhance the use of outdoor spaces at Nithview and will contribute to the wellbeing of our residents. It will also give them space for quiet contemplation that overlooks the river valley and grasslands below."

Development of the river flats was first initiated in 2024 through conversations with Let's Tree Wilmot and Earthscape, a company from Wallenstein. A grant was awarded to improve the area and a new path system was proposed to help protect wildlife habitats and the natural ecology. The connection between the river flats and the new long-term-care home grounds will allow the more mobile residents of Nithview Community to enjoy all of TCMH's property.

"We want to make the river flats accessible for its residents in a safe and ecologically sound manner. The current river flats create a safety hazard for all users, not only Nithview Community residents," said Shannon. "There are stormwater management ponds that are overgrown at the sides, as well as other overland water-flow areas that create soggy, uneven ground. We want to make the river flats a safe and usable space."

Fencing will clearly define the access points for anyone who wishes to walk along the river flats. It will ensure that no residents or community members venture into unsafe areas. It will also ensure tree-planting efforts and reseeding of native grasses are not disturbed and are allowed to grow.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

This photo shows TCMH's property along the Nith River flats, with storm management areas and stakes from recent tree planting.

The first visible change will be a new fence running the length of TCMH's property. Construction is expected to begin this month and wrap up by next fall. The existing ponds will also be reshaped and resized to better manage increasing stormwater from both Nithview and the surrounding area.

This phase of the stormwater management work does not yet have a firm timeline, as discussions with the township are ongoing. Pathway construction is expected to be completed by late 2027, though exact timelines remain uncertain.

"Because the path system will have defined access points, it will help to contain use on the designated areas, which means the river flats pathways will be safe for everyone to enjoy. People can also connect to the Nithview long-term-care property and into the adjacent neighbourhoods using the dedicated paths. In doing so, they can enjoy nature and maybe even see some wildlife in the area," said Shannon.

The fencing project is intended to enhance public safety, protect sensitive natural areas and improve the overall trail experience by clearly defining a safe access point for community use. As TCMH and the township finalize plans to expand the stormwater management ponds and address overland water flow on the river flats, officials say resident safety remains the top priority. Installing a fence along the length of TCMH's property is seen as a key step in ensuring visitors can access the river flats safely.

Township officials said the project reflects a shared commitment to preserving the beauty of the river valley while ensuring it remains accessible to everyone.

"Tri-County is making an important investment in both our environment and our community with a project that protects what we love while making it more accessible to everyone," said Wilmot Mayor Natasha Salonen.

"The new fencing and other upgrades are important steps in balancing access, recreation and environmental stewardship."

Once fencing and stormwater management improvements are completed, the next phase of development will begin. Publicly accessible pathways will be added with clearly defined access points.

"TCMH's improvement project is about protecting what makes our river valley so special. By installing fencing, clarifying access points and adding designated pathways, we are preserving natural greenspace, supporting wildlife habitats and ensuring that future generations can continue to enjoy this beautiful space responsibly," said TCMH chair Bruce Bechtel.

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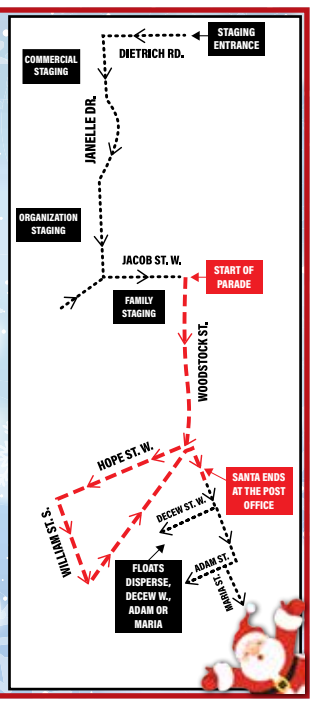

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CLARIFICATION:

The Tavistock Agricultural Society will now be kicking off its first Festival of Lights on Friday, Nov. 21, not Saturday, Nov. 22, as originally announced in the story, "Tavistock Ag. Society to hold Festival of Lights," on page 10 of the Nov. 13, 2025 edition of the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette. "Apologies for the last-minute update, and we hope to see everyone out to celebrate this holiday season," said a social media post from the agricultural society.

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Ontario axes speed cameras, funds new safety measures

Continued from page 1

- The region is coordinating the removal of "Municipal Speed Camera In Use" signs and speed cameras on regional and municipal roads. Speed cameras will remain in place temporarily to collect traffic speed data. No speeding tickets are being issued as of Nov. 14.

A complete list of former camera locations can be found at https://gis.regionofwaterloo.ca/municipalspeedcameras, and to dispute a ticket, those affected can visit www.regionofwaterloo.ca/app.

"Regional school zones remain designated as community safety zones to protect children, pedestrians and cyclists," added the statement.

Wilmot had three speed cameras, located near schools on Snyder's Road, Bridge Street and Waterloo Street. Wellesley's two cameras were on Lobsinger Line and Queen's Bush Road. All were in school zones with a 40 km/hr speed limit in effect at all times.

The Ontario government is investing $210 million through the Road Safety Initiatives Fund (RSIF) to support increased road safety in school zones and community safety zones without using speed cameras. It will instead provide financial support for road safety measures, including traffic-calming infrastructure like speed bumps, raised crosswalks and roundabouts, as well as high-visibility signage and increased police enforcement in school zones and community safety zones where municipal speed cameras were previously deployed.

Wilmot Township Mayor Natasha Salonen explained the money collected from the fines paid for other traffic-calming measures on regional roads, not to offset other expenses, as many residents have speculated.

"Part of that work is still going forward into some of the rural areas of the township this fall and I believe that is still proceeding. However, the long-term plan is to figure out what can be done, and hopefully, the province will come up with more money to fill the gaps."

Salonen said the number-one complaint she receives in her role as mayor and regional councillor is people driving too fast. She added while the speed-camera program wasn't perfect, it did penalize bad behaviour to pay for safety.

"I don't want to say it was a user-fee service, but it was directly targeted at those not using our roadways safely. They were the ones paying to improve road safety."

Oxford County did not have a speed-camera program but staff were considering a 2026 budget ask to implement one. Warden Marcus Ryan said he would rather tax someone driving too fast in front of a school than tax everyone for roundabouts and speed bumps.

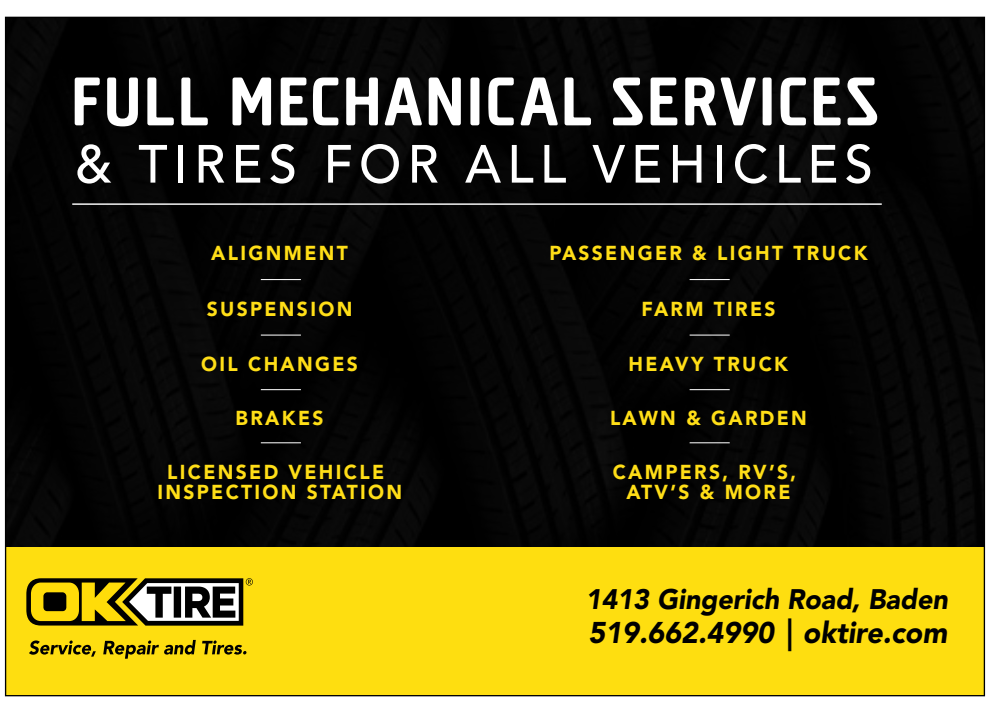
"I don't know why we all don't want to tax someone speeding by a park or a library rather than tax everyone for traffic-calming measures."

He added the county will continue to look at any provincial grant opportunities to add to the current arsenal of safety improvements across Oxford.

"Under the leadership of Premier Ford, our government is standing up for drivers by banning cash-grab speed cameras and supporting proven road-safety measures that will make a real difference," said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Ontario minister of transportation.

As part of the RSIF, the Ontario government will provide $42 million in immediate funding to support traffic-calming measures in school zones and community safety zones that previously deployed municipal speed cameras. Early next year, eligible municipalities will be invited to apply to the RSIF for the remainder of the funding and submit construction plans for traffic-calming infrastructure.

All municipalities that previously used municipal speed cameras will be eligible to apply for the Road Safety Initiatives Fund. The $210 million in funding provided this year is one-time funding.



Tavistock's 2025 Santa Claus Parade shaping up to be one of the best yet

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

Preparations are complete for this year's Santa Claus Parade in Tavistock, and organizers say the 2025 edition is set to be one of the most exciting parades the community has seen.

The event will follow its traditional route, beginning on Janelle Drive on Saturday, Nov. 29 at 1 p.m. Residents are encouraged to mark their calendars, and anyone with a float is invited to join the fun.

For the first time, the Men's Club, longtime parade sponsors, will set up Santa's chair at the end of the route near the post office. Children can enjoy cheese sticks from Saputo and white or chocolate milk from Oxford County Dairy Producers after meeting Santa.

The New Hamburg Concert Band will stop in the secondary parking lot on Maria Street to continue performing as long as weather permits.

Local South Easthope farmer Jennifer Albrecht is coordinating an East Zorra-Tavistock 50th anniversary celebration booth at the post office corner, offering free hot chocolate and hotdogs before, during and after the parade. Members of East Zorra-Tavistock council will also be on hand to greet residents.

Additional treats will be available thanks to the local Subway and Esso, who will provide cookies, chips and drinks, while John Ros of Mad Mash will offer bite-sized meat pies at the five corners.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Santa will return for this year's parade, making sure every child along the route receives a treat. To enter a float, contact parade co-chairs Mark Kozdras or Don Junker, or speak with any member of the Men's Club.

The Men's Club will once again have Santa handing out candy canes along the route, and many floats will also have treats for spectators. Organizers hope to see families from across the community come out and help celebrate another festive season in Tavistock.

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TCMH Wendel Clark fundraising dinner brings new long-term-care home closer to reality

STEWART GRANT

Gazette Publisher

Tri-County Mennonite Homes' (TCMH) second annual fundraising dinner was a big success last Saturday, with the event furthering the organization's mission of building a new Nithview long-term care home in New Hamburg.

Toronto Maple Leaf legend Wendel Clark was the special guest, and the 142 people in attendance at Puddicombe House were treated to a wonderful evening of fine dining, fellowship and classic hockey stories.

"TCMH was proud to host another hockey star for our fundraiser event," said TCMH chief of staff and director of communications Emily Shannon, noting Wendel's appearance this year was a great follow-up to last year when Darryl Sittler entertained.

"Wendel Clark wowed hockey fans," she said.

Clark connected with the crowd right from the beginning of his speech when he shared his small-town upbringing. Asking about the size of New Hamburg, he joked, "That's a city in Saskatchewan."

"I grew up in a town of about 900, and from our town, we had four guys in the NHL," Clark said, referring to himself and brothers Joey and Kory Kocur along with Barry Melrose. "The Kocurs, Clarks and Melroses; we're all related. All small towns are related."

"TCMH supporters really enjoyed listening to Wendel's stories," said Shannon. "The event is a key fundraiser for TCMH in support of building a New Nithview and we couldn't do it without the support of local businesses and all the people who purchased a ticket to attend."

Shannon told the Gazette the live and silent auction made over $7,000, while the amount raised from ticket sales and sponsorships hadn't been fully determined as of press time.

TCMH is working towards a campaign fundraising goal of $5 million, of which at least $772,000 had been raised heading into last weekend's event. Of the total construction cost of $54 million, $34 million will come from lending institutions, $12.9 million from an Ontario Construction Funding Subsidy, and $2 million from Support for Municipal and Regional Development Fees, per the Case for Support document shared at the event.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Following a delicious three-course dinner and the live and silent auctions, former Toronto Maple Leaf captain Wendel Clark entertained guests with stories from his hockey-playing days along with a candid question-and-answer session.

"The project is crucial to expanding elder care in our community," Shannon said. "As pressure increases on the long-term-care system, the demand for beds is growing very quickly. TCMH is opening 63 new beds and building 160 beds in total (97 coming from the current LTC home) to help meet the growing need and keeping our elders in the community they call home."

Shannon said the construction project is approximately 30 per cent complete, with construction expected to be completed in late summer 2027, with residents moving into the new home in the early fall of 2027.

For more information on the new Nithview project, including information on how to donate, visit www.tcm-homes.com.

