FIRE PREVENTION WEEK PAGE 17

PJHL ROUNDUP PAGE 24

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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(MIKE GERBER PHOTO)

Paul Gerber takes his grandchildren for a ride aboard a homemade train on the family farm west of Hampstead. The train features an engine-style lead car followed by blue barrels converted into passenger cars with wheels and hitches. The Gerber family has farmed in the North Easthope Township area for generations and is involved in pork production, custom spraying and crop farming.

New Hamburg Board of Trade celebrates 75 years of community service

AMANDA NELSON

Gazette Reporter

The New Hamburg Board of Trade celebrated its 75th anniversary last weekend with a 1950s-themed party at KLT Plaza in downtown New Hamburg.

Attendees enjoyed hamburgers and the "famous" fries served by the New Hamburg Optimist Club and could join two separate history walks around New Hamburg with local historian Kristen Hahn.

Behind the scenes, Lillian Dunstall, board of trade president, planned a special surprise for those in attendance. Following the live musical performance, students from OnStage Dance Studio performed a flash mob to several 1980s-themed songs.

Continued on page 2

Multiple vehicles entered overnight in Tavistock recently

Police urge residents to lock doors and remove valuables

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

The Oxford detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) received numerous reports of thefts from motor vehicles overnight on Sept. 30.

Sometime between approximately 1 and 5 a.m., unknown suspects entered unlocked vehicles on Halliday Drive, Bender Street and Queen Street. The Gazette has also been made aware of video footage on several other streets in the village.

Police said several valuables including wallets and identification were reported stolen. One of the unlocked vehicles had the keys left inside but a theft attempt failed as it was lodged between other vehicles.

Police say two suspects were seen wearing black pants, black hoodies and partial face coverings.

Oxford OPP Const. Randi Crawford encouraged residents to contact police if they see anything at all suspicious on their video surveillance systems.

"Let's say you check your ring camera, or whatever you have, at 3 a.m. It may not have come to your home but maybe you will be able to see a vehicle or someone walking in

Continued on page 3



75 Years of building business and community in New Hamburg

Continued from page 1

Wilmot Mayor Natasha Salonen attended to congratulate Dunstall and the Board of Trade. She later presented a celebratory scroll on behalf of the Township of Wilmot to recognize the board's 75 years of service.

"I'd like to congratulate the board of trade on an extraordinary 75 years of service to the community of New Hamburg. That's a huge accomplishment for any organization."

Salonen addressed attendees and spoke about the Board of Trade's history and background and what it has accomplished in New Hamburg, noting that its contributions have been vital to the community's continued success.

"Even before the board was formally incorporated, local business leaders were already helping to build our community," she said. "When New Hamburg needed a new arena, after the previous one moved down, the board of trade helped lead the efforts to bring what we now have as the New Hamburg Arena downtown. And more than 75 years later, that building is still standing and even being used for another community event today."

The board of trade was also instrumental in attracting doctors to the community when it began recruiting physicians to New Hamburg and helped operate the medical clinics in the 1970s.

The list continues. When New Hamburg needed housing for seniors, the board donated land that helped make Nith Terrace possible.

Then there is one of New Hamburg's most recognizable symbols today: the water wheel, originally built in 1990 through a partnership involving the township, the province, the community and the board of trade. The board of trade also helped revamp the water wheel only a few years ago.

The board of trade is also responsible for the flowers downtown in the summer, Christmas lights in the winter, the Canada Day celebration, the Santa Claus parade, cruise night, sidewalk sales, downtown beautification, tourism promotion, support following floods, community facilities, bringing businesses together, helping entrepreneurs get established and creating opportunities for growth throughout the community.

Most recently, the board of trade worked with the township on the Veterans Crosswalk, a specially marked pedestrian crossing created to honour and recognize veterans and their service.

"These things matter because they're part of what makes Wilmot an amazing place to be, and having a business community that cares so much beyond their own independent businesses and success really helps Wilmot succeed," said Salonen.

To learn more about the New Hamburg Board of Trade, visit www.nhbot.ca.



(AMANDA NELSON PHOTO)

Wilmot Mayor Natasha Salonen presents board of trade president Lillian Dunstall with a celebratory scroll recognizing the New Hamburg Board of Trade's 75 years of service to the community.



Students from OnStage Dance Studio surprised attendees with a flash mob during the New Hamburg Board of Trade's 75th anniversary celebration at KLT Plaza last weekend.

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Police warn of vehicle thefts

Continued from page 1

front of your house in a certain direction."

She added just like a puzzle, the more pieces police are able to get from residents, the easier it is to put those pieces together.

"Sometimes these people are being dropped off from outside areas, and it could be an organized crime group. Two, three or four people are checking vehicles to see if they are locked and grabbing what they can. They get picked up a couple hours later and away they go."

In this case, the suspects were wearing masks, but Crawford said in some cases, a suspect will make a mistake and remove it, a move that could show up on a security camera.

"Talk to your neighbours. If they've heard or seen anything, always feel free to give us a call."

Police are reminding residents these types of thefts can be avoided and are urging residents to always remove valuables from vehicles and lock the doors.

"Even if you are going to a friend of family's home for a couple hours; same thing. Either put items in the trunk where it is out of site or bring it inside. It only takes a couple of minutes for someone to see something and take it."

Crawford added she was victimized by a theft of tools from her garage several years ago. She is well aware of how it feels to be violated.

"We are grateful the crimes weren't more serious and no one was injured, but it's still a feeling of being violated. We are aware of how horrible it feels and it takes a lot to call the police sometimes, but we want people to know they aren't alone."

The Oxford OPP offers a program called SafeGuard Ontario Property Safety Program. This is a free safety audit of residential and commercial properties with the assistance of trained auxiliary officers, something Crawford wished more people took advantage of.

"When people sign up, they will get a visit by a trained auxiliary officer to come to your home or small business. They walk around with you and identify certain areas where you could work on improving the safety of your property."

To learn more about the program, visit www.opp.ca. Crawford added her goal isn't to scare anyone but it is important to spread the word about crimes such as these.

"I would not be doing my job if I didn't at least tell people what's happening out there. When you know these things are happening in or close by where you live, it at least gives you the opportunity to look into it a little more. Talk to your friends, your family and see if there is any more you can do to not be a victim."

Anyone with information that can assist police with these investigations can contact Oxford OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or, to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.





‘Biggest issue facing Wilmot is financial and organizational chaos’: Clive Woolner running for mayor

AMANDA NELSON

Gazette Reporter

Clive Woolner is seeking the opportunity to become mayor of Wilmot, he says, to address financial issues, implement solutions to reduce high staff turnover and improve communication.

“When I looked at the candidates running, I felt the skills and experience were not evident to effectively manage the township,” he said.

Woolner has been a lifelong resident of Waterloo Region, where he operated his own business as a licensed homebuilder for 30 years. He also holds a master’s degree in business administration, where he focused on accounting and finance.

“The residential construction business is highly collaborative, bringing together many trades to successfully work together to build and complete the home,” he said.

He says in residential construction, and with his background in business administration, he managed the entire process, from location selection and design to construction completion and customer service.

“This gave me a strong understanding and belief in working collaboratively and taking pride in your work,” he said. “During my Master of Business Administration program, I was widely recognized by the professors as a generalist. I was able to bring together the information from all functional areas and determine the optimal solution to the problem.”

Woolner said he believes the township is struggling with a high staff turnover rate, especially at the higher levels. He said to ensure Wilmot’s long-term success, this issue must be addressed and corrective measures taken to get the organization functioning properly.

“The biggest single issue facing the Township of Wilmot is financial and organizational chaos,” said Woolner. “The organization is struggling and appears to be out of control. The financial statements and the financial information reports are two years behind, which could affect our ability to get upper-tier government grants.”

He continued, saying a lack of transparency is also a concern, and the township must be open to disclosing information in the public interest.

“I’ve heard too many stories of people emailing or contacting the township and never being contacted back,” he said. “Budgets should provide a one-to-four-page summary written in plain English disclosing the number of employees, net transfers to reserve funds and the payroll costs for the township.

“The communication around the design and servicing details concerning the Petersburg Water System can only be described as pathetic,” he continued. “The key point in the original design of the system being a looped system was the number one issue in all presentations prior to 2026 and represented good engineering. The final design dropped the return loop.”

Data centres, farmland, growth and population, as well as economic development, are also top priorities that Woolner plans to address if he becomes mayor.

Woolner plans to work with the township to get financial statements up to date. He says at this time, the 2024 and 2025 financial statements have not been released, which makes it difficult to determine where the township sits financially.

“It’s important to note the 2025 financial statements reflect the 18.1 per-cent property tax increase, which has a major impact on the financial situation,” he said. “As mayor, I will assist the chief financial officer to get the information up to date by working to get her the resources she needs to get us up to date.

“We need to develop a full organizational chart of positions and their pay scales. At present, our CAO makes $55,000 a year more than the Township of Woolwich’s CAO, yet Woolwich has 20 per cent plus larger physical area and about 22 per cent higher population,” he continued.

Wage increases in the township and the low population growth are things Woolner wants to address. He asks why this is happening and why the township has not addressed these basic resident concerns.

“We need to determine why there is such a high staff turnover at the upper levels and address those issues to ensure the long-term health of the Township of Wilmot. This will involve closely working with the CAO to thoroughly analyze where the problems are and develop a plan to correct them,” he said.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Clive Woolner is running for mayor of Wilmot, with financial management, staff turnover and communication among his top priorities.

“When I decided to run for mayor, I decided I would be entirely self-funded,” Woolner continued. “I wanted to run a cost-effective campaign, be fully committed to the result and, if elected, have no one to return a favour to. Utilizing personal engagement, all candidates’ meetings and a few signs is how I have chosen to get my message out.”

Woolner can be reached by phone at 519-580-3402 or by email at voteclivefor-mayor@gmail.com.

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Annual Kidney Walk brings supporters together in Stratford

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

Upper Queen's Park in Stratford was filled with walkers Saturday morning, Oct. 3, as supporters gathered for the annual Kidney Walk around the Avon River.

The Stratford event was one of 30 walks held across Ontario and among more than 80 taking place across Canada to raise money and awareness for people living with kidney disease.

Today FM radio personality Kate Ahrens handled the opening ceremonies, welcoming longtime participants and those taking part for the first time.

Organizers highlighted the Kidney Foundation of Canada's work on the country's first National Strategic Framework for Chronic Kidney Disease, which is intended to help people receive earlier diagnoses, improve access to care and strengthen kidney health across Canada.

Participants were also encouraged to learn more about the framework and contact elected representatives through ActForCKD.ca.

Perth-Wellington MPP Matthew Rae attended the event and spoke about the impact kidney disease has on families and communities. Stratford Coun. Harjinder Nijjar was also on hand and thanked participants for supporting the fight against chronic kidney disease.

Among the local volunteers recognized were Gail and Gerald Scheerer of the Shakespeare area, Cassie Parker and Kristy Idzakovic.

Gerald Scheerer marked an especially meaningful milestone. He underwent a successful kidney transplant 20 years ago and said he is grateful to be able to watch his grandchildren grow up.

He also praised the Kidney Foundation for the support he received and thanked the walkers and other supporters who continue raising money and awareness for people living with kidney disease.



(GARY WEST PHOTOS)

A large crowd gathers at the Upper Queen's Park bandshell in Stratford on Saturday morning before taking part in the annual Kidney Walk around the Avon River. Participants were recognized as Kidney Walk Champions for helping raise awareness and support for people living with kidney disease.



From left, Gail Scheerer, Kidney Foundation fund and community development officer Leigh-Anne Quinn and Gerald Scheerer take part in the annual Kidney Walk in Stratford. Gerald Scheerer underwent a successful kidney transplant 20 years ago and says he is grateful for the support that has allowed him to continue watching his grandchildren grow up.

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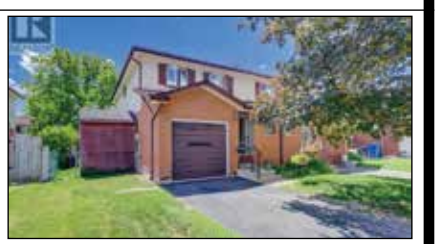
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Regional Municipality of Waterloo
Applications for Advisory Committees

The Regional Municipality of Waterloo is best served by leaders that reflect the diversity of our community to foster meaningful participation from varying perspectives in the Community.

The Regional Municipality of Waterloo recognizes the importance of acknowledging the land on which our Advisory Committees and Special Purpose Bodies gather. We will listen, educate ourselves on decolonization, and uplift and celebrate the Indigenous peoples of this land. All Committees will ensure an equitable and a respectful environment for participants to come together and exchange knowledge and information in a healthy and constructive way. The Region of Waterloo is working on addressing systemic barriers, advancing Truth & Reconciliation and creating a community where everyone belongs. For more information visit the Office of Reconciliation and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/government-and-council/reconciliation-equity-diversity-and-inclusion/

The Region advertises for applications from the public and appoints residents to various Boards, Commissions, Advisory Committees and other Special Purpose Bodies needed for a particular year(s) or Council term of office. These appointments give residents of this Region, from a variety of backgrounds, a chance to volunteer and become actively engaged as a member of a Board, Commission, Advisory Committee or other Special Purpose Body.

If you have any questions or would like to submit your application using an alternative format, please contact the Regional Clerks Office (regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca).

Interested residents and incumbent members are invited to apply for appointment to any of the following:

a) **Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC)**

Up to **thirteen (13) persons** are required for a term of up to **four (4) years**. ATAC will serve as a forum for the public to raise their viewpoints on particular active transportation issues and to advise Regional Council and staff on cycling and pedestrian issues.

Residents from all areas of the Region are encouraged to apply to provide a balanced regional perspective on cycling and pedestrian issues.

b) **Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC)**

Up to **ten (10) persons** are required for a term of up to **four (4) years**. PAAC develops and recommends policies for the selection, acquisition, display, retention, maintenance, storage and de-accessioning of public art which is owned by or on loan to the Region.

c) **Well Interference Appeals Committee**

There is **one (1) person** (non-voting member) required for a term of up to **four (4) years**. The purpose of the Well Interference Appeals Committee is to hear appeals where an Appellant disagrees with the results of the Preliminary Assessment, the Technical Evaluation, or where a suitable remedial action plan cannot be agreed upon, in accordance with the Region of Waterloo Policy and Procedures for Responding to Groundwater Interference Claims.

d) **Grand River Conservation Authority Board (GRCA)**

There are up to **three (3) citizen appointments** available on the GRCA for up to a **four (4) year term** ending November 14, 2030. The GRCA is established under the Conservation Authorities Act and, as such, is a public sector corporation in partnership with its member municipalities and the Province. It is responsible for flood control and water management activities throughout the Grand River Watershed. The authority is involved in programs related to water management such as parks, recreation and development review. The GRCA is committed to ensuring a healthy watershed where communities live, work, play and prosper in balance with the natural environment. The GRCA board meets monthly, usually on the fourth Friday of the month beginning at 9:30 a.m.

e) **Waterloo Regional Police Services Board**

There is **one (1) citizen appointment** available on the Board for a **four (4) year term** ending November 14, 2030. The Police Services Board manages the Waterloo Regional Police Force and is a civilian oversight body that controls how police services are provided in Waterloo Region. The mandate of the Waterloo Regional Police Services Board is to decide the current and future direction of policing in Waterloo Region as related to law enforcement, crime prevention and the police budget. The Board meets at least four times a year.

Persons interested in serving on the boards and committees listed above must file an application with the Regional Clerk before **4:30 p.m. on Monday, November 2, 2026**. Application forms are available on the Region's website:

- Go to www.regionofwaterloo.ca
- Select the "Government and Council" pull-down menu
- Select "Committees"
- Select "Calls for Applications"
- Scroll down to the "Current Opportunities" section of the Advisory Committee/Special Purpose Body Applications Page

For more information contact the Office of the Regional Clerk at 519-575-4400 or regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca

Advertised positions on a particular Board may be filled by current members whose terms have expired and/or Regional Councillors, and therefore, the number of actual positions may be different from the number of advertised positions. All applicants will receive written notification about the result of their application.

Personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act and will be used to determine suitability for appointment. Questions regarding the collection of personal information should be referred to the Office of the Regional Clerk at 519-575-4400 or regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca

Sprucedale students mark Orange Shirt Day

DIANE DANEN

Gazette Correspondent

Students at Sprucedale Public School in Shakespeare marked Orange Shirt Day and Canada's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on Sept. 30 with classroom activities and a school-wide gathering.

The entire school gathered outside in the morning, where principal Lisa Cairncross addressed the students. Senior students then raised the Survivors' Flag, which was flown at half-mast as an expression of remembrance for residential school survivors, the children who never returned home and the many lives and communities affected by the residential school system.

Students wore orange shirts and took part in classroom activities designed to help them learn about the history of residential schools and the meaning behind Orange Shirt Day.

Through wearing orange, participating in classroom activities and gathering together as a school, students and staff at Sprucedale joined communities across Canada in recognizing the history of residential schools and the importance of continuing to learn about truth and reconciliation.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Sprucedale Public School principal Lisa Cairncross addresses students during the school's Truth and Reconciliation Day ceremony on Sept. 30. The Survivors' Flag was flown at half-mast in remembrance of residential school Survivors, the children who never returned home and the lives and communities impacted by Canada's residential school system.

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Vigil marks National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

DIANE DANEN

Gazette Correspondent

The Wilmot Indigenous Relations Interfaith Working Group (WIRIWG) and Trinity Lutheran Church in New Hamburg hosted a vigil on Sept. 30 to mark the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day.

The vigil was held on the green space on Peel Street, next to Trinity Lutheran Church. Orange shirts hung from trees, while a Reconciliation Quilt provided a backdrop for the service.

The Reconciliation Quilt was created by community members of the Waterloo Region who were invited to make a square representing what reconciliation means to them. The squares were than pieced together creating the Reconciliation Quilt. The Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) purchased the quilt and now makes it available for display at special events like the vigil.

The vigil began with a welcome highlighting the origins and importance of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. A land acknowledgement and the story behind Orange Shirt Day were also shared. The evening included songs, prayers and a moment of silence providing an opportunity to reflect and remember.

Orange Shirt Day was inspired by Phyllis Webstad, whose new orange shirt was taken from her on her first day at residential school in 1973. Wearing orange on Sept. 30 honours Indigenous children who attended residential schools and promotes the message that every child matters.

"Orange Shirt Day is to honour Indigenous children that went to residential school and promote awareness of what they went through," said Gladys Bender, a member of WIRIWG.



(DIANE DANEN PHOTOS)

Members of the Wilmot Indigenous Relations Interfaith Working Group (WIRIWG) gather in front of the Reconciliation Quilt. From left to right are Nancy Dale, Caterina Lindman, Barbara Safri and Gladys Bender. Not pictured are Melissa Miller and Cathy Bowman.

"There were thousands of children, and some of them didn't come home. So many didn't come home. It wasn't about their education; it was about taking away their culture."

The WIRIWG works to foster respectful and understanding relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities in the Waterloo Region. Formed in collaboration with four Wilmot churches, the group works toward reconciliation through educational events and community projects, while helping to raise awareness of the impact of residential schools on Indigenous communities in the region.

As part of its ongoing work of learning and understanding, guests at the vigil were invited to attend an upcoming book discussion hosted by the Book Club at Trinity Lutheran Church on Nov. 17 at 7 p,m. The group will discuss the book, Valley of the Birdtail: An Indian Reserve, a White Town, and the Road to Reconciliation, written by Andrew Stobo Sniderman and Douglas Sanderson. All are welcome to attend.



An orange shirt reading "Every Child Matters" hangs in the foreground as community members gather after the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation vigil.

Through events such as the vigil and opportunities for continued learning, including the book discussion, The Wilmot Indigenous Relations Interfaith Working Group continues to bring people together to learn, listen and build understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in the community.



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New Hamburg Legion marks centenary year with banners, mural and growing membership

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 532

Submitted to the Gazette

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 532 in New Hamburg is marking the Legion's 100th anniversary in Canada with a busy year of commemorative projects, facility improvements and community outreach.

As of Oct. 6, more than 280 Veterans Memorial Banners are lining the main streets of downtown New Hamburg. The program began in 2022 with an original goal of honouring 30 to 40 local veterans and has since grown into one of the branch's most visible remembrance initiatives.

Branch 532 hopes to expand the program to 300 banners in 2027 and extend the display into Baden, Wellesley and New Dundee.

Another major addition this year is the Veterans Memorial Crosswalk near the cenotaph. When rising costs put the project beyond the branch's reach, the New Hamburg Board of Trade, led by Lillianne Dunstall, stepped in to complete the initiative. The Legion provided a colour party for the official opening.

To further mark the centenary, the branch commissioned a new mural on the front of the Legion building. The artwork is being created by Viktoria, a young Ukrainian artist living in New Hamburg as a refugee, and is expected to be completed by mid-October, weather permitting.



(FILE PHOTO)

Veterans Memorial Banners honouring local veterans line the streets of downtown New Hamburg as Branch 532 celebrates 100 years of the Legion in Canada.

Renovations are also underway inside the branch with support from Trillium funding. The work includes upgraded accessible washrooms and new swipe-activated entrance doors.

A nationwide initiative offering free Legion membership for 2026 has also had a significant local impact. Branch 532 has processed 99 new applications, bringing total membership to 351. The branch's centenary open house alone resulted in 11 new members.

Branch activities continue to include the Youth Education Poster and Literary Contest, with plans to bring back public speaking in the new year. The branch also maintains its partnership with the Wellesley and Wilmot Resource Centre through monthly Coffee House Talks, soup sales and donations supporting the local food bank.

The annual Poppy Campaign will begin with the Lest We Forget flag raising at Castle Kilbride on Oct. 23.

Beyond its commemorative work, Branch 532 remains an active social hub, offering darts, cards, cribbage, marbles, Washoo, euchre, youth darts, meat draws and a full entertainment schedule booked through July 1, 2027.

Through all of these efforts, the branch continues to focus on supporting veterans and honouring those who served in conflicts and peacekeeping missions around the world.

Lest we forget.





Ellis Home Hardware celebrates 10 years in Milverton

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

Anniversaries are special for local businesses that provide products, materials and employment while becoming part of the communities they serve.

Ellis Home Hardware Building Centre, along with Smith Creek Furniture in Milverton, recently celebrated its 10th anniversary with a hometown event that brought longtime and new customers into the Main Street store.

Irene and Tim Ellis began their hardware journey years ago with Home Hardware Stores Ltd. in St. Jacobs.

Tim Ellis started as a truck driver before moving into distribution, while Irene Ellis began as a university student working summers and later moved into full-time work in visual merchandising and store planning.

At the time, Milverton's Home Hardware store was owned by Jim and Rita Schneuker. Tim Ellis began working for the couple as a manager in 2012, while Irene Ellis joined the store part-time a few years later.

When the Schneukers approached the couple about buying the store in late 2014, Tim and Irene Ellis believed it was an opportunity to continue a longstanding local hardware tradition.

After plenty of planning and decision-making, the couple took over the business in October 2016 and began making their dream of owning a Home Hardware store a reality.

Starting a business is never easy, but the couple quickly realized how important the support of the Milverton community would be.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

The Ellis Home Hardware Building Centre team, along with the team from Smith Creek Furniture, recently celebrated the Milverton store's 10th anniversary. From left are Wayne Kipfer, Katherine Luckhardt, Esther Streicher, Irene Ellis, Becky Hastings, Tim Ellis, Karen Lewis, Kelly Kipfer and Rob Brett. Missing are Elroy Horst, Kevin Gascho, Kai Dias and Rory Snyder.

They said it was not an easy time to operate a brick-and-mortar store, but residents and area farmers supported them with a level of loyalty and trust they will always appreciate.