New Hamburg author releases biography of former Ontario deputy culture minister and brother-in-law, David Silcox

Biography was a three-year labour of love

GALEN SIMMONS

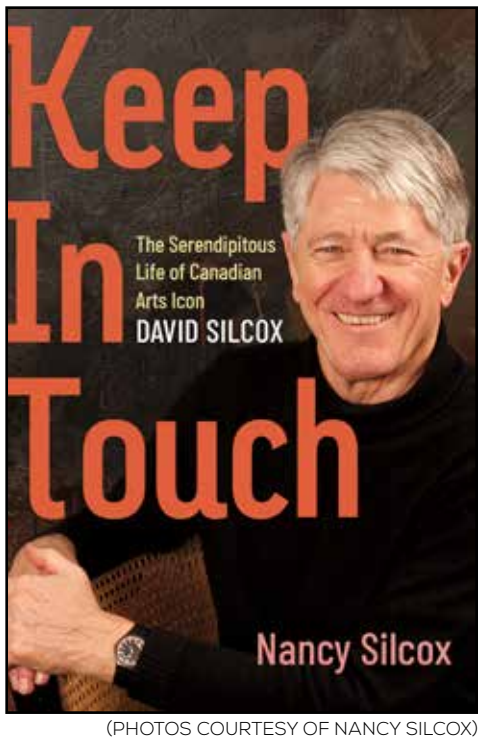
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

New Hamburg author Nancy Silcox has just released a biography detailing the storied career and life of former Ontario Deputy Minister of Culture, and her late brother-in-law, David Silcox – the result of three years of research into a man who worked his whole life to have Canadian art recognized internationally and at home.

Released on Nov. 18, Keep In Touch: The Serendipitous Life of Canadian Arts Icon David Silcox chronicles David Silcox's rise through the ranks of the Canadian cultural establishment, from his early days as first arts officer of the Canada council in the mid-1960s to his positions as assistant deputy minister of culture in Ottawa and then deputy minister of culture for the Province of Ontario, and his leadership at Sotheby's Canada in the 1990s. Throughout his career, David Silcox supported, promoted and even repatriated the work of visual artists including Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven, Christopher Pratt, Harold Town, David Milne and Paul Kane.

"He touched all sorts of areas in our society, not just the arts," Nancy Silcox said. "People are going to look at this and go, 'Oh, this guy was deputy minister of culture, now why do I want to know about him?' But there's so much more to him than that. That's the one thing I want to come across in this book. He's not out of touch.

" … (My husband) Louis is the youngest one of a family of four boys and David was 11 years older. He passed away two years ago February at age 86. He had done so much, and he was such an interesting guy. He moved into dementia – unfortunately, it's a fairly strong family trait – and I went to my sister-in-law asking if he kept notes. 'No, he just scribbled,' and I thought, 'This can't be.' He just gave so much and did so many interesting things, and I said, 'Ok, I'll do it,' and it took me three years."



(PHOTOS COURTESY OF NANCY SILCOX)

The book cover for Keep In Touch: The Serendipitous Life of Canadian Arts Icon David Silcox by Nancy Silcox.

Since David Silcox's job took him across the country and beyond and gave him the opportunity to work with some of the most influential Canadians in the realms of both art and politics, Nancy Silcox said her last name and relationship with her brother-in-law opened the door to interviews with people she never would have been able to speak with otherwise.

"People like Bob Rae, the former leader of the (Ontario) NDP, (author) Margaret Atwood, (former Governor General) Adrienne Clarkson, people like that – very important Canadians – and I got to talk to all of them because they all knew David. That was a lot of the fun, calling these people up and saying, 'Tell me about David,' "

Pictured are "The Canoe Boys" with David Silcox in the lower left and former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau in the lower right.

Nancy Silcox said.

While David Silcox had the opportunity to work with countless influential Canadians and people from around the world, Nancy Silcox said her brother-in-law also travelled across the country to hand out funding to art galleries. Locally, David Silcox's work supported art galleries in Stratford, Kitchener-Waterloo and London, among others.

After being appointed deputy minister of culture by the provincial Liberals in the 1980s, David Silcox's career in politics came to end in 1990 when the Ontario NDP formed government.

"His name was 'Diamond Dave' and he got fired because he was spending too much money on the arts," Nancy Silcox said. "So, where did he land on his feet? He became the president of Sotheby's Canada, and he did really good things there. He brought back lost Canadian masterpieces like pieces by The Group of Seven from the United States, and others from England."

Sharing one of the many stories about her brother-in-law she heard while researching this book, Nancy Silcox said he once personally drove to down to Vermont to repatriate a house full of invaluable Canadian artwork.

"He got a call when he was Sotheby's president from … Vermont, and it was a call from a lawyer to say, 'We're calling you on behalf of a client who just passed. … There are a whole bunch of pieces of art in his house when he died. He was a Canadian who lived in Vermont, but he wanted this art returned to Canada.'

" … So, David, being the kind of guy he was, rented a van, took a couple of his staff with him, they roared down to Vermont – David behind the wheel – opened the door of this old, ramshackle cottage and it was full of The Group of Seven and the Beaver Hall Group and Tom Thomson. And he brought it home and returned it to Canada. That is really one of my favourite stories."

Keep In Touch: The Serendipitous Life of Canadian Arts Icon David Silcox is available for purchase through Indigo, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Indie Bookstores and at Words Worth Books in Waterloo. Locals can also order a copy of the book by emailing Nancy Silcox directly at nancymsilcox@gmail.com.

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Wilmot councillors debate draft principles as development of new township official plan moves into next phase

Councillors express the need to control growth and density while protecting farmland

GALEN SIMMONS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Following several months of public consultation and background study, the development of a new official plan for the Township of Wilmot is moving into its next phase.

To usher in that next phase, which will see the drafting of policies and drawing of land-use maps that will guide growth and development, and dictate how land will be used in the township over the next 50 years, the township hosted a special council meeting Nov. 17 during which representatives from Nethery Planning presented a set of draft guiding principles for the project, and councillors had the opportunity to provide their feedback.

"Your current (official plan) was approved in 2004," said Nethery Planning founder and registered professional planner Joe Nethery. "There have been a series of amendments, including a major one in 2017 with approval in 2019, but it is, at that point, beginning to get to that point of what we might call end of life. … Coupled with all of this, there have been a series of major legislative and policy changes, even since 2019, that affect the township and all municipalities across Ontario.

"Since that time, there have been two new provincial planning statements (PPS), … the repeal of the growth plan (and) the elimination of land-use planning responsibilities from Waterloo region and other upper-tier municipalities across Ontario as well. … All of this is requiring those local planning documents to be reflective of that change and up to date with that provincial policy and to reflect the challenge that has been foisted upon you in that you now have two official plans that you're currently implementing and administering – the region's document and your own current township document. … Do you need two plans when one will do, and of course, what content will that one contain?"

Based on feedback from the public and other stakeholders collected through one-on-one engagements at the New Hamburg Fall Fair on Sept. 13, as well as the official plan visioning session on Sept. 23 and a public workshop on Oct. 22, Nethery planners developed a list of draft guiding principles for the development of the new official plan.

They include:

- Encourage and support a range and mix of housing in village centres and on major roads;
- Enhance village centres by accommodating new businesses, housing, community facilities and enhancing streets and parks;
- Provide opportunities for local jobs and economic growth;
- Planning for accessible transportation options to support the safe movement of people and goods on local roads;
- Ensure the protection and enhancement of the natural heritage systems and its ecological functions;
- Promote fiscal responsibility in development and manage growth in tandem with the availability of services; and
- Promote the design of resilient and sustainable communities that respond to climate change and promote compact urban form to protect farmland.

Speaking before council, vice chair of the Grand River Environmental Network Kevin Thomason emphasized the importance of drafting an official plan that includes each of the environmental and natural-resource protections included in the Region of Waterloo's official plan, especially as the provincial government appears to be set on destroying prime agricultural land in favour of a mega-industrial site in the township.

"This new Wilmot official plan now has to be as leading and visionary as our regional official plans with a fraction of the resources," Thomason said. "Everything that has set us apart in the (regional official plan) needs to be carried forward in the Wilmot official plan, be it our countryside line protecting farmland and clearly guiding development by reducing speculation, or our unique, no-rural severance policy that has helped ensure Wilmot farms have remained intact and amongst the most profitable in all of Canada.

"When we were not included in the Greenbelt, it fell to the region to ensure that our source water areas, farmland and natural areas were as protected as the rest of Ontario. Almost all of our environmental protections have been at the regional level and now, with the loss of regional planning authority, they must be incorporated into this Wilmot plan for our communities' quality of life, or our communities' quality of life will be threatened."

Much of the discussion around the council table at the Nov. 17 meeting was focused around the need to develop a official plan that accounts for the local water and wastewater capacity constraints that will restrict development without expansion, and the local desire to maintain Wilmot Township's small-town feel, especially when it comes to density and meeting minimum growth targets.

"I want to really make sure we're framing this document in the right way," Coun. Kris Wilkinson said. "We're discussing a document that will inform how this town will grow, but ultimately, at the end of the day, I want to make sure that it's representative of the people who live and pay taxes here. I think, for the most part, we're looking to see a relatively similar expansion within a certain, set boundary, and my concern is I'm also looking at this and thinking that, from the suggestion that if you're going to have higher density, you're going to have some of these (taller) buildings, that's maybe not growing the same way that the community that lives here and is actually invested in being in this town wants to see."

"It's my belief that if we want to protect farmland, we have to build up, not out," Coun. Steven Martin countered. " … We have development in the village centres and it's my belief we need to grow up. … I hear people saying that we need to have six-story buildings and I think that's important. … We've already approved development that could (see the construction of six-storey buildings). … In fact, with Nithview, that would be another example of a six-storey building. … I would encourage my colleagues to listen to both sides on this."

While Nethery explained there will likely be a need for some densification to accommodate future growth without threatening encroachment onto prime farmland, councillors ultimately agreed it needs to be managed in such a way so it isn't out of character with the township's current residential neighbourhoods and commercial areas, specifically between New Hamburg and Baden where much of the township's future growth is expected to be concentrated.

"I certainly see the importance of protecting farmland and I came on this council with that perspective," Coun. Stewart Cressman added. "As a farmer, I see the importance of it as a significant natural heritage that we have. So, our planning decisions impact that and, again, we have to look at how we have competing interests when it comes to density and height. And I think we have to look at how do we get density that is aesthetically pleasing and meets the needs of the people."

Once Nethery Planning drafts the new official plan policies and land-use maps, planners will present the draft plan to council and the public for further feedback next spring before a final draft is presented to council for consideration in June 2026.

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Beloved farm mascot remembered at Bickle's Apple Orchard

(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Morty, the most famous bulldog in East Zorra-Tavistock, pictured this past fall at Bickle's Apple Store.

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

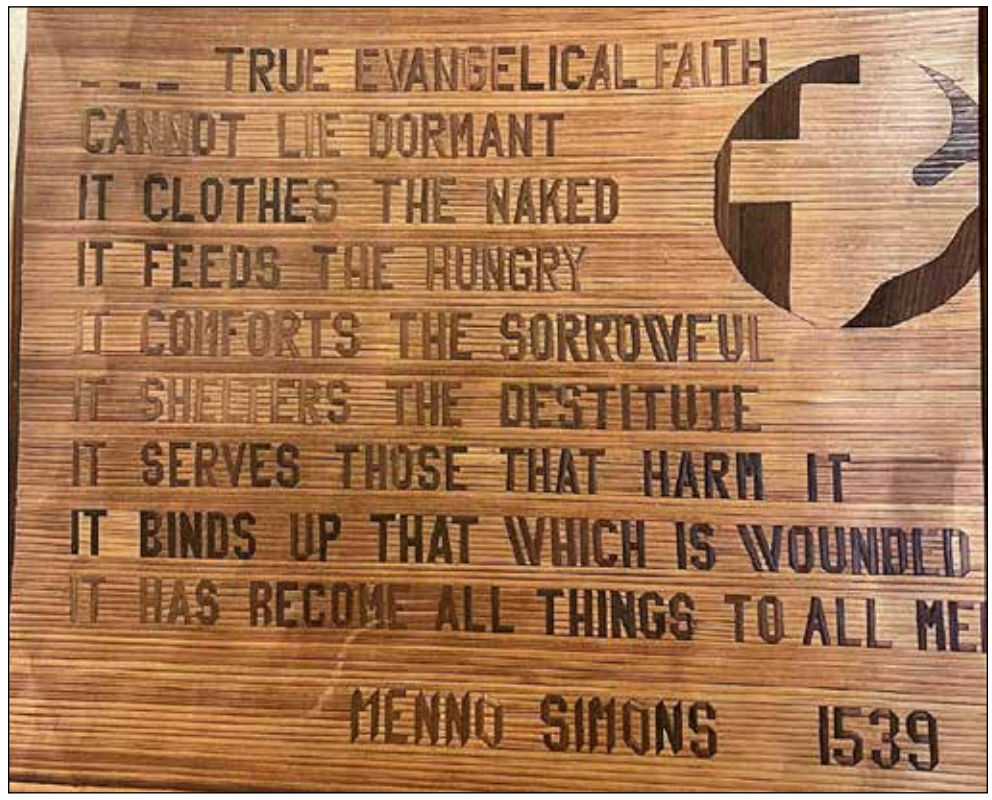
The Bickle family, south of Tavistock, recently said goodbye to Morty, their loyal bulldog and beloved mascot of Bickle's Orchard Park Farm.

For more than a decade, Morty greeted visitors with his unmistakable charm and affection, becoming a fixture at the family's popular apple orchard. Cathy and Tom Bickle say Morty wasn't just a pet – he was part of the family, loved by everyone who stopped by for apples, cider, or a friendly wag of the tail.

Morty would have celebrated his 11th birthday on Boxing Day, and his absence will surely be felt by the many who came to know him over the years.

May he rest in peace in doggie heaven – forever watching over the orchard he called home.

Words to live by at Steinmann Mennonite Church



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

A plaque at the entrance of Steinmann Mennonite Church near Baden offers a timeless message from Menno Simons, written in 1539. The passage, titled "True Evangelical Faith," reminds visitors that genuine faith is active and compassionate: "It clothes the naked, it feeds the hungry, it comforts the sorrowful, it shelters the destitute … it has become all things to all people."

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Young farm labourers build careers working outdoors

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

As many young graduates search for meaningful work, two local farm-raised labourers have found their stride doing what they enjoy most – working outdoors.

Backhoe operator Andrew Matheson and field tile assistant Logan McKone are part of the crew at Sebben Drainage, a long-established tile drainage company located west of Tavistock on Pork Street.

Both say they're gaining valuable hands-on training from company owner and tile-plow operator Kyle Sebben, the third generation to run the progressive family business.

Sebben Drainage is currently seeking additional outdoor-minded labourers. Those interested can email tsebben@hotmail.com or call 519-271-6621.

(GARY WEST PHOTO)

In front is Logan McKone, a farm youth who lives near the Sebben Drainage shop, with Andrew Matheson, a fellow farm-raised employee, operating the backhoe behind him.

Wilmot's Donald Mohr reflects on his father, Clayton Mohr's service in the First World War

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

Wilmot Township's senior residents have long heard the saying that history repeats itself. After the First World War, they hoped it wouldn't – but only two decades later, global conflict returned.

For lifelong Wilmot Township farmer Donald Mohr, those lessons remain vivid, especially as Remembrance Day approaches.

During a recent visit to his home near Phillipsburg, Mohr – who turns 98 at Christmas – reflected on stories he learned about his father, Clayton Mohr, and his service in the First World War. Clayton Mohr received his draft notice in 1918 and enlisted with the Western Ontario Regiment in London. He departed Canada by ship on Sept. 10, arriving in England on Sept. 15.

He was later transferred to the 4th Reserve Battalion and posted to Kimmel Park. Clayton Mohr contracted influenza but recovered and rejoined his unit on Nov. 4, 1918 – just days before the war ended.

As Donald Mohr and his daughter, Marilyn Parker, shared memories, many stories from his youth resurfaced. Donald Mohr grew up farming with dairy cows, sheep, goats and chickens, and was known for his team of Percheron horses, which he used for springtime sap gathering. One year, he delivered 10 sets of twin calves – all of which survived, a rare feat in early farming days.

Donald Mohr still recalls winters when deep snow meant travelling to school by horse and sleigh, with lunchbreaks spent sliding down a nearby hill. Like most rural students of his generation, he learned in a one-room schoolhouse with eight grades. He remembers Arbour Day yard clean-ups, school fairs featuring vegetables and crafts, and Christmas concerts that filled the school with parents and neighbours.

During harsh winter weather, the family travelled across the fields to stay warm on the ride to school. Once home, the Mohr children could count on a hot drink, sugar cookies, cheese or summer sausage waiting for them.

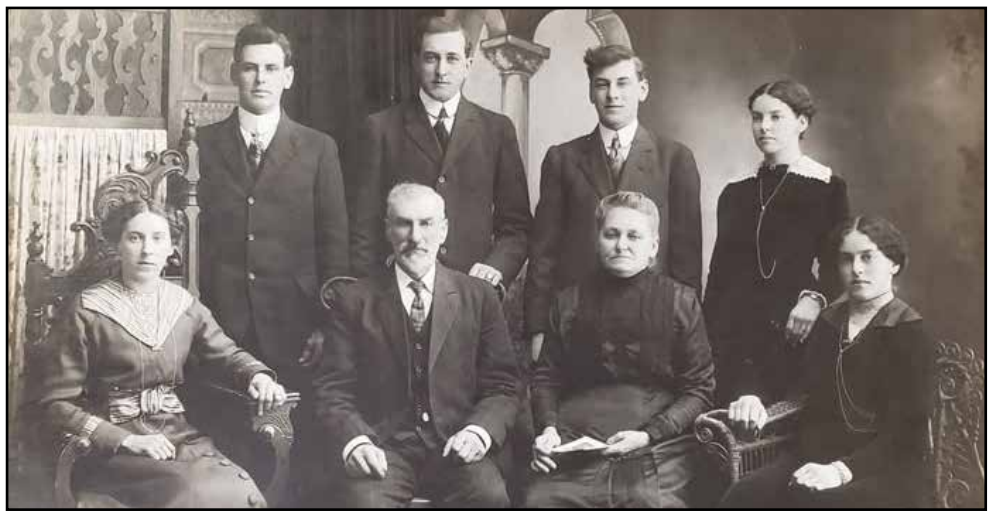
Despite approaching his 100th year, Donald Mohr's memory is remarkably sharp. His stories bridge generations, offering a glimpse into rural life nearly a century ago and honouring the service of a father he never truly knew – Clayton Mohr died before Donald Mohr was born – but whose legacy has shaped the Mohr family for decades.

(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Donald Mohr, with his daughter, Marilyn Parker, at home near Phillipsburg. Parker, who now lives in Calgary, says her soon-to-be 98-year-old father has an exceptional memory and continues to live independently with help from family.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

The Mohr family home, built in 1840 near the Wilmot-North Easthope townline, where Clayton Mohr raised his family. Donald Mohr still lives a short distance from the original homestead, while his son, Paul Mohr, continues to dairy farm at the next concession.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

A historic photo of Donald Mohr's great-grandparents (centre) with their six children. Front from left: Minnie Mohr (Bender), John R. and Anna Mohr (Lantz), Edna Mohr (Lantz). Back from left: Herb, Edwin, Clayton (Donald's father) and Otillie Mohr.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

A younger Donald Mohr drives a team of Percherons while rolling land with a hand-built spruce log roller, still stored in his garage today.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

The massive hemlock tree on the Mohr family farm, believed to be the largest in Ontario. When photographed in 1989, three Mohr family members could not reach around its trunk. It still stands today on Paul Mohr's farm.

Tavistock Men's Club Sauerkraut Supper another sellout success

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

The Tavistock Men's Club once again served up a sold-out crowd at its annual Sauerkraut Supper, drawing hundreds of eager visitors for one of the community's most anticipated fall meals.

Months of preparation went into the event, beginning with the chopping of locally grown cabbage for the club's signature sauerkraut. Paired with smoked pork chops and homemade apple pie topped with local cheese, the supper lived up to its reputation as one of the tastiest meals of the year.

Those lucky enough to secure tickets said the kraut was among the best they've ever enjoyed – a sentiment echoed annually by customers with deep German roots. For anyone who missed out, the Men's Club prepares extra kraut each year, available for purchase at the clubhouse at a reasonable price.

Club president Brian Boland extended thanks to the event's many supporters, including Beanhaven Family Farm, Murray's Produce, Quehl's Restaurant, Sam's Your Independent Grocer, Saputo, the Tavistock Fire Department, The Butcher Barn and Cascade Boxes.

He also expressed gratitude to the community for its ongoing support of the long-running fundraiser.

(GARY WEST PHOTOS)

Volunteers keep the food line moving inside the Memorial Hall. Although hosted by the Men's Club, many local women also lend a hand each year to help serve the steady stream of drive-through customers.

Tavistock firefighters prepare hundreds of smoked pork chops for the supper. From left: Nic Hendry, Paul Brenneman (foreman), Ryan Ropp, Jacobs Hutchison and Matt Lamers. Missing: Sean Lonergan.

Tavistock Men's Club members direct traffic and fill orders at the drive-through pickup. From left: Mark Lichti, Peter Picket, Walter Kropf and Will Swartzentruber.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION CENTRE

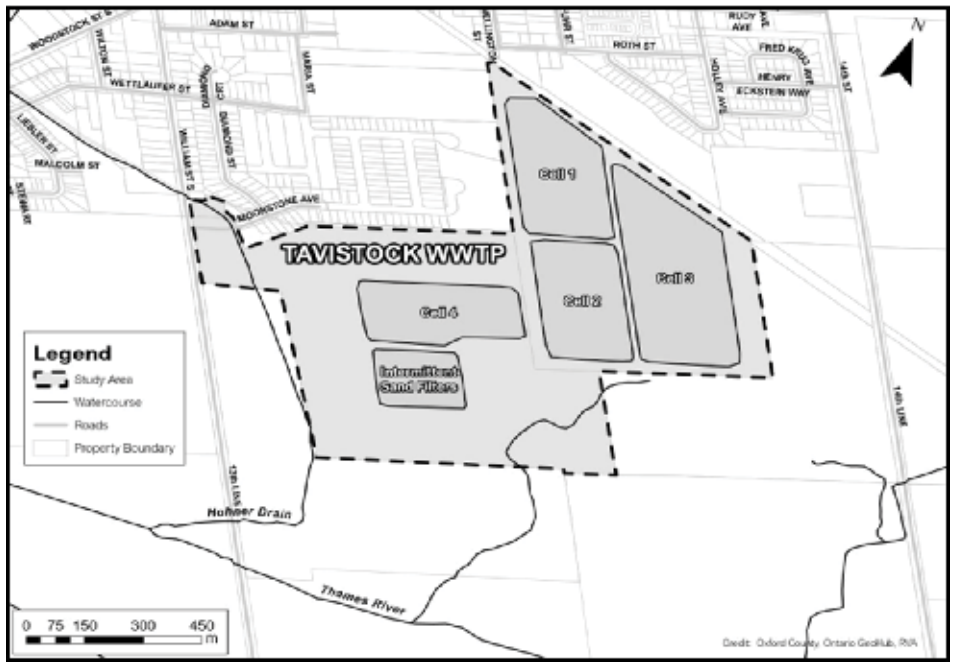
Tavistock Wastewater Treatment Plant

Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study

About the study

Oxford County is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study to explore a range of possibilities for expanding the Tavistock Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) in the Village of Tavistock in the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock. The study will determine the preferred approach that is cost-effective, environmentally sound and sustainable to increase wastewater treatment capacity to service the existing sewage flows, as well as future growth, to 2046.

This Municipal Class EA Study is being carried out in accordance with the planning and design process for Schedule C projects as outlined in the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (2023), approved under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*.



Public consultation

Public, Indigenous, and agency consultation is a key component of the Class EA process and will be sought throughout the study. As part of the Class EA study, a Public Consultation Centre (PCC) is being held to present the long-term wastewater servicing solutions that are being considered and evaluated for capacity expansion of the Tavistock WWTP, and to provide residents and interested parties with the opportunity to provide comments and ask questions of Oxford County staff and the County's consultant, R.V. Anderson Associates Ltd.

Both in-person and virtual meeting options will be available for this consultation period and will include a presentation by R.V. Anderson Associates Limited, followed by a question and answer period. The agenda will include an introduction to the study, overview of the Class EA study process, review of work completed, summary of alternative solutions considered/preliminary preferred solution, and discussion of next steps in the study. PCC dates and registration details are as follows:

Virtual (online) meeting
Wednesday, December 10, 2025
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Please visit the project study page to register and/or for login info to join the meeting:
www.oxfordcounty.ca/tav-wwtp-ea

In-person meeting
Thursday, December 11, 2025
Drop in 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. – Presentation at 5:15 p.m.
Tavistock Memorial Hall, 3 Adam Street, Tavistock
For more information or to register visit:
www.oxfordcounty.ca/tav-wwtp-ea

Project contacts

If you have questions or comments, please contact either of the following project team members or visit the study webpage:
www.oxfordcounty.ca/tav-wwtp-ea

Jamie Yeung, P.Eng.
Project Engineer
Oxford County
jyeung@oxfordcounty.ca
519-539-9800 ext. 3222

Austin Bender, P. Eng.
Project Manager
R. V. Anderson Associates Limited
abender@rvanderson.com
416-497-8600 ext. 5048

Information collected will be used in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

This notice issued on November 19, 2025

Oxford County
Growing stronger together

Waterloo Regional Police investigating hit and run in New Hamburg

WILMOT-TAVISTOCK GAZETTE STAFF
thewtgazette@gmail.com

Waterloo Regional Police are investigating a hit-and-run collision in Wilmot Township last week.

On Nov. 12 at approximately 5:50 p.m., a 13-year-old pedestrian was crossing Union Street near Huron Street in New Hamburg when they were struck by a white vehicle turning from Huron Street onto Union Street. The driver did not stop and fled the area.

The pedestrian was transported to hospital with non-life-threatening physical injuries.

The suspect vehicle is believed to be a white sedan or SUV and may have front-end damage or a damaged side mirror.

Anyone with information or who observes a white vehicle with this type of damage is asked to call Waterloo Regional Police at 519-570-9777 ext. 6399, or, to remain anonymous, Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

Waterloo Regional Police investigating pedestrian collision in Wellesley Township

WILMOT-TAVISTOCK GAZETTE STAFF
thewtgazette@gmail.com

The Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) is investigating a collision in Wellesley Township after a pedestrian was struck by a vehicle.

On Nov. 13 at approximately 6:45 p.m., emergency services responded to a report of a motor vehicle collision at Herrgott Road and Line 86.

The investigation determined a 48-year-old female pedestrian was struck by a vehicle travelling northbound on Herrgott Road. The pedestrian was transported to an out-of-region hospital with serious physical injuries.

The driver of the vehicle, a 17-year-old man, did not sustain any physical injuries.

The intersection was partially closed for several hours while officers conducted the investigation.

Anyone who witnessed the collision or has dash-camera footage is asked to call WRPS' traffic services unit at 519-570-9777 ext. 8856.

Assistance from public leads to arrest of man wanted on warrant

WILMOT-TAVISTOCK GAZETTE STAFF
thewtgazette@gmail.com

Police have arrested a man with no fixed address on a warrant following a report of a suspicious person in the Township of Perth East.

On Nov. 13, the Perth County OPP responded to a report of a suspicious person in the Town of Milverton. Police located a 53-year-old male with no fixed address who was wanted by London Police Service (LPS) on an outstanding bench warrant.

The Perth County OPP assisted LPS by returning the male on his charges.

Police say this incident highlights the importance of the partnership and cooperation between the public and police.

The Perth County OPP want to remind everyone that if they see something concerning in their neighbourhood to call the OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Should they wish to remain anonymous, call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or visit ontariocrimestoppers.ca where they may be eligible to receive a cash reward of up to $2,000.