The couple knows reaching the 10-year milestone was not something they accomplished alone.

That support, Tim Ellis said, has carried them through challenges, helped celebrate their successes and shaped the business into what it is today.

Their three daughters, Violet, Quinly and Isabella, have all worked in the business while attending school and are now pursuing professional careers of their own.

Tim and Irene Ellis also credit their dedicated staff, whose hard work and commitment have become the backbone of the Home Hardware and furniture business.

The Ellises say they are proud to carry on Jim and Rita Schneukers' vision of a small-town, family-owned business and believe the store belongs just as much to the community as it does to them.

Their community involvement extends well beyond the store. They are involved with the Milverton Lions Club, Perth East book club, Milverton Curling Club and minor ball, and they sponsor a number of other local events.

They are also involved with the Great Lakes Ride, a weeklong road-cycling fundraiser Tim Ellis started four years ago.

Tim Ellis serves as the main organizer and rider, while Irene Ellis is part of the support team. The ride covers 1,000 kilometres over six days, beginning and ending at Children's Hospital at London Health Sciences Centre, and raises money for the Children's Health Foundation.









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Tradition Mutual gives $50,000 boost to Stratford Perth Museum canopy campaign

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

The Stratford Perth Museum has received a major financial boost toward a new permanent audience canopy at its outdoor performance space.

Tradition Mutual Insurance Company, based in Sebringville, recently helped launch the museum's Blue Sky Canopy Campaign with a $50,000 lead gift.

The campaign has a goal of raising $120,000 to install a permanent canopy over the audience area at the museum's Player's Backstage outdoor performance space, west of Stratford.

Museum managing director Kelly McIntosh said the contribution will go a long way toward getting the campaign off the ground and improving the experience for people attending performances and other events.

The Stratford Perth Museum continues to offer a mix of history, exhibitions, plays and entertainment for residents and visitors from across the region.

McIntosh and the museum team have also continued working to ensure the organization remains sustainable and able to offer programming for years to come.

Residents who want to support the museum can also become members. Memberships start at $40 and include free museum admission for one year, early access and discounts for select events, and a 10 per-cent discount at the museum gift shop.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

From left, Tradition Mutual Insurance Company CEO Charles MacLennan presents a $50,000 cheque to Stratford Perth Museum managing director Kelly McIntosh and board chair Mike Valiquette in support of the museum's Blue Sky Canopy Campaign. The campaign aims to raise $120,000 for a permanent canopy over the audience area at the museum's Player's Backstage outdoor performance space.



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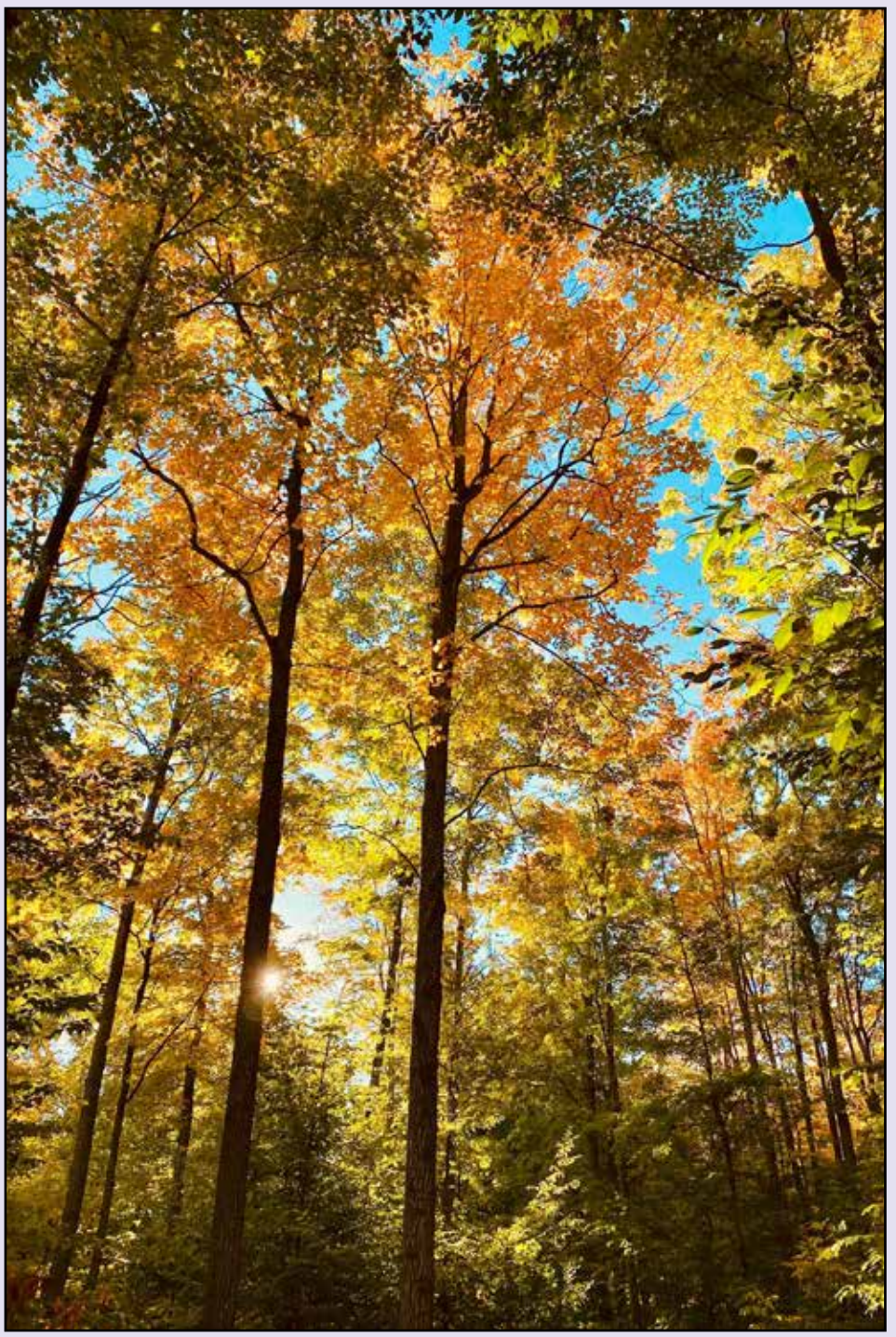
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SHOW US YOUR WILMOT



(PHOTOS COURTESY OF SHOW US YOUR WILMOT)

Anne Loeffler recently shared this stunning photo of some cosmos that survived a recent frost to the Show Us Your Wilmot Facebook page.



Becky Presley shared this gorgeous photo of the morning sun peaking through the trees at Schmidt Woods to the Show Us Your Wilmot Facebook page.

New Dundee Optimist Club celebrates 50 years of community service

OPTIMIST CLUB OF NEW DUNDEE

Submitted to the Gazette

Members, former members, family and friends gathered at the New Dundee Community Centre on Oct. 3 to celebrate 50 years of the Optimist Club of New Dundee and its service to local youth and the broader community.

The club was chartered Feb. 24, 1975, and over the decades has played a major role in youth programming, community facilities, parks and countless local events. Guests were welcomed by anniversary planning committee members Don Poth, Keith Murray, Gord Perrin and Lynn Perrin. Poth, a charter member, served as master of ceremonies.

"Fifty years of the New Dundee Optimist Club is hard to believe," Poth told those gathered.

Sixteen past presidents attended the celebration, along with current and former members, representatives from other Optimist clubs, families, friends and New Dundee residents. Poth noted three original charter members, Bruce Parker, Ron Montgomery and Poth himself, remain members of the club.

The evening offered an opportunity to reconnect, share memories and look through photographs, newspaper articles and other artifacts documenting five decades of Optimist activities.

Mayor Natasha Salonen brought greetings from Wilmot Township and thanked the club for its work with young people and its contributions to community facilities and parks. She presented Poth with a congratulatory letter on behalf of the township. Coun. Stewart Cressman and his wife, Nancy, were also in attendance.



(CONTIBUTED PHOTO)

Optimist Club of New Dundee members and supporters gathered at the New Dundee Community Centre to celebrate the club's 50th anniversary.

Club president Carolyn Winsborough spoke about the accomplishments of the organization and her hopes for its future.

Poth also recognized two past presidents who played significant roles in the club's history. Charter president Mike Baldwin was remembered for his creativity and contributions to parade floats, signs and other club projects, while Steve McDonald was recognized for his leadership in major undertakings including the community centre and Optimist Park.

McDonald, who now lives on Vancouver Island, travelled back to New Dundee for the anniversary and offered congratulations to the club.

Following dinner, guests watched a 20-minute slideshow highlighting decades of youth activities, social events and major community projects. Those activities have included soapbox derbies, Hit, Run and Throw competitions, bicycle-safety programs, trips to Buffalo Bills and Toronto Blue Jays games, fishing derbies, Easter egg hunts, Christmas parties and Optimist conventions.

The club's ongoing programs include its annual Youth Appreciation Award, recognizing young people who make a difference in local schools, churches, Scouts, Guides and other organizations, as well as an adult community hero. Its Youth Volunteer Scholarship program has distributed close to $40,000 to graduating secondary school students.

The evening also highlighted three major projects in which the club played a leading role. The first was development of the New Dundee Community Centre, an idea that emerged during a club brainstorming session in 1985. Working with Wilmot Township and other community organizations, volunteers helped raise the community's share of the cost through donations and several vehicle lotteries.

The second was creation of public access to New Dundee's lake after a cottage property became available. Residents loaned money to help purchase the property, while grants, community support and additional vehicle lotteries eventually helped pay off the debt and create what became Optimist Park.

The third was a broad parks-improvement project that included new ball diamonds, playgrounds, basketball courts, a skating area, trees and benches. The new diamonds were named Doug Fischer Memorial Park in honour of a former Optimist president, minor baseball coach and local fastball player who died before seeing the project completed.

Poth said the anniversary was as much about looking ahead as celebrating the past.

During the evening, he encouraged community members to consider joining the club so youth programs and other activities that have disappeared over the years could potentially return.

"Here's to the next 50 years," Poth said as the formal portion of the celebration came to a close.

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Dancing tractors make a final appearance at International Plowing Match

AMANDA NELSON

Gazette Reporter

The Square Dancing Tractors made a special return to the International Plowing Match and Rural Expo (IPM) in Walkerton this year, entertaining crowds one last time as the five-day agricultural event welcomed more than 71,000 visitors.

The 107th IPM officially opened Sept. 22, with Bruce Power holding its opening-day parade through the tented city while hundreds of vendors and entertainers offered activities for families and people of all ages.

Visitors experienced competitive tractor and horse plowing, agricultural exhibits and demonstrations, hundreds of vendors and exhibitors, live entertainment, parades, educational programming and special events.

Competition remained at the heart of the match, with plowmen and plowwomen from Ontario, the United States, Belgium and Ireland competing throughout the week.

One special opportunity for attendees was the return of the Square Dancing Tractors, a group that retired in 2019 but came back for one final performance at this year's IPM.

In 2008, Team Farmall's Bruce County



(AMANDA NELSON PHOTOS)

The Square Dancing Tractors put on a lively final performance at the 107th International Plowing Match and Rural Expo in Walkerton. The group, which retired in 2019, returned one last time to entertain the crowds.

performed at the International Plowing Match in Teeswater. The Square Dancing Tractors were formed to entertain crowds, and although the group retired in 2019, members returned to the stage one last time at this year's event in Walkerton.

"We were retired, but the Bruce County plowing match was pretty persistent," joked Steve Donaldson, a Team Farmall member.

The group consists of 12 drivers, or "dancers," and one square dance caller. Members have been practising since March to prepare for this year's performance.

"We're all great buddies, and we've become extremely close friends," said Donaldson. "We all joke that we're brothers now."

Team Farmall consists of Teeswater-area neighbours and friends, as well as three generations of the Ireland family, who now work together to entertain onlookers during the performance.

The IPM also featured the Ontario Queen of the Furrow competition, held each year as counties, regions and districts throughout Ontario send representatives who have won competitions held by their local branch associations.