Yes, it's that time again — Christmas is coming fast!

Share the Spirit of Christmas with the

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

Get a head start on the season with the **The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette's Christmas Greetings**, publishing **December 18** — a great way to wish the community a Merry Christmas and thank your customers for their support.

A portion of proceeds will be **donated to Wilmot Family Resource Centre & Tavistock Assistance Program,** helping provide care and comfort to local families.

Don't wait — reserve your greeting today!

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GRANT HAVEN MEDIA

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Saturday November 22, 11:00am to be held at

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

Cattle:

(40)Heifers: (10)Char, (20)Black, (10)Simm & Blk - 1st time calvers, bred Angus, vaccinated, double moved

(26) Heifers: (7) CharX, (8) Black, (11) Red - bred Simm/Red Angus X, vaccinated, all double moved

(15) Heifers - Black, bred to Black Angus bull, vaccinated

(10) Charolais cows - all bred Charolais - vaccinated

(11) Cows: (4) Black cows & calves, (4) bred cows, (3)black heifers - bred Angus/Simm X, vaccinated

(10) Charolais Cows & Calves - (4)first calf heifers with calf at side, vaccinated

(2) Charolais Cows

All Cows will be preg checked prior to sale.

Lunch Booth Washroom Available

Terms & Conditions: Cash or cheque with proper I.D. on day of sale. Owner & Auctioneer will not be responsible for any accidents or loss on day of sale. All announcements on day of sale will take precedence over printed ads.

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

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Millwrights in high demand around New Hamburg and Shakespeare

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

A well-known shop just northeast of Shakespeare continues to stay busy as demand for millwrights and skilled repair work remains high across southern Perth County.

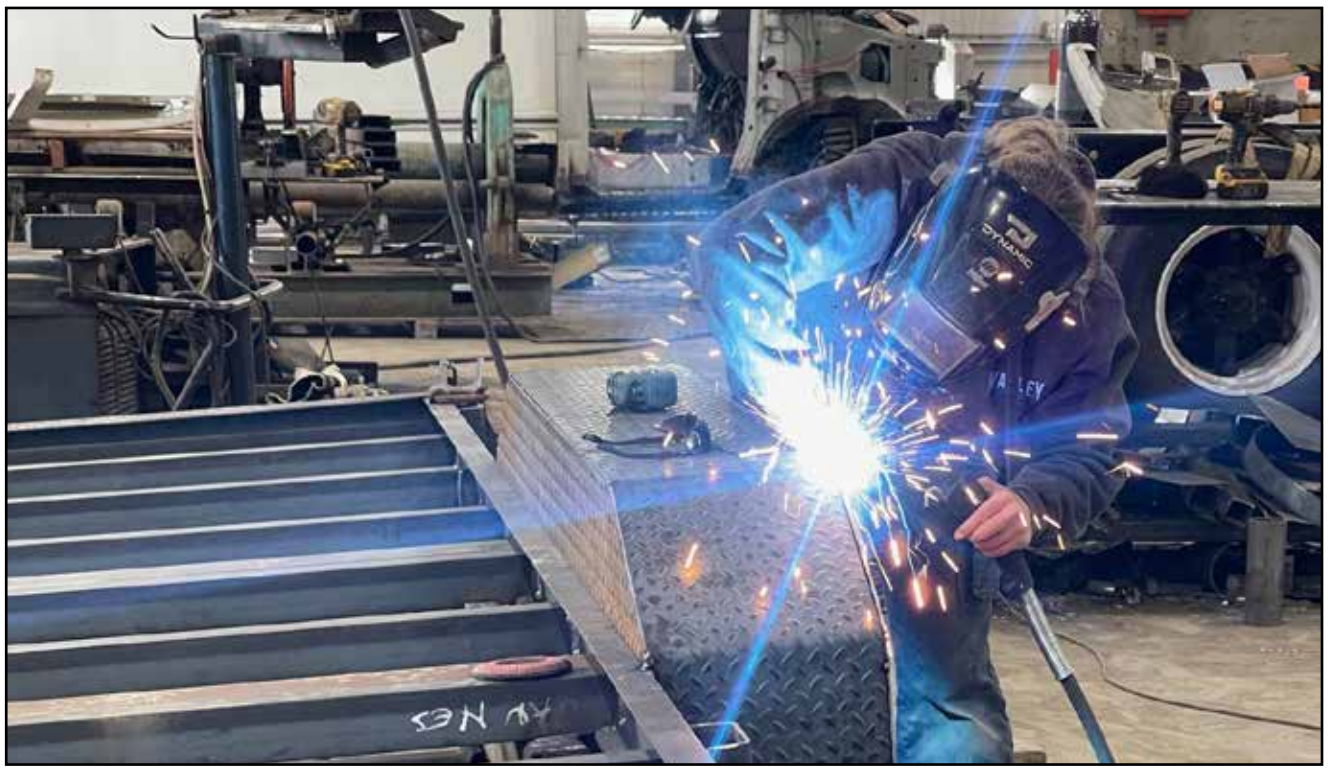
Van Nes Custom Welding Inc., owned by Brad Van Nes, has built a reputation for being able to repair or fabricate almost anything that comes through the door.

Van Nes grew up on the family dairy farm in North Easthope Township near Stratford and credits his grandparents, Theo and Regina Van Nes, for setting the foundation after immigrating from Holland in the 1950s. Their hard work allowed them to purchase the farm on the 3rd Concession (Vivian Line), which remains in the Van Nes family today.

Brad Van Nes' parents, Jane – a registered nurse – and James, a lifelong dairy farmer, passed their strong work ethic on to their son and his three brothers, Dan, Steve and Jeff. All four now farm in Perth and Oxford counties, raising dairy, beef and pigs, and growing crops such as alfalfa, corn, soybeans and wheat to feed their livestock.

Brad Van Nes was always drawn to fixing equipment and apprenticed at Krantz Machine and Welding in South Easthope Township, where he learned much of his trade. Today, his work ranges from installing elevator legs, grain bins and drags to building and repairing all types of grain-handling equipment and custom metal fabrication projects.

Van Nes Custom Welding now employs five young area workers – Brandy Bundscho, Andrea Ruth, Noah Poole, Peter Enns, Kyle Steffler and Leanne Martin – and continues to grow its reputation for quality craftsmanship and reliable service.



(GARY WEST PHOTOS)

Leanne Martin of Staffa works as a fabricator at Van Nes Custom Welding Inc. She says she enjoys the variety of work and is shown building a trailer from scratch.

Owner Brad Van Nes repairs the front drive system of a customer's van. Customers say his skill in millwrighting, repair work and metal fabrication has helped him build a strong business rooted in hard work and community values.

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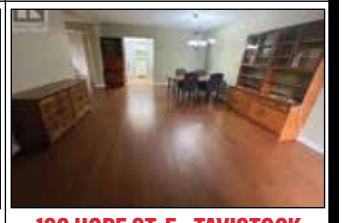

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Worm Wrangler brings composting know-how to Grace United's High Noon crowd

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

Grace United Church's monthly High Noon gathering welcomed an unusual and engaging guest last week: the Worm Wrangler.

Amanda Hunter, who operates a full-time vermicomposting business in Kitchener, introduced the audience to red wiggler composting worms and explained how they help turn household and workplace organic waste into rich, nutrient-dense soil. She brought tubs of her worms for the group to examine and described how they speed up the composting process, improve soil health and reduce waste.

Hunter told the crowd she ships her composting worms across Canada and the United States, and also offers workshops, sustainable soil products and guidance for anyone wanting to start vermicomposting at home. A quarter pound of worms costs $25 plus tax, and the worms typically live about three years.

When asked if they could be used for fishing, she clarified that dew worms are better suited for anglers, while red wigglers are meant strictly for composting. She said interest has been strong in classrooms, libraries and community groups looking for natural alternatives to synthetic fertilizers.

Glenna Roth of Tavistock Mennonite Church, who chaired the program, thanks speaker Amanda Hunter after her presentation on raising composting worms. Hunter holds one of her small helpers for onlookers to examine.

(GARY WEST PHOTOS)

Guest speaker Amanda Hunter of Kitchener explains her vermicomposting business to a large crowd at Grace United Church's High Noon luncheon. She brought samples in plastic tubs so attendees could see what red wigglers look like, though only a few were willing to hold them.

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Wilmot's Prime Ministers Path community steering committee members announced

LEE GRIFFI

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wilmot Township council has selected nine people to sit on a community steering committee to guide the next phase of the Prime Ministers Path project.

Members were selected to represent a broad range of perspectives and subject-matter expertise. Seven of the appointees are Wilmot residents, while two come from neighbouring municipalities within Waterloo Region.

Those selected to sit on the committee are Donald Bourgeois, Dave Caputo, John English, Lee Fitzpatrick, Steve Kalbfleisch, Andrew Kipp, Pat Mighton, Alison Rodger and Carolyn Salonen. The group will meet regularly and will report to council on their progress.

The committee will be supported by three advisors, Ruth Abernethy, Benny Skinner and J.D.M. Stewart. They will provide guidance as needed but will not have voting privileges at committee meetings.

The township explained the committee and its advisors will oversee the reinstallation of the Prime Ministers Path statues and develop inclusive, historically grounded educational materials to accompany them. Early priorities include drafting terms of reference (TOR) and identifying funding sources for the project. Staff will assist with developing the TOR, and township council will review and approve it.

"On behalf of the Township of Wilmot, I would like to congratulate the members and advisors of this new committee," said CAO Jeff Wilmer. "We are confident that the project is in capable hands and look forward to seeing the next phase come to fruition under their direction."

Wilmer added a township clerk must attend meetings and take minutes, just like any other township committee, and he highlighted the role the advisors will play.

"The frequency of meetings will be up to the committee. It is expected to report to council quarterly. (The advisors) bring perspectives and expertise that should be beneficial to the committee and will be advising on art and site design, Indigenous perspectives, and history and education."

Since council's unanimous decision to reinstate the statues, close to $10,000 has been donated to the project. Those who wish to contribute can donate online at wilmot.ca/payments or in person at the township administration complex (60 Snyder's Rd. W, Baden). Donations will be used solely to support the project and will not be part of the township's operating or capital budgets.

Wilmer said he is confident the community will rally behind the project and donate the necessary funds to get the statues back in use.

More information about the project is available at wilmot.ca/pmp. Questions or comments about the committee can be sent to pmp@wilmot.ca.

What is 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence?

NANCY BIRSS

Southern Ontario Support Society for ACWW

The following information is a synopsis of material from Canadian and United Nations web sources as well as the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW).

It has been over 35 years since the murder of 14 young women at Polytechnique Montréal (Dec. 6, 1989). This act of violent misogyny shook our country and led Parliament to designate Dec. 6 as The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

Despite the adoption of the Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) by the UN General Assembly in 1979, violence against women and girls remains a pervasive problem worldwide.

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence is an annual international campaign that runs from Nov. 25 to Dec. 10. It uses the time between the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (Nov. 25) and International Human Rights Day (Dec. 10) to raise awareness and call for an end to all forms of gender-based violence.

Organizations and individuals use this period to reflect on violence, promote action and renew commitments to ending violence against women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ communities. The campaign encourages collective action through public events, advocacy and supporting organizations that work to prevent violence, challenge harmful social norms and support survivors.

However, another year, another campaign of awareness and still, the violence goes on.

Sexual assault has surged dramatically. Rates are up across all 20 Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs), with some cities experiencing a doubling of reported incidents since 2015, according to the November 2025 "Urban Violent Crime Report" by Dave Snow and Richard Audas.

Why it matters

- Gender-based violence continues to affect women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ communities at alarming rates. Every 48 hours in Canada, a woman or girl is killed in an act of gender-based violence. In 2024, 240 women and girls were murdered, primarily by men, a 54 per-cent increase over pre-COVID rates.
- Victims and survivors of gender-based violence often face lasting personal, social and economic impacts with consequences that can echo across generations.
- Gender-based violence carries a high economic cost, with Canadian governments spending billions annually on health care, justice and social services to respond to it.

Key Aspects:

1. Digital violence targets more women than men.
2. Only 120 countries have comprehensive legislation addressing domestic violence out of 165 countries with domestic violence laws.
3. Globally, it is estimated that the percentage of people killed where the perpetrator was an intimate partner or family member is 60 per-cent women and 11 per-cent men.
4. More than 700 million women do not have access to formal financial services.
5. In the aftermath of climate-induced disasters, women and girls face an increased risk of gender-based violence.
6. Five in six women avoid seeking support or justice due to feelings of shame, fear or being disbelieved.
7. In a study across five global regions, 82 per cent of women parliamentarians reported having experienced some form of psychological violence while serving their terms.
8. 736 million women are estimated globally to have been subjected to gender-based violence worldwide.
9. To feel safe is a human right.

What you can do:

Listen, pay attention, speak out. We can all learn more about what is happening in our neighbourhoods. If you suspect a woman is quietly suffering from abuse, offer to listen.

Listen: be open to learning from the experiences of others

Believe: support survivors and those affected by violence. It is very important *that you say the words "I believe you" and* "This is not your fault."

Educate (yourself and others): learn the facts about gender-based violence, know what your workplace policies say about violence and harassment, take a course, participate in an event.

Speak out: add your voice to call out violence.

Intervene: find a safe way to help when you see acts of gender-based violence. Name what you see. Express your concern and ask how you can help. Intervening can also mean providing support and resources.

Act: give your time or donate to organizations working to end gender-based violence. The colour purple is often associated with the campaign. Wearing orange is also used to show support and solidarity. On Dec. 6, wear a white ribbon to honour the women of Ecole Polytechnique. Participate in local events or campaigns. Show women that you care.

Key dates of the campaign:

- **Nov. 25:** International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. This day raises global awareness of gender-based violence. It was designated in 1999 by the United Nations General Assembly. The date of Nov. 25 commemorates the lives of the Mirabal sisters from the Dominican Republic who were violently assassinated in 1960.
- **Dec. 6:** National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. In Canada, this day honours the 14 women killed in the Polytechnique Montréal massacre on Dec. 6, 1989, and calls for action against gender-based violence.
- **Dec. 10:** Human Rights Day. This day marks the anniversary of the United Nations adoption and proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on Dec. 10, 1948. This document affirms the rights and dignity of all people and is a milestone in the history of human rights. It has been translated in over 500 languages, holding the Guinness World Record as the most translated document.

The United Nations UN Women and the Associated Country Women of the World (which has status at the UN) call on leaders and communities worldwide to "Unite to end violence against women and girls."

Nancy Birss is president of Southern Ontario Support Society for ACWW.

Holy Family Parish Draw
was held on November 15, 2025

Winners

1. $700 - Kathy Smith
2. $500 - Becky Musselman
3. $500 - Jane Miles
4. $500 - Trudy Henry
5. $300 - Cecilia Green
6. $250 Gift basket from Town Square Pharmacy - Carol Mortimer
7. $250 - Rita Sgarbossa
8. Drayton Festival 4 tickets - Feliciano Villa Gomez

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United Way updates living wage for Perth-Huron to $24.60/hr

GALEN SIMMONS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

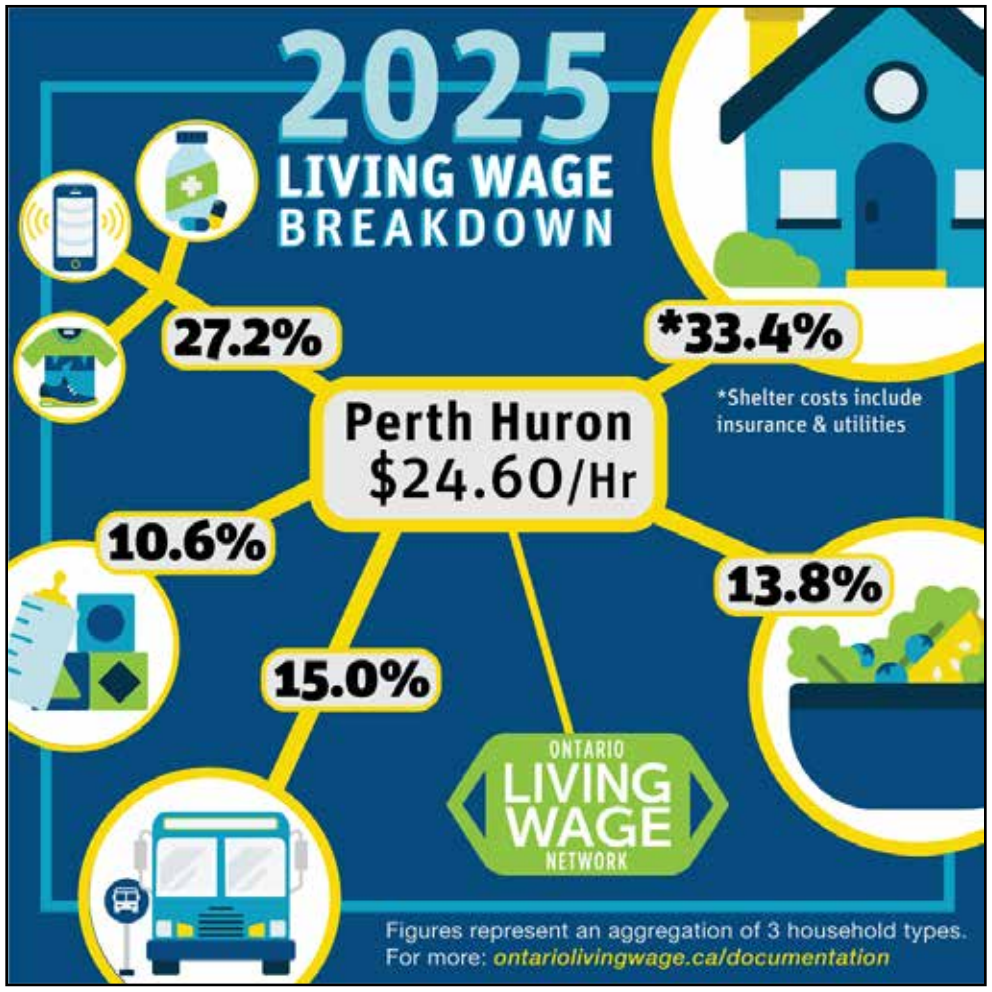
The cost of housing and a lack of affordable options for residents of Perth-Huron across the income spectrum are primary drivers for the recently announced increase to the area's living wage, which rose from $23.05 per hour in 2024 to $24.60 this year.

Announced by the United Way Perth-Huron and the Ontario Living Wage Network during Living Wage Week Nov. 10-14, a living wage shows how much a worker must earn to make ends meet and enjoy modest participation in the community. The calculations gather expenses for three types of households: two adults supporting two small children, a single parent with one child and a single adult. Results are aggregated and include any applicable government taxes, transfers and benefits.

"This year, the main driver is cost of living related to housing, primarily," said United Way Perth-Huron executive director Ryan Erb. "We've been seeing housing increase for a number of years and rental housing, even right now in this region, has not begun to come down. So, what we're seeing is a reflection of the market, frankly."

According to Erb, the housing market is responding to a lack of housing supply across the spectrum, especially housing appropriate for those living on lower incomes or those who require specialized supports. As demand in the area increases with major draws like the Stratford Festival, the Stratford Chefs School and the University of Waterloo, Erb said there are fewer options that meet the needs of the community, with many residents paying much higher than a third of their monthly income.

"There is not enough housing that is housing that is affordable to the needs of the people in the community," Erb said. "So, there isn't the right housing, there isn't affordable housing for seniors – people that want to downsize from their large house to something that's affordable for them. There isn't the right housing that's available for people who are middle income – people who are raising children are having a hard time getting into the housing market – and rental rates, because of all of that, are continuing to grow.



(IMAGE COURTESY OF UNITED WAY PERTH-HURON)

This graphic shows the breakdown of the 2025 living wage, $24.60 per hour.

" … We have all these pressures on housing over and above the regular housing needs of our community, and those are all good things that we face in our community, but it does mean there's just more competition in this particular region."

Erb said part of the solution to the housing crisis is working with the Ontario Living Wage Network to certify local businesses as Living Wage Employers, ensuring they are paying their workers enough to live locally.

"A minimum wage as opposed to a living wage means you're paying more than 30 per cent of your income towards housing," Erb said. "We know from surveys and conversations with people in the community, oftentimes people are spending far more than 30 per cent of their income in that regard. And so, a minimum-wage job, even though we're thankful the government has begun to index it to inflation over the last couple of years, it still doesn't keep up with the gap that exists. We're talking about $7-an-hour difference between what it costs to live in the community and what minimum wage is.

" … We don't pretend (paying a living wage) is an easy thing for every business to do. … But we have lots of evidence from businesses themselves that it improves their bottom line by improving productivity, reducing turnover, improving the mood of the workforce. … We know when we pay people at this level, they're spending money locally in the economy. This is actually good for the local economy."

Erb said the other piece of the puzzle is working with all levels of government to both increase the local housing supply to meet the growing demand and find ways to reduce the cost of living in other areas.

"Government has a role to play here. Things like $10-a-day child care, if it were to be fully implemented, would actually reduce the living wage, right? We can think about this as a community. It's not only on the employers; it's also on government, it's also on all of us to talk about."

At $24.60 an hour, the 2025 living wage for Perth-Huron is broken down as follows:

- 33.4 per cent goes to housing and related expenses like insurance and utilities;
- 27.2 per cent goes to expenses like clothing, medication and phone;
- 15 per cent goes to transportation, which has become more expensive in rural areas like Perth-Huron due to a lack of regional public-transit options;
- 13.8 per cent goes to food, another cost that continues to increase but not at the same rate it has in recent years; and
- 10.6 per cent goes to costs associated with raising children.

To learn more about the living wage or becoming a living wage employer, visit perthhuron.unitedway.ca.

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OBITUARY

BENDER: Wray Luke

Passed away peacefully to be with his Heavenly Father on Sunday, November 16, 2025 at Stratford General Hospital in his 85th year.

Best friend, companion and beloved husband of Cathi (Zehr) Bender whom he married August 20, 1977. Loving and devoted father of Krista & husband Dan Charbonneau of Mount Brydges and Anne & husband Will Gunn of Cassel. Greatly missed by his 11 grandchildren Ariel, Jacob, Mira, Faith and Aidan Charbonneau and Molly, Elaina, Isaac, Wyatt, Silas and Elizabeth Gunn. Survived by his brother Paul (Sherry) of Guelph, his sisters Grace (Don 2025) Smith of Waterloo and Wanda Litwiller of London. Survived by his brother-in-laws Daniel (Elaine 2020) of British Columbia, Albert (Janet) of British Columbia and sisters-in-law Ruth (Steve) Cahill of Tavistock, Carol (Allen) of New Brunswick and Gloria (Bill) of Alberta.

Predeceased by his parents Walter & Selma (Schwartentruber) Bender and father & mother-in-law Ervin & Verna (Wagler) Zehr and brother-in-law David Zehr and sister-in-law Lorene (Eugene remarried to Vicki) Martin of South Carolina.

His family will always remember his sense of humour, hard work ethic, ambition, perseverance, adventurousness and bravery through many health challenges. Wray inspired many. His vast pursuits included a career of accounting, tending to his crops, looking after horses, reading and keeping up with current events and exploring genealogy and family connections. He loved to be involved in the lives of his grandchildren. His God honouring legacy of faithfully supporting those in need will be cherished.

Relatives and friends will be received in the Francis Chapel of the Glendinning Funeral Home, 77 Woodstock St.N. Tavistock on Thursday, November 27, 2025 from 4-7p.m.. Funeral Service will be conducted at the Tavistock Mennonite Church on Monday, December 1, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. Lunch reception to follow the service. Interment will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Shareworld Global, Covenant House or charity of ones choice would be appreciated by the family. Personal condolences can be posted at www.francisfh.ca

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

OBITUARY

HEATH, George Charles

With deep sadness—and deep gratitude for a life well lived—we announce the passing of George Heath, who left us peacefully on November 14, 2025, just months after the loss of his beloved wife of 51 years, Lynda.

Though his final years brought many challenges, George never lost the two qualities that defined him: his dry British humour and his remarkable stoicism. Even as his health faltered, his jokes did not.

Born in Worthing, Sussex, England, George's early life was shaped by both hardship and resilience. His mother died shortly after his birth, and he was raised by his father, a grocer, whose shop gave him his first taste of work.

George liked to say that he'd been offered a choice between debating—the academic route—and the army. He chose the British Army. It was the right path for an introverted only child and one that shaped his quiet strength. His travels eventually took him to Africa, where he worked in the mines and, as he liked to put it, "did as little as possible for as much as possible."

George later made his way to Canada, where he embarked on a career with the Metropolitan Toronto Police, serving for a time in the Mounted Unit, where his partner never talked back but always left behind droppings.

George retired early, and his wife Lynda soon followed. Together, they embraced a life filled with travel, golf, curling, entertaining, and the joy of each other's company. Lynda's passing in June was a loss George never recovered from, and the thought of their reunion brings comfort to those who loved them both.

George will be deeply missed by his daughter Karen in South Africa; his grandson Kurt, his wife Emma, and their children—George's great-grandchildren Finley and Kathryn. He is also mourned by his niece Lynne Vassilakos and her husband Louie; his niece Dannah Everatt; and dear friends Alison and Stan Smyth, who together formed a small army of support around him after Lynda's death.

George will be remembered for the lessons he leaves behind: that humour can carry us through the hardest days, that courage can be quiet, and that no one ever really wins the battle with their "bloody iPhone".

Interment will be held at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 11, at Riverside Cemetery, 80 Bergey Court, New Hamburg.

A Celebration of George Heath's Life will follow at 1pm at The Waterlot Restaurant and Inn, 17 Huron Street, New Hamburg.

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

Personal condolences can be posted on the funeral home website for the family at www.markjutzifuneralhomes.ca

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Christopher W. Franklin
Funeral Director

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The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Weekly Quiz

By Jake Grant

1. Bermuda is located in which Ocean?
2. What is the highest female voice in a choir?
3. What university is home to the Fighting Irish?
4. What is also known as Japanese horseradish?
5. The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald occurred on what day?
6. Who hit No.1 in 2008 with the song 'Touch My Body'?
7. What is the talking dog's name in "Family Guy"?
8. What's the fancy name for a squirrel's cozy little home?
9. What country will host the 2026 Winter Olympics?
10. Who played Tony Soprano in The Sopranos?

Answers found on the classified page

SUDOKU

by PeterS 2025

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ANSWERS FOUND ON THE CLASSIFIED PAGE

The Old Gazettes

By Sydney Grant

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

November 18-25, 2015, Edition (10 years ago)

Patrons of the Tavistock Men's Club 57th Annual Roast Pork and Sauerkraut Supper may have had to wait a bit longer for their meal this year, but it was well worth it, especially on such a beautiful, unseasonably warm day. Up from previous years, this year's event saw the club serve over 1,500 dinners. They attracted more than 740 people to a family-style, sit-down meal at the Tavistock Memorial Hall while 159 people enjoyed the same meal at Quehl's Restaurant. Nearly 100 were delivered around the village between 4 and 6:30 p.m., and about 525 meals were picked up from the Men's Club Hall. As well, more than 160 volunteers were fed following the public portion of the dinner.

As part of the government's plan to bring 25,000 Syrian refugees into Canada by the end of this year, Ecumenical Partners of Tavistock and Area hosted a fundraising concert last Saturday night at the Tavistock Mennonite Church. About 100 people attended the evening of songs of praise and hope performed by pianist/composer Brian Stevens, composer Diana Chappel and soloist Barbara Grenier. Rev. Mary Stewart of Grace United Church introduced the trio who performed songs from their latest album, A Song Upon My Heart.