Carmen Ward of Grey-Normanby was crowned the 2026-2027 Ontario Queen of the Furrow, receiving the honour Friday evening as the province's plowing community gathered to celebrate its top competitors and recognize the next generation of agricultural ambassadors.

A total of 71,330 visitors came through the gates during the five-day event, held Sept. 22-26 in Walkerton. It was the largest attendance recorded at an IPM since the event returned following the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2026 match was the fifth IPM held since the pandemic, making the attendance an important milestone for an event that, like many large-scale gatherings, has worked to rebuild attendance and momentum in a changing post-pandemic environment.

"We dreamed big from the beginning, and our community stepped up in an extraordinary way," said Gord Lang, chair of the IPM 2026 local committee. "To

Continued on page 15

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Continued from page 14

welcome more than 71,000 people to Bruce County and record the largest attendance the IPM has seen since the pandemic is something our entire community can be incredibly proud of."

"We set an ambitious target, and more than 71,000 people chose to spend part of their week with us and see, firsthand, what Bruce County had to offer," Lang said. "Our attendance grew every single day. What a tremendous success."

The International Plowing Match and Rural Expo is a five-day celebration of agriculture and rural living organized collaboratively by the Ontario Plowmen's Association and a local organizing committee. Held in a different Ontario community each year, the IPM features competitive plowing, agricultural education, hundreds of exhibitors and vendors, live entertainment and programming for visitors of all ages.

The International Plowing Match and Rural Expo was first held in 1913.



Members of the Square Dancing Tractors gather for a group photo at the International Plowing Match in Walkerton. The 12 drivers and their square dance caller have been entertaining crowds since the group was formed in 2008.

Celtic for a Cause concert to feature local musicians

WILMOT-TAVISTOCK GAZETTE STAFF

thewtgazette@gmail.com

On Sunday evening, Oct. 18, Second String – a band featuring a few familiar faces, will be in concert at Parkminster United Church in Waterloo.

The concert – a celebration of East Coast and Irish music – is in support of two Waterloo Region charitable organizations: Marillac Place and Reception House. All proceeds from the event will go to these organizations.

Marillac Place provides a safe haven for pregnant and parenting women in need, while Reception House Waterloo Region specializes in supporting refugees and newcomers in Canada, specifically in Waterloo Region.

Second String is a five-person ensemble including former Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School teacher Steve Quanz, Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette travel journalist Paul Knowles, New Hamburg native Ben Riche, Rob McQueen and John Watson.

The evening will also include a silent auction. The silent auction opens at 6:30 p.m.; the concert will run from 7-8:30 p.m.; and the silent auction will wrap up by 8:50 p.m. Admission is by donation.

This is a community event with everyone more than welcome to attend. Parkminster United Church is located at 275 Erb St. E, Waterloo. For more information, email Knowles at pknowles@golden.net.

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Stop 107 brings home baking, local produce to Amulree

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

There is a new business in downtown Amulree where butter tarts, Chelsea buns and other homemade baked goods are coming out of the oven fresh each day.

Stop 107, The Market Stand, opened in late spring in the hamlet north of Shakespeare and is quickly becoming known as a place to pick up fresh vegetables, baked goods and locally made products.

Kris and Kelly Evanski, along with several family members, say they have been surprised by the number of customers stopping by since opening.

Kelly Evanski said the original plan was to offer home-grown vegetables to area customers, with baked goods added to help keep the stand stocked until the vegetables were ready.

Support grew quickly.

Kelly Evanski said Jesse from Dine in 519 stopped in while travelling home from a community farther north and purchased some baking. Within about 30 minutes of his post appearing online, more customers began arriving.

Since then, the Evanski family has welcomed visitors from across Ontario and from as far away as Virginia, Boston and Chicago, as well as Ottawa, Whitby, Montreal and Kingston.



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Family members behind the new Stop 107 Market Stand in Amulree include, from left, Jake McPherson, Samantha McPherson, Kris Evanski, Kelly Evanski and Angie McPherson.

Family and friends have also helped before and during the opening, including nephew Jake McPherson and his wife, Samantha, along with sister-in-law Angie McPherson.

All baked goods are made fresh daily, and the stand also provides space for local artisans and producers to sell their products.

Those products include items from Spring Rose Naturals, Andriessen Apiaries, Donna Schyff, Old Lady Quilts, Son of Mine Co., Rolling Hills Maple Syrup, Cody's Egg Shack and Story and Stone Company.

At a time when buying local remains important to many consumers, Stop 107 has been drawing repeat customers from Stratford, Kitchener-Waterloo, Listowel and the Woodstock-Ingersoll area.

The family says customers want to support local businesses and Canadian-made products, particularly with ongoing economic uncertainty and trade tensions involving the United States.

For Kelly and Kris Evanski, the goal is simple: provide fresh baked goods, healthy food and locally made products while supporting neighbours and other small businesses.

Kelly Evanski's butter tarts, in particular, are already gaining a reputation.

Some customers have told her they are the best they have ever tasted, earning Kelly Evanski the unofficial title of "Butter Tart Queen of North Easthope Township."

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Fire Prevention Week 2026: Charge into fire safety, safe charging is your superpower

Local fire departments remind the community to charge safely

AMANDA NELSON

Gazette Reporter

The National Fire Protection Association's 2026 Fire Prevention Week theme is "Charge into Fire Safety: Safe Charging is a Superpower!" It reminds residents that some of the simplest things we do when charging our devices can help prevent fires.

Lithium-ion batteries are found in many of the devices we use every day. They can store a lot of energy in a relatively small package. When a battery is damaged, defective, overheated or improperly charged, that stored energy can become a serious fire hazard.

Jessica Jorritsma, the Township of Perth East and Municipality of West Perth Fire Department's public educator, says rechargeable technology has become a normal part of life, and with more rechargeable devices comes another important fire-safety conversation.

"Knowing how to charge your devices safely is important," said Jorritsma. "Most of these devices are safe, but when you start buying devices or batteries from sites where the batteries haven't been tested properly, they can become unsafe."

She says to always use the charger and charging equipment the manufacturer recommends. That inexpensive replacement charger or cable might seem like a great deal, but making sure your charging equipment is compatible with your device is an important part of battery safety.

"A lot of the chargers that come with devices are paired with them, so they will automatically recognize when the device is fully charged and stop charging. But sometimes, when you buy chargers that aren't paired with the device, they keep charging. This is when things can become unsafe. You can sometimes tell when you pick up your phone or Chromebook and it feels warm."

The campaign also reminds residents that charging on a flat, hard surface helps prevent fires.

"If your phone spends the night charging on your bedside table, that's one thing. But if it is buried under a pillow or charging on the couch, it's time to find a better spot," said Jorritsma. "Charge devices on a hard, flat surface where heat can dissipate. Keep charging devices away from bedding, pillows, couches and other materials that can trap heat or burn."

Continued on page 16



(AMANDA NELSON PHOTOS)

Township of Perth East and Municipality of West Perth fire prevention officer Shay Herrett and public educator Jessica Jorritsma, both at the Shakespeare Fire House, prepare for a month of educating students across the region about fire prevention and safety.



Sparky the fire dog, Nicole Schnurr, public educator, fire prevention officer and CEMC for Wilmot Fire Services, Mayor Natasha Salonen and volunteer firefighter Andrew Mechalko highlight the importance of fire safety at last weekend's Community Safety Day at the New Hamburg Community Centre.







Wilmot volunteer firefighters demonstrate the use of life-saving tools to remove a car door and the hood of a car while young spectators watch and learn about fire safety.

Continued from page 15

Another reminder: never charge damaged batteries. If a battery is swollen, leaking, unusually hot, cracked or showing other signs of damage, stop using it.

And perhaps one of the most important tips: keep charging devices and larger batteries away from your exits.

"We often talk to residents about having two ways out of their home and keeping those escape routes clear," said Jorritsma. "An e-bike, scooter or large battery charging in a hallway or near an exterior door could become a serious obstacle during an emergency."

Jorritsma also reminds people not to forget the garage and workshop, as those batteries need to be considered, too.

"A collection of cordless tool batteries sitting on a workbench may not look like a fire hazard, but each one contains stored energy," she said. "Follow the manufacturer's instructions for charging and storage, inspect batteries for damage and avoid using batteries or chargers that show signs of failure.

"The same applies to e-bikes and electric scooters. These devices are becoming more common, and their larger batteries require particular attention when charging," she continued.

The National Fire Protection Association offers these recommendations to protect your home:

- Use the manufacturer's charger and follow the charging instructions.
- Charge batteries on a hard, flat surface.
- Keep charging devices away from anything that can burn.
- Don't charge damaged batteries.
- Unplug devices when they are fully charged or when recommended by the manufacturer.
- Keep larger battery-powered devices away from exits while charging.
- Purchase products that have been tested to recognized safety standards, such as those bearing certification marks from organizations such as CSA, UL or ETL.

And, as always, make sure your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms are working and that everyone in your household knows what to do if they hear an alarm.



Oliver Dyroff, five, of New Hamburg participates in an obstacle course while Ryan Gansevles, a pre-service firefighter student from Conestoga College, leads him through the course at this year's Community Safety Day.

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East Zorra-Tavistock restructures departments, leadership ahead of Fire Chief's retirement

Leadership said moves will strengthen leadership and service delivery

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

East Zorra-Tavistock (EZT) Township has announced it is taking the next step in strengthening its leadership and service delivery with a new organizational structure that brings community focused services together while creating clear leadership for the future.

"The changes follow the planned retirement of director of fire and emergency management services, Fire Chief Scott Alexander, and reflect the township's ongoing commitment to succession planning, leadership development and organizational sustainability," the township said in a press release.

Effective Oct. 12, the township will establish a new community and protective services department.

"(We're) bringing together fire and emergency services, community emergency management, recreation and facilities under one department with a coordinated administrative structure," added the release. "At the same time, the infrastructure services department will be established, overseeing roads and transportation networks, winter operations, stormwater and drainage, fleet and equipment, construction project management, parks, and capital and asset management."



(PHOTO COURTESY OF EAST ZORRA-TAVISTOCK)
Tom Lightfoot will soon be Eats Zorra-Tavistock's director of community and protective services and fire chief under a recently announced reorganization of the township.

Tom Lightfoot, currently serving as director of infrastructure and community services, will lead the new department as the director of community and protective services and fire chief. Claire Ohrling, currently engineering technologist/drainage superintendent, will assume the role and responsibility of director of infrastructure services.

"This is an exciting opportunity to build on the strong foundation we have today while preparing our organization for the future," said CAO Karen DePrest. "We have talented and experienced leaders within our organization that have demonstrated the leadership, knowledge and experience needed to lead these departments. This is a succession decision that recognizes internal talent while ensuring continuity for our residents and the services that they rely on."