Members of the Tavistock Men's Club were taken on a journey through 100 years of 4-H at their Nov. 19 meeting. Guest speaker for the evening was Shonna Ward, a 4-H leader for more than 25 years. She currently leads Hickson 4-H and the Community 4-H Club of Oxford County. Following a delicious meal served by the Tavistock Missionary Church, Ward outlined the beginnings of 4-H and the achievements they have amassed over the past century.

November 20-27, 1985, Edition (40 years ago)

Members of the Bonnie Brae Resident Committee received a cheque for $5,238 from Dr. Bruce Halliday, MP for Oxford, on Wednesday, Nov. 13. Committee president Percy Hayward and nursing home activity director Mrs. Brenda Woelfle accepted the grant at an informal gathering in the Bonnie Brae Nursing Home on behalf of the residents. The New Horizons Grant will help establish new activities and equipment for the home including quilting frames, stereo unit and stand, video camera, plant stands with pots and flowers, bingo equipment (cage, balls and cards), toaster, coffee percolator, tropical fish tank (equipment and fish), snack cart and supplies.

Chairman of the Optimist Club of Tavistock's Youth Activities group Harry Wilhelm had a pleasant duty to perform last week when the club announced their Youth Scholarship Award winner. Karen Brenneman of RR 2, Tavistock was chosen to receive the $250 scholarship out of 10 applicants for this year's award. The club was impressed with Brenneman's resume and president Bill Wettlaufer commented that the overall tone of the application made her successful.

Ten young ladies were invested into the first Hickson Girl Guides group last Thursday evening, Nov. 21, at Hickson School. The girls received their scarves and wiggles from leader Mrs. Wendy Walters. The tenderfoot members began the evening with skits and games. This is the first year for guides in Hickson as nine girls graduated from the Brownie Pack last year. Mrs. Walters, last year's Brownie leader, moved up as guide leader to start the new group. Members of the 1st Hickson group include Dena Cottrell, Tricia Smith, Jennifer Yungblut, Jennifer Donaldson, Angie Walters, Lori Lingburg, Mary Elizabeth McBurney, Tricia Zehr, Laurie Wagler and Tanya Donaldson.

November 19-26, 1975, Edition (50 years ago)

Trophies were presented to the most valuable players on Shakespeare's ball team during their Youth Appreciation Week banquet at the Tavistock Memorial Hall last Thursday night. Club secretary-treasurer Bob Kollman made the presentations. Winners are Ken Horst of the squirt team; Robbie Berg, pee wee; Chris Algie, pee wee; Debbie Bell, bantam; Julie McNab, juvenile; Ken Baechler, juvenile; Allan Kuntze, midget; and Bill Follings, bantam.

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The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette SPORTS

PJHL Roundup: Top Doherty teams continue winning ways

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Correspondent

Wellesley, Woodstock, Tavistock and New Hamburg are creating some room between themselves and the bottom four teams in the Provincial Junior Hockey League's (PJHL) Doherty Division.

The Braves won their third straight game at home on Friday, a 6-3 victory over Paris. Andrew Torchia had one of his best outings between the pipes, stopping 43 of 46 shots for his fifth win in six starts. The 17-year-old Baden native has a goals-against average of 3.01 with a .912 save percentage.

Tavistock jumped out to a 4-1 lead after just 20 minutes on goals from Yann Raskin, Marc Dionne, Felix Isert-Bender and Carer Otto. Carter Aresneau and Tyler Brezynskie added second and third-period markers. Evan Palubeski chipped in with three assists while Brezynskie added a pair of helpers.

The Braves played a rare Wednesday night game in Wellesley last week, a game scheduled after some ice problems had cancelled the matchup a few weeks ago at the Bill Gies Recreation Centre. Tavistock roared out to a 3-0 lead as Dionne, Keaton Bartlett and Nolan Miller scored second-period goals. Ryan Brenton and Ian Speiran scored in a three-minute span of the third to bring the Applejacks within one, but Miller's second of the game and fourth of the season sealed the win.

The Braves have matched last year's total win number less than halfway through the season, something general manager Brant Lange attributes in part to his staff behind the bench.

"The coaches have been great, putting in lots of work behind the scenes with video and holding players accountable. They have also been very good with their communication with the players this season," Lange said.

"Zac is turning into the head coach we knew we hired last year, who wants good, honest, hardworking players who play as a team and for the team. He's done great so far and is getting his message across to the players."

Lange added they have a great bunch of kids on the roster who all get along and who all battle for the guy next to them.

"We have 22 good players who don't get into every game, like they should maybe. I don't want to jinx anything, but our players have also been relatively healthy for the most part or battling through some tweaks here and there."

Before the season began, Lange predicted the Braves would be a vastly improved squad.

"I knew when we built this team, it would be much better than last year with the new players and goalies we brought in. We, as a staff, learned so much in our first year and made sure we would not repeat the mistakes we made."

Despite the top-four teams beginning to pull away from the rest of the pack, the Braves are very focused on their opponent, no matter what their point total may be.

"Our division is so strong and tight; it can go any way any given night. Top teams losing to teams in the bottom three or so happen all the time on our side. Each team in our division has improved their clubs just like we have. Being one point out of first like we are today can change very quickly each weekend. We were just tied for first on Saturday, now we're a point back."

Tavistock's big three, Raskin, Palubeski and Arseneau, have combined for 85 points to date, but Lange is encouraged by the recent contributions from others.

"Those guys have been great so far and we want them to keep the momentum going. But our whole team has really been contributing. Bartlett, Bernhardt and McKellar on the back end have been coming on strong."

He added the depth of the team's four lines is evident on any game night as Reid-Brant, Dionne, Bryzenskie, Stokes, Peppas, Hambly and Carter Otto have all stepped up their games.

"Our Rookies have also been great. Tucker Otto, Nolan Miller, Brett Bell and Felix Isert-Bender continue to improve. We are blocking eight to 10 shots a game or more, taking a hit to make a play, being hard on pucks, getting pucks on net and getting to the dirty areas."

Wellesley had a pair of home games on the weekend and earned a 7-5 win over Paris on Saturday before downing Dorchester 7-3 on Sunday.

Firebirds have firm grip on fourth

Despite a 4-3 home-ice overtime loss to Hespeler on Friday, New Hamburg has a four-point edge over fifth-place Norwich. Owen Bruder forced the extra period with his fifth goal of the season with just under three minutes remaining in regulation time, but the Shamrocks ended the game three minutes into overtime.

New Hamburg fired back with a 5-2 victory in Dorchester on Saturday as Owen Sculthorp led a balanced attack with a pair of goals. Bobby Tsilogianis and Jacob Jordan added a pair of assists each.

(ALEC RICHARD PHOTOS)

Ryan Brenton carries the puck into the offensive zone during the Wellesley Applejacks' game against the Tavistock Braves on Nov. 12. Brenton had a goal and an assist in the game against Tavistock, before scoring two goals in the Applejacks' 7-5 win on Nov. 15 against the Paris Titans, as well as three goals and five points in Wellesley's 7-3 victory over the Dorchester Dolphins on Nov. 16.

The Tavistock Braves high-fives minor hockey players as they take the ice for their game on Nov. 14 against the Paris Titans. The Braves defeated the Titans 6-3, and also picked up a 4-2 win over the Wellesley Applejacks on Nov. 12.

CURRENT STANDINGS

	South Doherty Division	GP	W	L	OTL	T	SOW	SOL	PTS	OTW	GF	GA	DIFF	PCT	PCT	PIM	RW	ROW	STK	IN-DIV	GPCT
1	Wellesley Applejacks	19	13	6	0	0	0	0	26	4	82	66	16	0.684	0.000	351	9	13	2-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	0.554
2	Woodstock Navy Vets	19	11	4	3	0	0	1	26	1	77	51	26	0.684	0.000	319	10	11	5-0-1-1	0-0-0-0	0.602
3	Tavistock Braves	18	12	5	1	0	0	0	25	1	73	56	17	0.694	0.000	382	11	12	3-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	0.566
4	New Hamburg Firebirds	17	9	4	4	0	0	0	22	1	64	53	11	0.647	0.000	384	8	9	5-0-1-0	0-0-0-0	0.547
5	Norwich Merchants	17	8	7	1	0	0	1	18	3	53	57	-4	0.529	0.000	266	5	8	0-1-0-0	0-0-0-0	0.482
6	Hespeler Shamrocks	18	8	9	1	0	2	0	17	3	37	65	-28	0.472	0.000	369	3	6	2-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	0.363
7	Paris Titans	18	6	10	2	0	0	0	14	1	67	91	-24	0.389	0.000	279	5	6	0-2-2-0	0-0-0-0	0.424
8	Dorchester Dolphins	18	5	10	2	0	1	1	13	0	62	76	-14	0.361	0.000	288	4	4	0-2-0-0	0-0-0-0	0.449

Royals suffer second straight loss after squandering three-goal lead

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Correspondent

Tavistock dropped into a three-way tie for third place in the Ontario Elite Hockey League's (OEHL) South Division following a 6-4 home-ice loss to Elora on Saturday night.

The Royals jumped out to a 3-0 lead by the four-minute mark of the second period on goals from Michael Capicotto, Kyle Soper and Callan Christner. The Rocks roared back with four consecutive goals in an eight-and-a-half-minute span before Lucas Bast's goal one minute into the third gave Tavistock the lead. Elora scored the last two goals of the game to move into a tie for third.

The Royals recently held their Tavistock Minor Hockey Night, where any player in attendance was entered into a draw for a free registration for the 2026-2027 season. The Royals also had a scrimmage against the U9 Tavistock Titans MD team during the first intermission. Austin Hall was the winner of next season's hockey registration.

Team holding transportation fundraiser

The hockey team needs a new bus and is looking to the community for help. The Royals are holding a fundraiser on Saturday, Nov. 29, at the Memorial Hall.

"Our beloved Big Blue suffered what can best be described as a fatal heart attack on the way back from a game in Petrolia," said team president Kyle Wynette.

"Stranded in Strathroy, the club was scrambling into the early morning to get all our players and staff safely home as Big Blue had to be towed back to Tavistock. An initial inspection has determined that the engine blew a head gasket, which in turn has destroyed the turbo and clogged the exhaust to the point that it's unrepairable."

Repairs to the engine would be more than $20,000, so the team has decided it's time to replace the bus, hopefully before the next road game on Dec. 12.

"The bus is such an important part of our players' experience and our team identity. There's a real sense of pride when we load up the bus each weekend and head off to face an opponent on the road," said Wynette.

The bus saw some customization over the years, including interior LED lighting, a large table for the players in the middle, as well as designated seating for coaches to strategize and determine lines while on the way to the game.

"The bus rides give us time to bond as a team, and organization and the layout allows the players to interact with one another while enjoying a game of cards or some late-night snacks on the way home. Our bus has been driven for many years but Royals executive member Cletus Ditner, a true professional behind the wheel, has gotten us home on many a stormy night when the weather has been less than ideal for travel."

Wynette said the team is hoping, with a little community support, to once again have its wheels under it as it heads into a busy stretch on the road.

Lyndsay Pearson is one of the volunteers behind the fundraiser and is behind the scenes during the season, helping with social media and promotions.

"My children have been longtime fans of the Tavistock Royals and we attend as many home games as we can."

The event kicks off at 6 p.m. for two hours of fun for all ages.

"We will have silent auctions with items including Garmin watches, Bauer hockey sticks, mystery mini, a workout package, spa gift cards and much more. We will also have interactive games like shooting games and Royals players will be in attendance to join in the fun," she said.

A snack bar will be open with drinks, snacks and hot dogs available for purchase. From 9 p.m. until midnight is when the event turns into an adult-only event. The bar will be open and drink tickets will be available for purchase.

(PHOTOS COURTESY OF TAVISTOCK ROYALS)

Tavistock's U9 MD team played a game of shinny during a recent first-period intermission.

Minor hockey player Quinn Husk was the flag-bearer during Minor Hockey Night and enjoyed some time in the Royals locker room with Captain Tristan Hohl and Trevor Sauder.

Tavistock Titans U8 Local League player Austin Hall was the lucky winner of a free minor hockey registration for next season.

CURRENT ONTARIO ELITE HOCKEY LEAGUE SOUTH CONFERENCE STANDINGS

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	T	OTW	OTL	SOW	SOL	PTS	P%	RW	ROW	GF	GA	DIFF	STK	PIM	PPO	PPG	SHGA	PP%	TSH	SHG	PPGA	PK%
1	Seaforth Centenaires	9	7	2	0	1	0	1	0	14	.778	5	6	46	22	24	Won 2	116	32	3	2	0.094	30	1	3	0.9
2	Petrolia Squires	7	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	12	.857	6	6	37	8	29	Won 2	96	21	6	0	0.286	26	2	0	1
3	Elora Rocks	7	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	10	.714	5	5	38	23	15	Won 3	56	28	4	1	0.143	15	0	1	0.933
4	Dunnville Aeros	9	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	10	.556	5	5	52	38	14	Won 3	149	38	10	0	0.263	32	3	7	0.781
5	Tavistock Royals	8	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	10	.625	5	5	38	27	11	Lost 2	105	29	6	1	0.207	30	2	4	0.867
6	Erin Outlaws	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	.750	3	3	16	11	5	Won 3	64	12	2	0	0.167	22	0	3	0.864
7	Tillsonburg Thunder	7	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	4	.286	2	2	20	26	-6	Lost 5	173	27	4	0	0.148	32	1	2	0.938
8	Milverton Four Wheel Drives	9	1	6	0	0	1	0	1	4	.222	1	1	25	51	-26	Lost 6	171	38	7	3	0.184	31	0	7	0.774
9	Delhi Flames	8	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	9	75	-66	Lost 8	154	26	2	2	0.077	33	0	17	0.485

MINOR SPORTS SCRAPBOOK

(ALEC RICHARD PHOTO)

Chase Glaab launches a shot from the point during the U11 REP Tavistock Titans game last Tuesday.