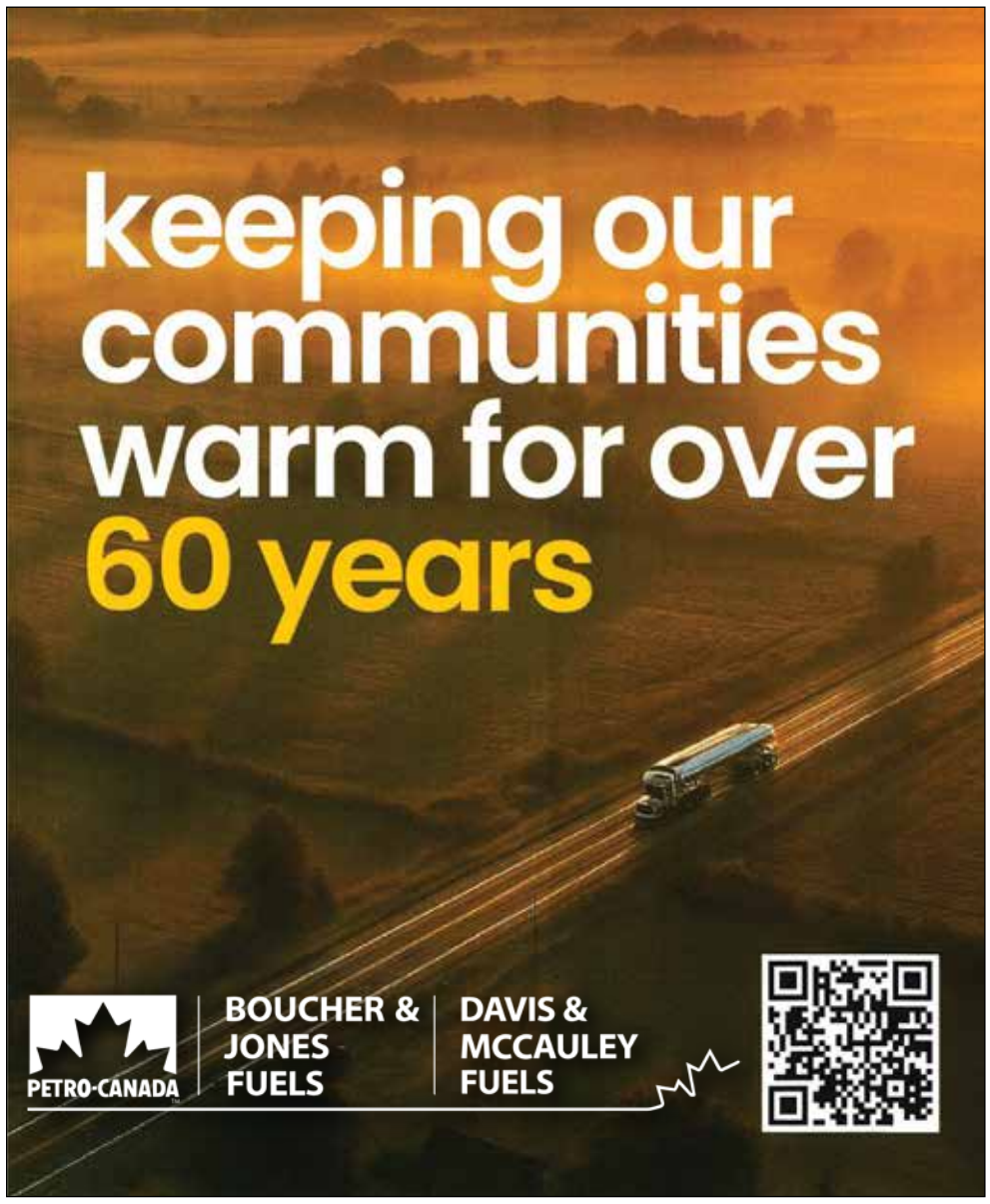
Mayor Phil Schaefer said the restructuring allows EZT to leverage talent and lay the groundwork for strong leadership now and into the future.

"On behalf of council, staff and residents I want to wish Chief Alexander all the best in his upcoming retirement, and also to offer congratulations to Tom Lightfoot and Claire Ohrling on their new positions."

He added ratepayers will not notice anything different other that the person responding to their inquiry may be different than before.

"Residents should experience a seamless transition. While our approval was not required, council was fully informed during the planned restructuring. The process was all internal, without an outside vendor."

Schaefer explained while determining the new structure and leadership assignments, consideration was given to the township's existing leadership capacity, institutional knowledge, experience, demonstrated performance and the continuity required for essential municipal services.







Government of Canada Gouvernement du Canada

Canada

Shakespeare firefighters fill their boots for muscular dystrophy

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

When the first weekend of October rolls around each year, members of the Shakespeare Fire Department trade fighting fires for another important battle.

Firefighters were out in the village Saturday collecting donations for Muscular Dystrophy Canada, using their boots to gather cash from passing motorists as part of the annual Fill the Boot campaign.

It is a longstanding tradition supported by firefighters across the area, and Shakespeare's department was once again eager to take part.

Firefighters stationed themselves along all four roads leading into Shakespeare, where motorists stopped to drop money into the boots and thank department members for supporting the cause.

By the end of the day, firefighters had collected an impressive $5,650.

Members of the Shakespeare Fire Department thanked everyone who contributed and helped make the fundraiser a success.

The campaign is a fitting one for firefighters. As the Nancy Sinatra song goes, "These Boots Are Made for Walkin'," but in Shakespeare on Saturday, they were made for filling.

While collecting donations, firefighters were also mindful that they could be called away at any time to respond to an emergency. Highways 7 and 8 and Perth Road 107 are among the busiest routes in the area and are regularly the scene of motor-vehicle collisions.

Fortunately, members were able to spend the day focused on the fundraiser and the people who ultimately benefit from it.

For those living with muscular dystrophy, the money raised will help support important programs and services.

Shakespeare firefighters extended their thanks to all the motorists who dug deep and helped support the cause.



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Shakespeare Fire Department Capt. Jeff Forthhuber, left, and Deputy Chief Steve Marriott collect donations from motorists at the main intersection in Shakespeare on Saturday as part of the annual Fill the Boot campaign in support of Muscular Dystrophy Canada. Firefighters collected $5,650 during the fundraiser.

ANNIVERSARY

Diamond Jubilee!
75th Wedding Anniversary!
of
William & Margaret (McBurney) Armstrong



October 13, 1951

Our family invites you to an open house to celebrate Bill and Margaret's 75th Wedding Anniversary!

Join us October 18, 1-4 pm at Mt. Elgin Community Centre

Best Wishes only

ANNIVERSARY

60th Anniversary Celebration
Glen & Fran Radke



Wishing Glen and Fran Radke a Happy Anniversary as they celebrate their 60th. They were married at the Plattsville United Church on the evening of October 07, 1966. A time to reflect on the joyous memories of the past; hope for the challenge of today and courage to walk the road of tomorrow.



Sixty years you've travelled through laughter, love and tears. You've built a life of memories along those diamond years. Blessings, lots of Love and many Hugs as you celebrate your milestone anniversary.

Your Family



OBITUARY

WAGLER, Ruth "Carol" (Gerber)



It is with deep sadness and grateful hearts for a life well lived that we announce the peaceful passing of Ruth "Carol" Wagler (Gerber), surrounded by the warmth and love of her family, on Friday, October 2, 2026, at Stratford General Hospital. She was 86 years old.

Carol was born in New Hamburg, Ontario, on August 31, 1940, a daughter of the late Emanuel and Clara Ann (Schlabach) Gerber.

She was the devoted and loving wife of Irvin Wagler, whom she married on May 27, 1961. Together, they shared 65 years of marriage, building a life rooted in faith, family, music, and love. Carol was a cherished mother to Perry Wagler (Sandra), Brent Wagler (Paul Gamble), and Derek Wagler (Tyler Curtis). She was a proud and loving grandmother to Devin, Corrina (Andy McKay), and Avery, and a delighted great-grandmother to Brodie. She was also patiently awaiting the arrival of her second great-grandchild in the coming weeks. Carol will be lovingly remembered by her sister Audrey Bender (Harold), as well as her many nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her siblings Calvin Gerber (Marion), Willard Gerber (Gladys), Beulah Ruby (Henry), Margaret Ruby (Roy), Inez Ramseyer (Oliver), twin-sister Helen Yantzi (Lester, Nancy), twin-sister Ellen Leis (Elton), and Howard Gerber (Ada).

Carol found great joy in music. She loved to sing and listen to music, attend performances, and she and Irvin faithfully shared the tradition of singing a prayer before every meal. She loved gardening, quilting and canning; as well as watching baseball and hockey. Carol was a compassionate advocate and supporter of diversity and the rights of all people, believing deeply in the dignity and worth of everyone.

Her faith was an important part of her life, and she was a faithful member of Hillcrest Mennonite Church. Carol's community spirit was reflected not only in her words, but in the way she lived and volunteered, with kindness, compassion, acceptance, and love.

Above all, Carol treasured her family. Her gentle spirit, unwavering faith, generous heart, and love of music will remain a lasting part of the lives of all who knew and loved her.

In Carol's own words, which beautifully expressed the way she lived her life: "God's Love and Grace for Everyone."

Cremation has taken place. Memorial visitation will be held at the Mark Jutzi Funeral Home, 291 Huron Street, New Hamburg, on Wednesday, October 7, 2026, from 2 - 4 & 6 - 8 p.m. Memorial service will be held at Hillcrest Mennonite Church, on Thursday, October 8, 2026, at 11 a.m. Interment will take place in the 19th Line Cemetery at a later date.

As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations can be made to Mennonite Central Committee, or the Heart & Stroke Foundation through the funeral home.

Personal condolences can be posted for the family at www.markjutzifuneralhomes.ca

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT GRANTHAVEN.COM/ WILMOT-TAVISTOCK-GAZETTE

OBITUARY

GERBER: Marcella Darlean (nee Boshart)



Passed away peacefully with her children at her side, on Friday, October 2, 2026 at Sunnyside Home, Kitchener. Marcella Gerber of Baden in her 97th year.

Beloved wife of the late Orland Gerber who predeceased her January 3, 2015. Loving mother of Linda Fewkes of Baden, Bruce (Judy Clements) of Baden, Sandra Kirk of Wellesley and Paul (Wendy Cavacas) of Baden. Sadly missed by her grandchildren Joel (Heather), Stacey (Lawrence), Melissa (Matt), Alysha (Dominic), Alexandria (Jordan), Emma (Nina), Jill (Dwayne), Gerald, Bill (Tifffany) and great grandchildren Ewan, Isla, Ava, Isaac, Quinn, Willow, Sophie, Charlie, Reese, James, Elizabeth, Charlotte, Everly, Eli and Iris.

Predeceased by her parents Gideon & Pearl (Kipfer) Boshart, daughter-in-law Debra, grandchildren Jason and Jennifer and brother Delford.

Marcella worked for Harold Schmidt for over 30 years for Mennonite Aid Insurance, Mennonite Benefit, North Frontenac Telephone and Beckdale Farms.

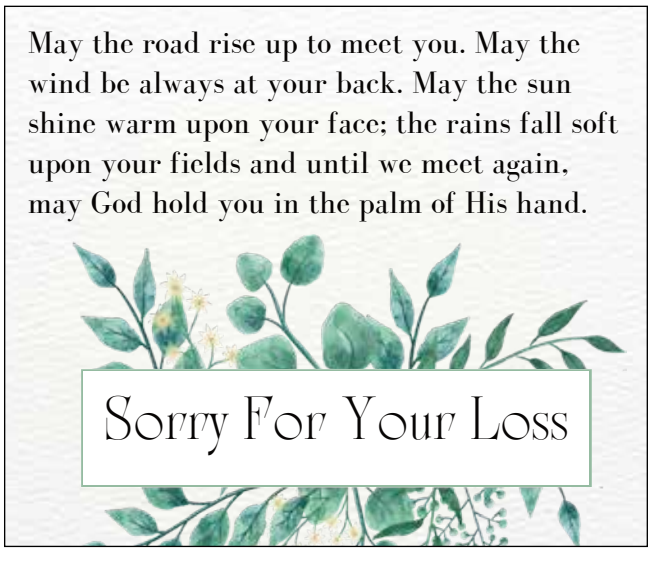
She was a lifelong member of First Mennonite Church in Kitchener where she was involved with Bon Accord & Secret Sisters. She was the Cradle Roll (Nursery) Superintendent for many years including visiting families with newborns. For many years Marcella and Ruby Schmidt looked after the kitchen services for funerals into her 70's, coordinating the many volunteers that helped with setup and clean up.

Marcella organized and ran the concession booth for Baden Minor Softball at the Baden Park for many years.

One of Marcella's great loves was the time she spent with Orland at their trailer at Sugarbush Campground in Bayfield. Even after Orland passed, she still loved spending weekends there; later with her children when she could no longer go alone.

Relatives and friends will be received in the Mark Jutzi Funeral Home, 291 Huron St. New Hamburg on Thursday from 2-4 and 7-9pm. Funeral service will be conducted at Steinmann Mennonite Church on Friday, October 9, 2026 at 11:00am. Reception to Follow. Interment to follow in the First Mennonite Church Cemetery, 800 King St. E. Kitchener

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Sunnyside Foundation or to the M.C.C. would be appreciated by the family. Personal condolences can be shared at www.markjutzifuneralhomes.ca



STRATFORD COIN SHOW
SUNDAY OCTOBER 18TH, 2026
9:00AM TO 3PM.
Best Western Arden Park Hotel
522 Ontario St. Stratford
Admission $3.00 (under 16 FREE)

QUIZ TIME

BY JAKE GRANT

1. What is the capital city of New Zealand?
2. Which element has the chemical symbol, Fe?
3. Who painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel?
4. Which country is credited with inventing paper?
5. Which boxer was nicknamed Smokin' Joe?
6. In a standard deck of 52 playing cards, how many face cards are there?
7. Which everyday product was originally marketed in the 1890s as a wallpaper cleaner?
8. True or False. Bananas are botanically classified as berries, while strawberries are not.
9. Which famous novel begins with the line "Call me Ishmael"?
10. Which Canadian province is the smallest by land area?

Answers found on classified page

SUDOKU

by PeterS 2026

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Answers found on classified page

The Old Gazettes

By Sydney Grant

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

September 28 - October 5, 2016, Edition (10 years ago)

Many young hockey players grow up dreaming of playing in the National Hockey League (NHL), however, being on the ice as an official can be just as rewarding. Devin Berg of Tavistock will start his full-time contract with the NHL this month after what seems like a blur of events that propelled him to the top of Canada's favourite sport. As a 26-year-old, Devin was the youngest official in the NHL last season when he worked part-time as a linesman officiating 47 NHL games and 33 American Hockey League (AHL) games. Then, in July of 2016, he was offered a full-time contract as one of 35 linesmen in the NHL. There are also 35 referees working in the league.

More than 800 students from across the Thames Valley District School Board gathered at the rural property of Julie and Larry Schwartzenruber last Tuesday afternoon for the eighth annual Milk Run cross-country meet. The event enjoyed another sunny afternoon of warm weather. Participants came from 16 area schools with races in six different categories from novice to senior and open classes. It was a "fun run" with the younger grades running a five-kilometre distance and the senior grades running approximately 10 kilometres.

Over 200 registered Canadian charities benefit from the annual Ride for Refuge held this year on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016. The ride is held in 27 locations across the country and nationwide. The event so far this year has raised $1,973,907 or 79 per cent of its goal of $2.5 million. The family friendly cycling/walking fundraiser benefits the displaced, vulnerable and exploited. This past Saturday, under damp and overcast skies, 138 teams in K-W walked and/or rode the country roads to and from Koinonia Christian Fellowship Church in Bloomingdale. There were more than 1,000 participants involved, supporting at least 60 local charities.

September 27 - October 4, 2006, Edition (20 years ago)

After all the controversy about adding more councillors to the municipality, the Nov. 13 municipal election may end up being decided by acclamation. As of Monday, Sept. 25, only six people have filed nomination papers for the seven positions available in the Township of East-Zorra Tavistock. Mayor Don McKay and Deputy Mayor Maureen Ralph have filed their papers while in Tavistock - Ward 1, hopeful Linda Fulton and Coun. Dave Oliphant are on the list.

Once again, the Erie Thames Power Corporation has donated a financial sum to the Tavistock Public School as part of their ongoing commitment to their respective communities. Erie Thames donates a $500 bursary to each municipal shareholder to put toward education. The shareholders include East Zorra-Tavistock, Aylmer, Ingersoll, Central Elgin, Norwich, Zorra and Beachville. Tavistock Public School was in the midst of a $26,000 fundraising campaign to install new outdoor basketball courts and pavement when Erie James came forward with the donation.

October 1 - 8, 1986, Edition (40 years ago)

Two of Tavistock's top athletes were honoured at this year's Minor Ball Banquet held to recognize the house league and all-star teams, their coaches and volunteers. Chosen from the Bantam and Midget boys and girls teams, the all-round athlete awards were presented to Jeff Hill and Bonnie Wettlaufer by Minor Softball president Richard Wilker at the banquet held in the Memorial Hall on Wednesday, Sept. 24, 1986.

By now, most readers of the Gazette will have noticed that the fountain located at the main intersection in Tavistock has been restored and refurbished. Its light is once again burning brightly during these dark fall evenings. Last spring, Coun. Dave Oliphant warned a Men's Club meeting that unless steps were taken to safeguard the fountain, it might be damaged beyond repair during the current road construction.



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Music by Marilyne Nystrome

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Pastor Steve Hoffard
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Sundays at 10:00 AM
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trinitylcoffice@gmail.com
www.trinitytavistock.com

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Pastor Julie Ellison White
131 Wettlaufer St., Tavistock 655-2581
Sunday Worship services begin at 9:45am, with coffee and fellowship to follow at 11am.
All ages Junior Sunday School will follow after the service.
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stpaulstavistock@gmail.com
Pastor Rev Michael Mayer

EAST ZORRA MENNONITE
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Pastors Ray Martin & Mike Williamson
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4339 Huron Rd, Wilmot Township
All are welcome.
Contact Carol Massel: 519-502-8648
carol@masselsmarine.com

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

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

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

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

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette SPORTS

PJHL roundup: Firebirds earn four weekend points with wins over Mounties and Shamrocks

Braves remain perfect with two victories

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

New Hamburg is trying to make some noise in the Provincial Junior Hockey League's (PJHL) Doherty Division standings but couldn't gain any ground on first-place Tavistock.

Both teams took all four points up for grabs on the weekend meaning the Firebirds sit in second place tied with Wellesley and four points behind the still undefeated Braves.

Deklan Jermol kicked out 40 shots on Friday night as New Hamburg blanked Paris 4-0 in front of over 500 fans at the Wilmot Recreation Centre. Ezra Fischer earned a pair of assists to lead the attack while 10 players chipped in with a single point.

On Sunday afternoon, the Firebirds skated into Hespeler and earned a 6-4 win thanks to another balanced attack and a pair of goals off the stick of Kaiden Cormier. Ten others picked up one point each as Jake Howard stopped 28 of 32 shots he faced to earn the win.

Local product Jack MacDonald has taken over the team's captain role after Andrew Gear aged out. MacDonald knows he has big skates to fill.

"Gearsy was a good guy in and out of the locker room and he did a lot for the team last year. He was an extrovert and liked to speak whereas I am more of an introvert and stay quiet, but what I learned from him is there is a time and place to step up and say some things."

He added he didn't expect to be given the C, but it is something he is very thankful for.

"This is my fourth year with the Firebirds and fifth year in junior, so I guess I wasn't too surprised but also surprised at the same time."



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Jack MacDonald is in his fourth season with the New Hamburg Firebirds, and the 20-year-old student is serving as the team's captain.

MacDonald, who is studying architecture at Conestoga College, played a full season with the Cambridge Redhawks of the Greater Ontario Hockey League (GOHL) in 2023-2024, something he said was a great experience.

"The amount of hockey I played and the commitment level involved; it's almost double the amount of ice time in Junior C. My game improved and the veterans and captains on that team were very skilled and knowledgeable. Learning from them definitely helped.

MacDonald said overall, he's pleased with how the team has started the season despite a lot of new faces and some younger players.

"We get along very well. That's one of the benefits of playing for New Hamburg; we always have really tight groups. That was a worry coming into this season with a lot of rookies and new guys, but we've come together really quickly and are close."

He is also very aware Tavistock is the team to beat in the Doherty Division this season but that doesn't mean the Firebirds can take anyone lightly.

"I'd like to think we play in one of the best divisions in the PJHL. You really can't take a night off and play hard night in and night out. We also have to stick to our game plan and not lose sight of the goal. Skills is nice but it always comes down to how hard we're working as a team. That's our goal; be consistent and get better as the season goes on."

MacDonald added his plan is to complete his junior career in a Firebirds uniform following next season and he can't think of a better place to play.

"It means a lot. I grew up coming to the rink on Friday nights watching this team play and being able to do that for next two years is something really special to me and something I am very thankful for – to be on the ice let alone being captain. We're hoping for big things this season."

Head coach Shane Gerber said his captain has done everything expected of him so far.

"He works hard, leads by example and is always willing to learn. He has also been very disciplined this season."

New Hamburg hosts Norwich on Friday, Sept. 9, at 7:30 p.m. Anyone bringing a non-perishable food item in support of the Wilmot and Wellesley Resource Centre will receive free admission.

Tavistock is still undefeated after two weekend victories, including a 5-2 home-ice win over Wellesley on Friday. The Braves led 2-1 after 20 minutes on power-play goals by Jacob Skuta and Owen Yagar while Evan Palubeski scored twice in the second period, including the game-winning goal just 18 second into the frame. Yagar added a pair of insurance markers as part of his five-point night and now has 15 points in seven games, good enough for third on the team.

Tavistock travelled to Norwich on Saturday and came away with a 7-0 drubbing of the Merchants. Andrew Torchia stopped all 23 shots he faced to earn the shutout while Keenan McGrath led the attack with a goal and two helpers.

The Applejacks bounced back on Saturday with a 4-1 home-ice victory over Paris as they outshot the Mounties 46-27. Kyler Morgan and Cooperman led the attack with three points each.

SOUTH - DOHERTY gamesheetstats.com

TEAM	GP	W	L	OTL	T	OTW	PTS	SOW	SOL	GF	GA	DIFF	PCT	PIM	RW	ROW	STK
Tavistock Braves	7	7	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	40	9	+31	1.00	167	7	7	Won 10
Wellesley Applejacks	8	5	3	0	0	1	10	0	0	33	24	+9	.625	230	4	5	Won 1
New Hamburg Firebirds	7	5	2	0	0	0	10	0	0	30	23	+7	.714	111	5	5	Won 3
Paris Mounties	8	3	4	0	0	0	7	0	1	27	34	-7	.438	182	3	3	Lost 2
Norwich Merchants	8	3	5	0	0	0	6	1	0	18	37	-19	.375	238	2	2	Lost 3
Dorchester Dolphins	7	2	5	0	0	0	4	0	0	27	38	-11	.286	191	2	2	Won 1
Hespeler Shamrocks	7	1	5	1	0	0	3	0	0	20	30	-10	.214	159	1	1	Lost 1

Royals ready for 2026-2027 OEHL season

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

The Tavistock Royals finished the last Ontario Elite Hockey League (OEHL) season by losing Game 7 to Seaforth in the second-round playoff series. The team finished in fifth place in the league's South Division with 12 wins in 20 regular season games.

Head coach Tyson Zehr said the Royals have some new faces on the roster as the team prepares to open this season with a game in Ridgetown against the Rebels, the league's newest franchise. Zehr said he is excited to see the on-ice product.

"We made some additions that we think can have a big impact for us, including Sam Rhodes, Tyler Schwindt and Abram Snider. They're all really talented players who bring different things to our lineup, and we're excited to see what they can do in a Royals jersey."

Rhodes, from Virginia, is coming off a season in the Southern Professional Hockey League where he led the Pensacola Ice Flyers with 38 points in 58 games. He also spent four seasons at Wilfred Laurier and three with the Ontario Hockey League's Barrie Colts.

Schwindt, a New Hamburg native, played eight games last season with the Binghamton Black Bears of the Federal Prospects Hockey League after four seasons with Elmira College, an NCAA Division III team.

Snider, from North Bay, played two years at Newman College, an NCAA Division I school. Zehr added he's also expecting two local players to have an immediate impact.

"We're also really excited about adding Carter Arseneau and Will Schlotzhauer. They're both great local guys, which makes it even more exciting for us. Having players from the area who want to come back and play for their hometown team is something we really value, but ultimately, we recruited them because we believe they can be really good players for us."

Arseneau spent four full seasons with the Tavistock Braves, having his best offensive output last season with 51 points as the team made it to the Provincial Junior Hockey League's (PJHL) championship series.

Schlotzhauer spent four full seasons with the Braves up until the 2024-2025 campaign.