(ALEC RICHARD PHOTO)

Devon Zehr uncorks a quick wrist shot during this past Monday's U13 LL 1 Tavistock Titans game.

(ALEC RICHARD PHOTO)

Chuck Shaw takes a shot from the blueline during the U15 REP Tavistock Titans game this past Monday.

(ALEC RICHARD PHOTO)

Finley Stewart-Davies loads up a heavy shot during this past Sunday's U18 LL 3 New Hamburg Huskies game.

(ALEC RICHARD PHOTO)

Travis Ernst releases a shot on target during the U18 LL 4 New Hamburg Huskies game this past Sunday.

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Perth County 4-H Classic team shines at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

Nine Perth County 4-H dairy members enjoyed an exciting and successful week at the 103rd Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, competing in one of the country's most prestigious youth livestock events – the TD 4-H Dairy Classic.

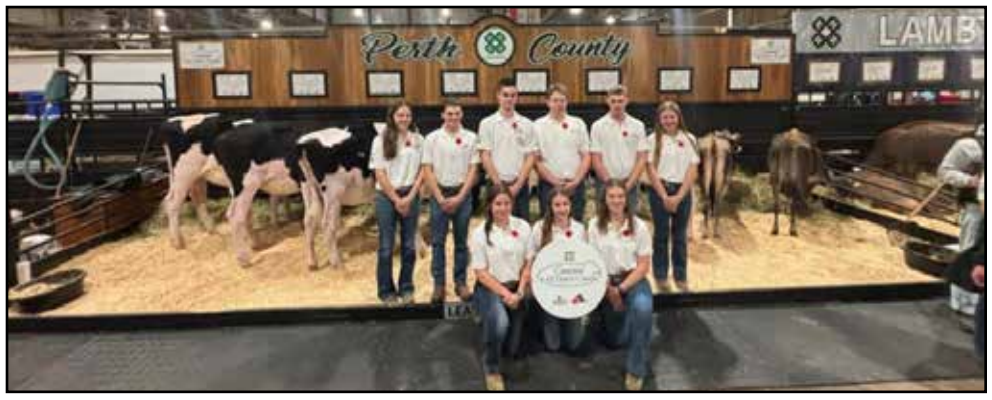
Anyone who has attended the Royal knows the calibre of competition; the best calves and top young showpeople from across Canada come together for a fast-paced, highly competitive show.

Calves moved into the barns on Nov. 8 and 9, with showmanship classes beginning at 8 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 10. This year's showmanship judge was Richard Osborne of Hagersville, with associate judge Andrew Den Haan of Fergus. Osborne and his wife Teresa (Honderich) are well known in this region, having operated the Willow Creek Jersey herd east of New Hamburg, and he is considered one of the most respected dairy judges in North America.

On Tuesday, Nov. 11, Judge Markus Hehli of Rimbey, Alta., and associate Lee Morey of Rochester, Alta., evaluated the calves for conformation in a series of large, competitive heats.

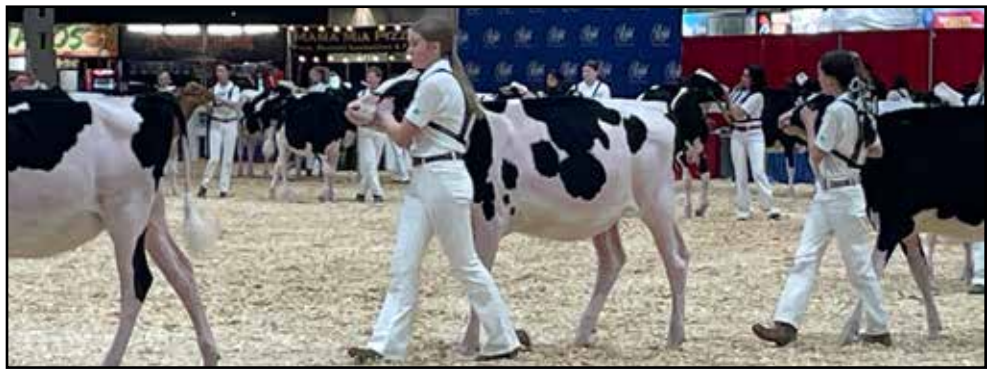
Tavistock's Gracie Weitzel led Carldot Leyhigh Lottery to an impressive third-place finish in the Spring Heifer class finals, a division with 41 entries born between March 1 and May 31, 2025.

This year's classic featured more than 350 calves representing 47 counties, regions and provinces. Perth County earned fourth overall for its barn display and placed sixth in the Premier County standings – one of its strongest results in recent years.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS)

The Perth County 4-H Dairy Classic Team, recognized for their excellent barn display at the Royal. Front from left: Deanna Halls, Ella Cnossen and Addison Hyatt. Back from left: Anneke Terpstra, Mark Knill, Rhett Terpstra, Jackson Kaufman, Jace Noom and Gracie Weitzel.



Tavistock's Gracie Weitzel is called in by the judges and placed third in the Spring Heifer finals at this year's 4-H Dairy Classic. Her parents, David and Jenny Weitzel, watched proudly from ringside.

The top-placing Perth County spring heifer, Carldot Leyhigh Lottery, bred by Larry Krantz of Line 33 near Tavistock. The calf was shown throughout the year by Gracie Weitzel as her 2025 4-H project.

Gazette Puzzles

HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOWS

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

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Pet of the Week

BRUTUS

Brutus is a big-hearted, big-bodied boy looking for a family to call his own! This handsome large-breed mix is playful, loves to run and get the zoomies, and turns into a total cuddle bug once he feels safe.

Coming from the streets, Brutus can be nervous in new environments, but with patience and gentle encouragement, his sweet, affectionate nature shines. He's still learning the ropes of indoor life and may steal a shoe or two, so a crate or puppy-proofed space is helpful.

Brutus is searching for an adopter who understands—or is eager to learn about—working shepherd breeds and their need for exercise, structure, and mental stimulation. Learn more about Brutus at www.kwsphumane.ca!

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Cozy up with carbs

HEAPS OF HEALTHY TIPS

By Mercedes Kay Gold

Potatoes, pasta and rice are popular side dishes all year while oatmeal tops the breakfast list. North America fell in love with oats over 400 years ago thanks to Scottish settlers. Since then, they have become a super staple in summertime smoothie bowls and wondrous as a wintertime warmup. This certified holistic nutritionist is urging you to switch it up. The body needs an onslaught of various vitamins and minerals, or imbalances occur.

Step out of your comfort zone and boil up buckwheat. In English, kasha tends to refer to buckwheat groats. In Slavic languages, kasha means porridge but the word kasha can apply to any cooked grain. For this menu planner, I will be putting buckwheat groats on a pedestal. This piece uses the term kasha interchangeably with buckwheat groats and I'm challenging readers to enjoy them either sweet or savoury.

In a gluten-free world, buckwheat contains no wheat and is in fact a seed, not a grain, making it perfect for those with a sensitivity to gluten.

Buckwheat has an earthy and nutty flavour. In its unroasted form and usually sprouted, the color is a light green and often the package reads, "groats." This version needs soaking and then toasting by placing in a dry pan and cooking over low to medium heat for about no more than six minutes. Stir frequently and enjoy the amazing aroma. Cooking instructions follow later in the article.

Personally, I love using the light-tan form that has been pre-roasted. Look for the box labelled kasha.

The health benefits are numerous. There are just 155 calories in a cooked cup, less than rice. With 5.7 grams of protein, 4.5 grams of fiber and just one gram of fat, they are a plant-based powerhouse of nutrition. A full belly is a happy belly. Fiber is fabulous for supporting the digestive system, speeding up transit time and lowering blood sugar in those with diabetes.

Protein is power and this plant doesn't disappoint, containing 60 per cent more protein than rice. Buckwheat groats contain all-star amino acids, lysine and arginine.

Iron is essential for energy and increasing the oxygen-carrying capacity. Manganese magic is key for metabolism and fighting free radicals.

Magnesium is part of the trio for electrolytes, with a link to healthy blood pressure.

Phosphorus promotes maintenance of body tissues.

This stupendous seed is low in phytic acid, an amazing attribute. Phytic acid inhibits the mineral absorption found in grains and seeds. Not a problem here.

Buckwheat also contains the plant compounds, rutin, connected to supporting eye health. There's quercetin, an antioxidant that is linked to lowering risk of heart disease and cancer. Foods containing D-chiro-inositol, a soluble carbohydrate, are key in the diet for those looking to manage diabetes.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS)

A scoopful of buckwheat has a whole host of health benefits.

The addition of bone broth, beef or chicken stock instead of water when cooking buckwheat makes is a superb side dish.

Let's cook simple, cost-efficient, health-boosting kasha. Rinse and drain the kasha. Combine one cup of buckwheat groats and two cups of water with half a teaspoon of sea salt and one tablespoon of butter. Bring to a boil, cover and reduce to medium for about 25 minutes or until the water is gone.

To build the breakfast version, I love swapping water for milk or a plant-based alternative such as coconut milk and coconut oil as the healthy fat. Top with chia, raw nuts, fruit and drizzle with honey or maple syrup. Honey experts Nith Valley Apiaries and Riverside Bee Yard, as well as syrup by Roth's and Wagler Maple Products, are just around the corner. Always choose local.

Looking for a savoury side dish? Add bone broth, beef or chicken stock instead of water and use tallow for fabulous fat and ancestral vibes. Chunks of beef, onions, mushrooms, salt, pepper and fresh dill on a bed of kasha just might be this winter's coziest comfort meal, and all put together in under 30 minutes.

Fall in love with buckwheat? Here's a little fast fact. Soba noodles are made from the same sensational seed making them the perfect noodle of choice for all my gluten-free friends.

Eat heaps of healthy whole foods for a fabulous fit body, mind and spirit!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:
Re: 2026 Wilmot Township budget

This letter was originally addressed to members of Wilmot Township council. It has been published here with the permission of its author.

Good evening, Mayor Salonen and members of council,

As we approach the 2026 budget deliberations, I want to acknowledge the significant financial challenge facing Wilmot. My goal is to offer constructive suggestions that support both fiscal responsibility and public trust.

Budget recommendations:

- Capital: Support a phased approach, as previously approved by Council (nine per cent).
- Operational: Advocate for a flatline (two per cent) to prioritize capital wellbeing.

Maintaining a phased capital increase honours council's prior commitments and builds public trust. Flatlining operational spending allows us to preserve essential services without increasing the financial burden on residents.

If the budget presented to council does not effectively provide thoughtful recalibration that ensures we prioritize stability, transparency and value for taxpayers, it is incumbent upon council to produce a comprehensive list of budget amendments. I respectfully ask Mayor Salonen to consider refraining from vetoing amendments that would reduce the tax rate, ensuring a fair and collaborative budget process.

In lieu of council not having the authority to vote down a strong mayor's budget in its entirety, I urge all councillors to work together to ensure that the budget reflects the diverse perspectives of council and its constituents.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication to Wilmot. I am confident that, through thoughtful collaboration, council can deliver a budget that balances stability, transparency and value for taxpayers.

Sincerely,

Rory Farnan,

Petersburg

Shakespeare water-treatment upgrades move ahead

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

Construction continues on the new water-treatment system beside the Shakespeare Variety, marking a major step forward for the village's long-term drinking water quality.

When arsenic levels rose above provincial monitoring thresholds, Perth East council agreed action was needed. The solution now taking shape includes a large concrete treatment tank and a new pumphouse engineered with multiple compartments to address both arsenic and iron levels.

The existing pump house was too small to accommodate modern treatment systems, and no cost-effective retrofit was possible. As part of the environmental assessment process, engineers examined several options and recommended a complete replacement designed not only to solve current water-quality concerns but also to support future growth.

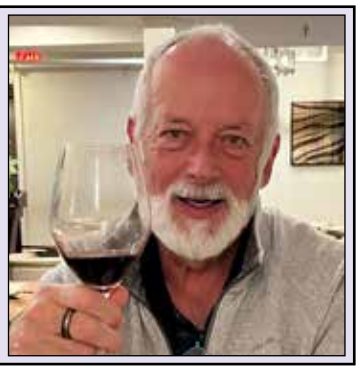
Perth East Mayor Rhonda Ehgoetz said council is committed to planning ahead for expanding communities like Shakespeare, ensuring reliable infrastructure for decades to come.

(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Pictured right, construction crews continue work on the new pumphouse in Shakespeare, designed to reduce arsenic and iron levels in the village's water supply.

The shared vision of two couples creates a dining dream

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO



By Paul Knowles

"I love it when a plan comes together."

I'm guessing that none of the four young partners in the astonishing new Niagara-on-the-lake restaurant, Revé, are old enough to remember that quote. But it applies because Revé is indeed the result of a plan that has come together, beautifully. Or, to quote from their website, "Four individuals with one collective dream: to curate a journey like no other."

That "journey" involves unique and amazing food, and all of the stories behind the culinary creations. And the four individuals are two young couples: Anna Katherine and Kevin Gillingham, and Nicole Pisarenko and Adriano Cappuzzello.

In many ways, this is a love story; love for food, love for the land, love for culture and love for each other.

Cappuzzello is chef. He's a native of Sicily, where his culinary story began. That's also where his and Pisarenko's story began – she was on a study trip from Geroge Brown College when she met Cappuzzello.

Katherine and Gillingham come to the restaurant business as event planners, but they shared the vision of running a superb restaurant with their friends.

And so, less than three months ago, Revé opened.

The moment you walk in the door, you begin to experience the story. Suspended from the ceiling is a unique bit of living décor – a large, moss-covered panel. Katherine explains their goal was to create an atmosphere to reflect the philosophy of the restaurant – food that is farm to table, locally sourced from the Niagara Peninsula and southwestern Ontario.