"Overall, I think we had a really good offseason," said Zehr. "We added a lot of talent and depth, and we have a group that I think can be really competitive. We've got some great competition for spots throughout the lineup, and that's only going to make us better."

He added last year he thought the team's biggest strength was its depth, rolling four lines and getting solid contributions throughout the lineup.

"I think we've added to that this year. At the same time, the players we have brought in give us a bit more top-end skill. They can make plays and create offence, and I think that adds another dimension to our team. We feel really good about the balance of the group."

The Royals play in the league's South Division where five of nine teams had winning records and close games were the norm rather than the exception. Zehr doesn't expect this season to be any different as the league welcomes Ridgetown, the latest expansion team.

"I think the league continues to get better. There are always going to be differences between teams, but overall, I think the quality and depth in the league has improved quite a bit. As for Ridgetown, I think expansion is great for the league. It gives more players an opportunity to play at this level and it creates more interest in the communities involved. We don't know a ton about them yet, but we'll get to know them pretty quickly as they are our first game of the year."

Part of the team's success has always been the off-ice talent in the form of volunteers, executive members and fans. Zehr explained it's a huge part of why players want to play in Tavistock.

"Growing up in this town, you understand pretty quickly that the community is what makes hockey here so special. You see how much people care about our teams and how much time and effort the volunteers put in every year. The Royals are extremely fortunate to have that kind of support. From the volunteers who are here every night to the people who come through the doors and support the team, it doesn't go unnoticed by the players or the coaching staff."

He added the players really enjoy playing in front of a good crowd, and they take a lot of pride in representing the community.

As for Ridgetown, the league said the move represents the continued growth of the OEHL's vision of building senior hockey throughout southern Ontario with strong, sustainable small-town franchises.

"We are excited to build a long-term, high-calibre hockey team within our community that represents the vision and values of the OEHL ," said Ryan Wilson, Ridgetown Rebels president.

Ridgetown represents the OEHL's first member club located in Chatham-Kent and will play out of East Kent Memorial Arena in the OEHL's South Conference. As a result, the Erin Outlaws have been moved into the North Conference.

Beep baseball demonstration brings community together in Tavistock



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Family and friends gathered at Tavistock Optimist Park on Sunday to support Chayse Zehr and learn more about beep baseball. Zehr, centre, holds the bat while his mother, Cherie, and father, Kris, stand beside him. A beep ball is shown on the tee in front.

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

Family, friends and community members gathered at Tavistock Optimist Park on Sunday to learn more about beep baseball and show their support for local resident Chayse Zehr.

The sport is designed for players who are blind or visually impaired and is still relatively new in Canada.

Zehr, 25, is a familiar face to many in the area. He began losing his sight nearly two years ago and now has about five per-cent vision.

The change came as a shock to Zehr and his close-knit family, including his parents, Kris and Cherie Zehr, his grandparents and his three brothers and their families.

While there is no definite answer as to why Chayse Zehr began losing his sight, his family said it is not related to an injury or family genetics.

A talented athlete throughout his youth, Chayse Zehr is now learning to play beep baseball and hopes it will become another activity he can enjoy.

The game uses a ball that makes a beeping sound, allowing blindfolded batters and fielders to track it by sound. The pitcher and catcher are sighted.

Instead of the traditional four bases, beep baseball uses two padded bases positioned where first and third base would normally be. The bases are equipped with speakers and make a buzzing sound when activated.

The pitcher stands 21-and-a-half feet from the batter. Once the ball is hit, it must travel beyond markers 40 feet from home plate to be considered fair.

The bases are positioned 100 feet from the batter. If the batter reaches the activated base before a fielder retrieves the beeping ball, a run is scored. If the fielder gets to the ball first and secures it, the batter is out.

Games are played over six innings, unless extra innings are required to break a tie, with three outs per inning. Teams can also be co-ed.

Sunday's demonstration was made possible through local Lions Club sponsorship.

Donna McManus of the Delaware Lions Club, who serves as District A1 vision chair, and Lions district governor Mark Heffernan helped organize the Tavistock event.

Chayse Zehr joined family, friends and volunteers on the field to experience the game firsthand.

His parents and his brothers, 30-year-old twins Colton and Griffin and 29-year-old Tate, were pleased to see so many community members take part and show their support.

While Chayse Zehr's vision may be limited, his positive attitude and willingness to try something new were on full display Sunday.

Those around Tavistock will no doubt continue cheering him on as he explores beep baseball and whatever other activities come next.

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Tavistock curling season returns at the end of October



(GLEN WEITZEL PHOTO)

Tavistock Curling Club volunteers have the ice ready for another season of curling for Tavistock and area residents. Organizers are thanking the club's 21 local sponsors for helping support the rink and are encouraging new and returning curlers to get involved.

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

The Tavistock Curling Club is getting ready for another busy season, with the ice, rings and advertisements all in place for another fall and winter of curling.

The club is celebrating 50 years in 2026, having been established in 1976, and organizers say the sport continues to attract curlers of all ages from Tavistock and the surrounding area.

For many couples, curling offers a chance to get out together, enjoy the social atmosphere and get some exercise at the same time.

Those who have never curled before but would like to learn are invited to the curling rink beside the Tavistock Arena on Oct. 28 at 7 p.m.

The club's Learn to Curl program will run Wednesdays for five weeks, from Oct. 28 to Nov. 25.

The regular league schedule includes mixed adult curling Mondays at 7 p.m.; men's adult curling Tuesdays at 6:30 and 8:30 p.m.; ladies adult curling Wednesdays at 2 p.m.; and mixed adult curling Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m., moving to 7 p.m. beginning Dec. 2.

Thursdays include mixed adult curling at 1 p.m. and men's adult curling at 7:30 p.m. on alternate weeks. Mixed adult curling is also offered Fridays at 7 p.m.

Youth curling takes place Saturdays at 10 a.m., while an adult social league runs every other Saturday afternoon. Scotch doubles are played Sundays at various afternoon times.

Organizers thanked the club's 21 local sponsors, whose support helps make installation of the ice possible each year, and encouraged anyone interested in curling to take part this season.

Oxford 4-H Horse Club hosts final meeting of the season



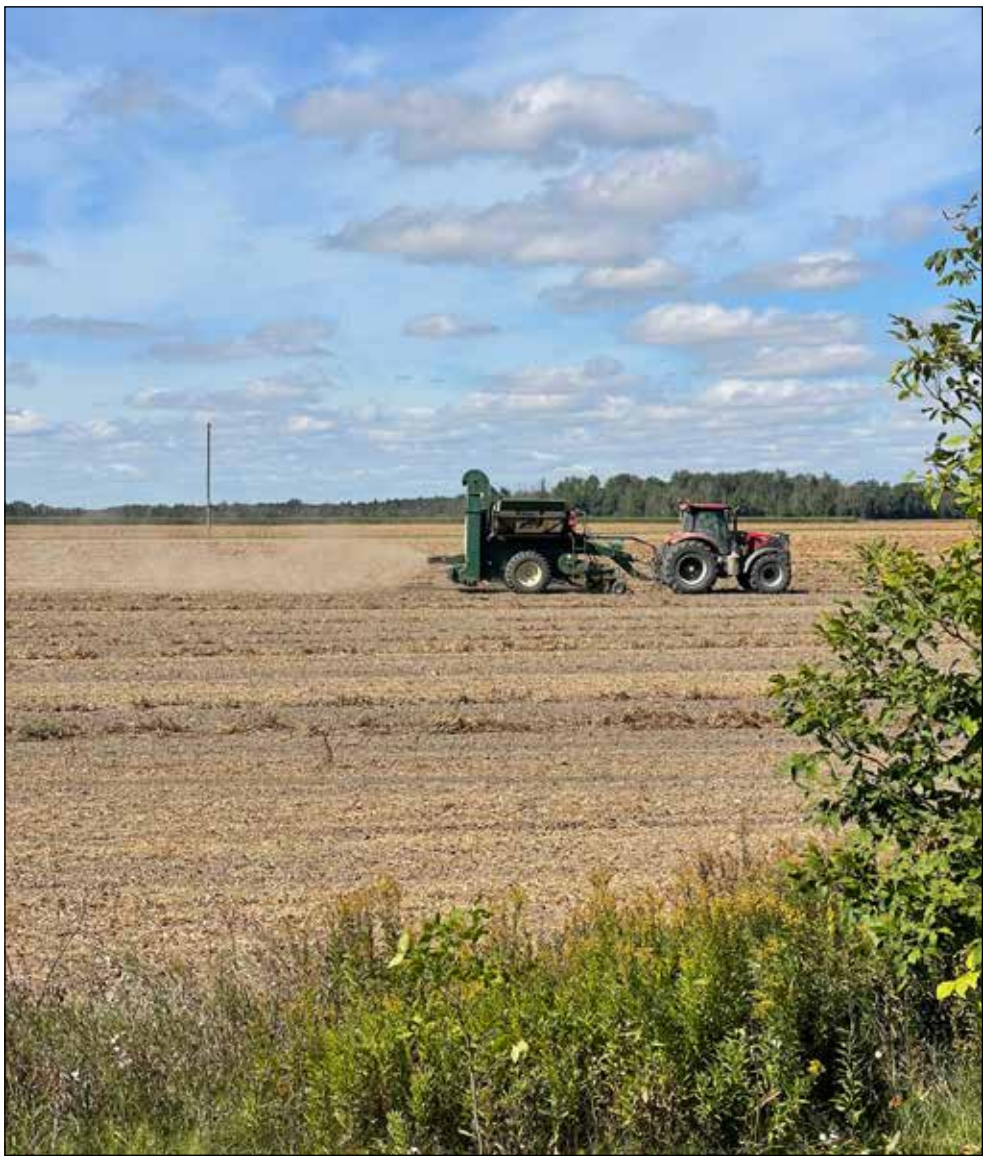
(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

The final meeting of the Oxford 4-H Horse Club was held on Saturday, Sept. 26, at Heronwood Farms near Bright. The club members used the skills learned in previous meetings to compete in a friendly showmanship competition in front of friends and family. Addison Syvret (centre) and Fritzy, an American miniature horse, won first place. Aubrey Westwood (left) placed second with Jet, an Arabian-Friesian cross, and Serenity Laarz Jongeneelen (right) was third with Pippi, a Newfoundland pony.





It's bean-combining time in Perth County



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Coloured beans in Perth County are being combined with perfect dry weather and above-average yields. With the world markets in flux over the Iranian war, farmers are still optimistic about potentially higher prices for their crops. There have never been much higher prices for diesel fuel and fertilizer, and chemical costs have increased substantially. The bright spot is that the weather forecasters continue to predict favourable weather for bean harvest and fall wheat planting to take place. This coloured bean combine was seen recently north of Stratford, near Gadshill, taking off beans on a farm owned by Schlegelhome farms.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Tavistock Fall Fair

To the Editor,

On behalf of the Tavistock Agricultural Society, I want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the entire Tavistock community for making this year's fair an incredible success. The enthusiasm, volunteer hours and attendance from our neighbours remind us why this annual tradition is so special.

Looking ahead, we are rapidly approaching a historic milestone; 2027 will mark the Tavistock Fair's 175th anniversary. While we want to celebrate this incredible legacy in a big way, bringing a full-scale fair to our community comes with heavy financial challenges. This year alone, securing the midway cost our organization $50,000. While the rides and games are a cornerstone of the fair experience, matching this high expense is becoming unsustainable for our committee. We continue to look for affordable companies that are available the weekend of our fair. That particular weekend is a very busy weekend for fairs in Ontario.

If we want to sustain this tradition and ensure our landmark 175th year is a success, we face serious financial concerns moving forward. We cannot do this alone. We are making an urgent appeal to our local businesses and corporate partners for enhanced financial support and sponsorships.

The fair belongs to all of Tavistock. With the backing of our business community, we can ensure that the midway lights keep shining for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Val Jones,
Tavistock Agricultural Society,
Petersburg

Letters to the Editor are the opinion of their authors and not that of the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette or Grant Haven Media.