And, oh, what food! Guests can order from a menu, but the hosts prefer that they don't because the true experience at Revé is to dine at the chef's counter, seated near the open fire, anticipating the next astonishing taste to come your way, each a step in a 10-course blind journey.

So, we did. A visit and a story from Cappuzzello accompany each course. He explains the dish and tells the story behind it. Many of the tastes involve a wonderful combination of Sicilian and Canadian cuisines, like our third course, an exquisite beef tartare, prepared by Cappuzzello as a memory of Sicilian tuna tartare. But the grass-fed beef comes from Heatherbrae Farms in Wellesley!

Cappuzzello, who has worked in Michelin Star kitchens throughout Europe and Canada, consistently finds a way to combine the magic of uber high-end recipes with food prepared by his Sicilian mother and grandmother, such as delicious venison, dubbed "Mama's Pizzaiola," made with cherry tomato, oregano, black garlic zabalone and undoubtedly several more secret ingredients.

The menu celebrates international flavours from Sable Fish that reflects Korean barbecue to Beef Bavette, a taste of France. Adapted and improved, of course, by Cappuzzello and his talented team.

I won't elaborate on all 10 courses because they will undoubtedly be changed by the time you dine at Revé. That's part of the charm; you don't know what you will be eating, but you know it will be amazing, an experience that stretches for hours.

Each course – a small serving, beautifully presented – is served on dinnerware handmade specifically for Revé by a glass artist in Sicily. And by the way, you can have a flight of wines paired with your food – in our case, several superb wines from Ontario or Sicily.

I mentioned that each course includes a story. In truth, Cappuzzello's personal story is captivating. Because his father knew the owner, Cappuzzello was able to get a summer job in a Michelin-Star restaurant in Sicily when he was only 14 years old. He immediately announced to his family that this was to be his calling, and he didn't want to go to school anymore. His parents overruled that idea, but Cappuzzello continued to spend all of his out-of-school hours in high-end restaurants, learning the culinary arts.

At age 17, he moved to Madrid, working in a small restaurant where he was the chef. He told me he spent his off hours visiting other restaurants, for the first time encountering cuisines like Vietnamese and Mexican.

Cappuzzello then moved to Malta, "Where I got to work with Chef Andrew Pace. He's a visionary. He opened my eyes."

Eventually, after working in top-of-the-line restaurants in Italy and Berlin, he came home to Sicily where he met Pisarenko, who in turn brought him home to Canada. He continued to work as a chef, including at Langdon Hall, but now, his personal vision – shared by Pisarenko, Katherine and Gillingham – has become a reality in Niagara-on-the-lake.

The 10-course Chef's Counter tasting menu costs $225; wine, either individual or a matching flight, is extra. If you normally eat at a fast-food joint, that will seem like a lot, but if you are a foodie, or more simply a lover of good food, you'll be hitting the website to make a reservation.

We sat next to a couple who were making their third trip to Revé in only a couple of months. They praised "the hospitality, the food, everything!"

They were right; Revé is just that good.

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

Beef tartare; the beef is sourced by Heatherbrae Farms in Wellesley.

(PAUL KNOWLES PHOTOS)

The fire of the candles and the moss on the ceiling feature invoke Revé's connection to the land and nature.

The visionary owners of the new restaurant; from left, Chef Adriano Cappuzzello, Nicole Pisarenko, Anna Katherine and Kevin Gillingham.

The simple exterior of the restaurant, in a Mary Street strip mall, belies the culinary masterpiece inside.

Chef Adriano with his unique bread, stuffed with parsley.

Every course is served on dinnerware created by a Sicilian artist.

Relinquishing control to find fashion that fits a new destination

DRESS SHARP. SPEND SMART.

By Scott Dunstall

My daughter is renewing her vows in Costa Rica. I am looking forward to it; family trip, warm evenings, lots of lasting memories. But there was a problem, or so I thought. My wife knows how busy I have been lately with barely any time for anything. So, she took it upon herself to get me some clothes for the trip.

No, that is not a typo. "But Scott, how can you let that happen? We know you have a personal relationship with your fashion. In fact, don't you have a birth certificate and bio for all of them?" Yes, to all of that.

I have bought my own clothes since 2012 when I began this crazy fashion game. And it's not because I am difficult or a Primadonna. What began as me walking into the walls of a Funhouse has turned into something that builds confidence and sets a rigor to how I present myself to the outside world each and every day.

You will not see me roll out of bed and stand in line at Timmies wearing a sleeping bag and flip flops in February. Uh uh; nope. So, I have never let anyone chip away at that part of my character by letting them pick out and order my clothes, until now.

I know what I'm doing fashion-wise in Wilmot during the summer, but fitted polos and above-the-knee shorts doesn't mean I figured out the magic formula for the tropics. That works for our kind of heat. You sweat a bit, you find shade, you recover. Costa Rica is a different setting. Humidity is not a moment there; it is the whole day.

My wife went online and picked out sets from Shein – loose shirts, easy shorts, lightweight fabrics, pieces meant for evening walks and poolside. When the box arrived, I opened it ready to be polite and move on. I tried a set on and had to admit the truth. It felt right for where we are going. The fabric moved. Nothing clung. No damp outlines. I could breathe.

I don't plan to wear these outfits at home. They have a purpose that belongs to that climate. Travel has its own uniform. It is not about reinvention, it is about being comfortable and present so you can focus on the people in front of you. In my case, that is my daughter and her husband promising each other the same things again, with a few more miles behind them. That is worth being comfortable for.

It also reminded me of something I had not done in a long time. I trusted someone else to choose for me. It has been about 15 years since I handed that job over, not because my wife cannot do it but because I made it my job. Somewhere along the way, I turned preference into policy and stopped letting anyone steer. This time, I stepped aside and it worked. Simple as that.

Here's an unrelated story but one that happened this past week. A friend told me Trends For Men at the Sunshine Centre is closing (not all the stores, just the one at the Sunshine Centre). Everything is half off. I went in, said hi to Moe and went straight to the coats. If you are going to make a fashion statement this winter, I would suggest coats, boots and layering go a long way.

A good coat changes how the other pieces read. On the rack, I saw a Blue Industry mid-length coat in black with a blue-green cross pattern and a dark-blue zip insert. Clean lines. Not loud. I tried it on and knew right away it felt like me, and it looked like it came from a better version of my closet. That is the goal.

Buying the coat immediately created a small list. Now I need boots that match; something dark with a bit of depth in the leather. Anyone who dresses himself knows how one good decision invites three more. It is not a problem. It's a happy exploration. If you're not having fun, there's no point doing it.

So, I ended the week with two lessons that sit well together. First, the Costa Rica gear. I did not pick it and I will not wear it here. It earns its spot because it suits the place and the plan. And along the way, I relinquished control of my purchasing to someone I trust. And I learned about Schein. If you're headed to the islands this winter, check them out – light and breezy on the looks and on the wallet.

Back to the trip. I will be by the pool in one of those sets, probably with a club soda and lime, trying to keep my phone out of the water while people laugh and take pictures. No one will be staring at my shirt. They will be looking at my daughter and her husband and the way a promise sounds after a few real years. Later, I will look at those photos and be glad I was not fiddling with a collar or hiding sweat under a napkin.

So, that is my week in clothes. Let someone you trust pick for the setting when the setting is new. Pick for yourself when the item will live with you for years. Keep it simple. Keep it useful. Save the energy for the people and the moments that deserve it.

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

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- Strong work ethic and willingness to learn
- Must be able to report to our shop in Tavistock each morning
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SALARY: Based on experience.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR - NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2025

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Christmas Bazaar
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Crafts, Baking, greenery pots, Raffle, White Elephant Tables. Hwy 7 behind McDonalds. Proceeds for Wilmot xmas hampers
Morningside Adult Community
New Hamburg

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Rosebank Church Gospel Music Concert
6:30 p.m.
Torchmen Quartet Gospel Concert. Free Will Offering.
Rosebank Church,
1434 Huron Rd. Petersburg

MONDAY, NOVEMER 24

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Community Care Concepts Lunch and Fellowship
12 noon
Cost: $14.00. Please register by Nov 21 by calling 519-664-1900 or Toll Free: 1-855-664-1900.
Linwood Community Centre, 5279 Ament Line, Linwood

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Christmas Bazaar
9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Something for everyone! We are an accessible facility. Free admission. Proceeds to support local community needs. For more information contact Chris at cybaechler@hotmail.com
St James Lutheran Church,
66 Mill St. Baden

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29 CON'T

Experience Fanshawe at Open House
All locations are open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Meet faculty and current students from all areas of Fanshawe. Drop-in and ask about your program interests, career options and becoming a Fanshawe student. Hear from college experts on student life, admissions, financial aid, and more!
Explore our campuses at London, Woodstock, Simcoe, St. Thomas, Clinton and Tiverton

Tavistock Men's Club Santa Claus Parade
1 p.m.
Meet Santa at Post Office for milk, cheese and candy. Theme- Decorating for the holidays Float Registry – Family, Organizations, Commercial. Judged at 12:30 p.m.
Email: info@tavistockmensclub.ca or call 519-655-3573 or online: tavistockmensclub.ca for entry and details. Monetary donations collected for TAP along route.
Downtown Tavistock

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

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

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

42nd Annual Wilmot Lions / Lioness Club Tree of Light Ceremony
6:30 p.m.
Complimentary hot dogs and apple cider are being served, and we invite everyone to join us in singing carols and lighting our tree. A $5 donation is always appreciated, and it lights a bulb on our tree. Funds raised go directly back into our community as always. We invite all children to enter our Snow Angel colouring draw.
Centennial Fountain by the Post Office,
New Hamburg

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5 CON'T

Community Movie Night
7 p.m.
Zion United presents a community movie night featuring a favourite Christmas film. All are welcome. Doors open at 6:30 pm.
Zion United Church,
215 Peel Street, New Hamburg

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

Optimist Club of Wilmot Annual Craft Sale
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Over 40 vendors. Santa will visit during the day. Silent Auction and bake table support youth & community services.
Wilmot Recreation Centre
1291 Nafziger Rd, Baden

The Maples Home for Seniors Christmas Bazaar
11-4 p.m.
Handcrafted treasures, baked goods, and unique gift ideas. The money all goes to support the Resident's Council to fund essential programs and activities. For more info call Joan or Marcie at the Maples.
The Maples Home for Seniors
94 William St S, Tavistock

MUSEUM/ARCHIVES EXHIBITS

The **Plattsville & District Heritage Society Museum/Archives** will be open for viewing of **Remembrance Displays and Memorabilia** on the following **Saturdays of November 8th, and 15th, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** All are welcome
816661 Oxford Road 22, Bright

The Chesterfield Museum & Archive will be **open from 11 am to 3 pm on Saturdays, November 8 and 15** or by appointment to visit our **Remembrance Display.**

MORNING & EVENING BIBLE READING

Read the Bible in a Year in Community
Morning meeting 6:00am daily
Evening meeting 6:00pm daily
Contact Arthur Rosh if interested.
Phone number: 226-899-1551
Email address: arthur.rosh@gmail.com
Location to be determined in New Hamburg, Tavistock, Baden, Wellesley, New Dundee, St. Agatha, Shakespeare, Petersburg, Hickson, Punkeydoodle's Corner and area

EVERY WEDNESDAY

TOPS - Taking off Pounds Sensibly
Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.
TOPS is a non-judgmental weight loss support group. Need help on your weight loss journey. For info call Cathie 519-662-9273.
St James Church, Baden

Wednesday Night Euchre at the New Hamburg Legion
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
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STAMP CLUB

Oxford Philatelic Society
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday (2-4pm) and 4th Tuesday (7 to 9pm)
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Contact: Don Eaton dhfe@silomail.com
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FREE SENIORS ACTIVITIES

Tavistock Seniors Activities @ Tavistock Memorial Hall, 1 Adam St. Tavistock ON, except Shuffleboard
Pickleball Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon, 12-4. Contact: Don Junker 519-535-7052
Cards Monday , Wednesday afternoon 1-4, euchre, crib (bring board), etc. Just drop in to play, good to bring someone . Contact: Bob Routly 519-301-2118
Inside walking Monday & Wednesday morning 8.30-12. Contact: Larry Brown 519-240-6715
Crokinole Monday , Wednesday morning 8.30-12, Just drop in to play, good to bring someone. Contact: John Schultz 519-655-2346
Shuffleboard @ arena, Wednesday 12:30-4 and Thursday 10-4. Contact: Don Junker 519-535-7052.
VON Smart Seniors Exercise, Tuesday and Thursday morning 9 - 10; Village Manor 10:25 - 11:25. Contact: 519-539-1231 x 6285

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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

PROMOTE YOUR EVENTS WITH US! HERE'S HOW:

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

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Weekly Quiz Answers

1. North Atlantic Ocean
2. The soprano
3. Notre Dame
4. Wasabi
5. Nov 10th, 1975
6. Mariah Carey
7. Brian Griffin
8. A drey
9. Italy
10. James Gandolfini

SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

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Baden
Tim Hortons, Circle K, Subway, Mars Variety, Baden Coffee Company, Pharmacy in Baden Plaza

New Dundee
New Dundee Village Market

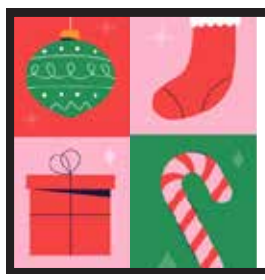
Wellesley
Pym's, Schmidt's Bulk Pantry, Cook's Pharmacy Schmidtsville Restaurant, Wellesley Service

Shakespeare
Shakespeare Brewery, Shakespeare Variety, Shakespeare Pies

St. Agatha
Pfennings Store, Hasty Market

Petersburg
Petro Canada Gas Bar

Stratford
Food Basics, Sobeys, No Frills, Klomps Home & Garden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