Gazette Puzzles

WAYS TO SAY "THANK YOU" AROUND THE WORLD

M	X	C	Z	I	X	C	D	E	B	Q	S	T	L	K	Y	S	Y	S	P
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Arigato	Gracias	Spasibo
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Pet of the Week

NORA

Meet Nora, an affectionate four-year-old girl with soulful eyes and a sweet nature that wins hearts wherever she goes. While she can be a little shy when meeting new people, Nora blossoms with patience, kindness, and a few tasty cookies along the way. Once she feels comfortable, she loves spending time with her trusted humans, whether that's enjoying a walk, soaking up affection, or simply being by their side. Nora is looking for a patient family committed to providing daily exercise, enrichment, and positive guidance. If you're looking for a loyal best friend to share a special bond with, Nora could be the perfect companion. Meet Nora in-person at our Kitchener Centre or online at kwsphumane.ca/adopt/dogs.



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Pick peppers for fast and easy meal prep

HEAPS OF HEALTHY TIPS

By Mercedes Kay Gold



Question from a reader:

I never know what to make for dinner after a long day, and it's tough when I don't like cooking. I need something quick, easy and affordable with leftovers for the next day.

I agree cooking can be a chore. There's no shortage of healthy, on-the-go options at The Garden Stand. Fast food is just that but choose wisely. Minimize or skip sauces, pile on the produce and eat half of the bread, rice or fries on the side.

As a holistic nutritionist, whole foods are a whole lot of nourishment.

This recipe checks all the boxes. The ingredient list is simple, and chances are they are sitting in the fridge. Bell peppers in any colour, mozzarella cheese, eggs, extra-virgin olive oil and a few of your favourite spices make meal prep a snap for even the busiest bees.

Bell peppers are a bounty of benefits whichever colour you adore. They all start out as gorgeous green but mature to a different color. Green is crunchier with a more distinct flavour while red is the sweetest raw but once cooked, even a savvy chef will have a hard time telling the difference between red, yellow and orange.

A little fast fact for my health nerds; Mother Nature provides purple and white peppers, too. Peppers are low in calories and carbohydrates. Just one cup contains 30-39 calories. Once we take into account the fabulous fiber, approximately four to six grams of carbohydrates remain. Bell peppers are surprisingly stocked with between 130 and 150 per cent of the daily required intake of vital vitamin C.

Hello hydration; bell peppers contain 94 per cent. Bell peppers contain beta-cryptoxanthin, converted into vitamin A, an immune booster linked to bladder, lung and colon-cancer protection. Red peppers are highest in beta-carotene while orange are highest in eye-health helpers lutein and zeaxanthin. Yellow has bragging rights for vitamin C.

Eggs are nature's perfect sphere, stocked with the power of protein, choline, vitamin A and B12 to name a few key nutrients. The incredible amount of body building love packed into an egg supports building and repairing muscle, cognitive, immune support and aid in healthy weight management.

Cheese contains calcium linked to bone health and protein, and it tastes phenomenal. For those with digestive distress, go for goat over cow dairy.

Skip the seed oils. Keep inflammation throughout the body at bay with olive or avocado oil.

A boatload of bell pepper goodness

Ingredients:

- 4 bell peppers any colour
- 8 eggs
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese*
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp drilled dill, parsley or Italian blend
- Extra-virgin olive oil for drizzling
- Sea salt and pepper to taste

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 375°F.
2. Wash, remove the seeds and white membrane inside.
3. Cut the peppers in half.
4. Place all the pepper halves on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper.
5. In a small bowl, crack the eggs and whisk with spices.
6. Pour evenly into the 8 half peppers.
7. Grate the cheese.
8. Top evenly with shredded cheese.
9. Bake for approximately 30-35 minutes or until set.
10. Place under the broil to brown.
11. Drizzle with olive oil and top with salt and pepper.
12. Serve and enjoy.

This recipe is leftover lunch greatness, even cold.



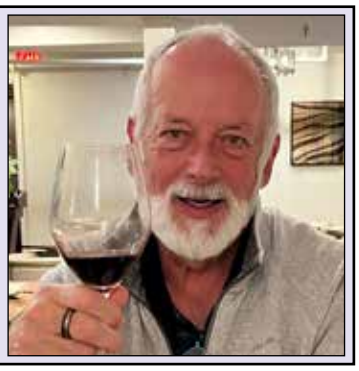
(MERCEDES KAY GOLD PHOTO)

This stuffed bell pepper recipe is an easy go-to for dinner with delicious leftovers for lunch.



A superb tour of a sobering institution

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO



By Paul Knowles

Kingston Penitentiary sets the standard for guided tours.

If you have visited a fair number of historic sites, you'll know that sometimes you're on your own to wander, reading information panels or not finding any information at all. On other occasions, you may be guided by a well-informed student or an older volunteer.

But at Kingston Penitentiary, you will meet several guides on your way through the foreboding site, and they will all be people who worked at the Pen when it was hosting maximum-security prisoners, not curious tourists. And those former guards, medical staff and other personnel bring an amazing authenticity and personal touch to the tour.

A caution: there is very little that could be called "entertaining" in a tour of the Pen because the stories here are harsh, often violent and tend to reveal the worst side of humanity. But it is one of the most educational and thoughtful tours we have ever taken.

The Kingston Pen opened on June 1, 1835, and finally closed 178 years later, in 2013. In its earliest incarnation, the prison was enclosed with a cedar fence, which proved dramatically ineffective, as prisoners escaped on a very regular basis.

That problem was solved with the construction of 42-foot limestone walls – replaced in the 1950s with reinforced concrete – which give the Pen its ominous aspect, even though not a single criminal is resident there.

There are several tour options; we took the hour-and-a-half option – we were hosted by Tourism Kingston – which costs $42.50 and which we would highly recommend. It would be tough to tell the whole story in less than that amount of time.

As you tour the stark site, you learn about the evolution of incarceration, and it will probably strike you that it has taken forever for us to decide to treat prisoners as human beings. We may not be there yet. In 1835, the cells measured two feet wide by seven feet long, or enough room for a cot. In 1907, those measurements were expanded, and cells then measured four feet by eight feet by 10 feet. That was modestly good news for prisoners until the 1980s when overcrowding meant double bunks; two prisoners sharing that space. The maximum number of cells at the jail totalled 620; at one point, there were 1,250 prisoners, some housed three to a cell.

The sheer expanse of the penitentiary stands in sharp contrast to the tiny amount of personal space the prisoners had in their cells. Looming grey stone and concrete buildings abound – cell blocks, dining areas, medical facilities, recreational areas and workshops.

Prisoners did work in workshops – the goods they produced were then marketed through a federal government agency. The prisoners were paid a few dollars for their work ($5 a day in the 1990s), money they could then spend for goods in the prison tuck shop.

Prisoners also worked in construction on the site. In fact, most of the buildings that form the penitentiary were built by prisoners, a unique reality at the Kingston Pen.

Kingston housed federal prisoners – men and women whose sentence was two years and a day or more. The average length of incarceration was 18 years; one guide told us the longest stay she knew of was 36 years.

Another guide, Paul, served as a corrections nurse for 27 years. He showed us around the short-term segregation area, where problem prisoners including those on suicide watch were kept. There, prisoners were subject to strip searches and were locked up for 23 hours a day. The other hour could be spent in an open yard that seemed smaller than a small room in your home.

The most graphic part of the tour comes as your tour group is seated in the central section of the cell blocks and you learn about the three riots at Kingston Pen – especially the riot of 1971, when prisoners captured six guards, took complete control of the jail, virtually destroyed the place and took advantage of their several days of control to kill or severely injure prisoners who were confined as sexual abuse perpetrators.

Ironically, the riot was caused because of false rumours that had spread among the prisoners – they wrongly believed they were to be transferred to Millhaven Penitentiary, where, they thought, conditions were far more harsh than even Kingston. None of this was accurate, but ironically, when the riot was finally quelled, many of the rioters were sent to Millhaven because Kingston was in no shape to house anyone until extensive repairs were completed.

No visit to the Pen would be complete without crossing King Street and climbing the steps to visit the Penitentiary Museum (once the home of the prison warden). Admission is by donation and visitors will find all manner of artifacts from the Kingston and other penitentiaries, ranging from the earliest punishment devices (some might say torture) to a drone captured from an attempt to smuggle contraband into Collins Bay Penitentiary in 2022.

These tours are sobering and sometimes shocking, but terrifically worthwhile. We recommend them.

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



(PAUL KNOWLES PHOTOS)

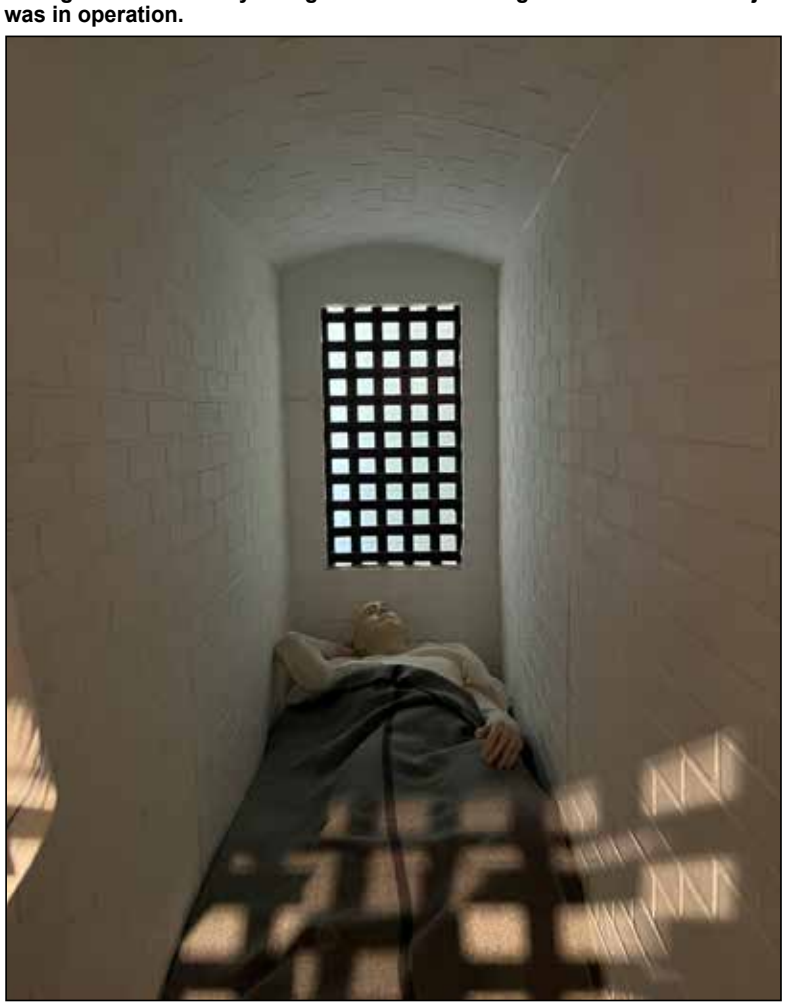
A view of Kingston Penitentiary.



A Kingston Penitentiary tour guide who was a longtime staffer when the jail was in operation.



The entrance to penitentiary workshops; the footprints are where prisoners were compelled to stand as they were searched upon leaving the workshops.



A 19th-century cell, on display at the Penitentiary Museum – just room for a small bed.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: There's an elephant in the room

The Editor,

Readers may want to be aware that in Wilmot, during this election cycle, there is an elephant in the room and it's stepping on logic and reality.

The "elephant" is a political action group that has been running three of what it calls candidates "debates." These meetings are organized with two for the candidates in wards, and one for mayor in Wilmot.

This political action group is acquiring perceived credibility by associating itself with environmental groups that have developed their own, individual, high levels of credibility through their past endeavours such as diligent research, delegations to council, advocacy and constructive, real-world actions toward their goals.

The "debates" are not debates. The format, rather, is to present highly focussed "background" information (hundreds of words long in cases) that they have myopically selected around a single theme more than 95 per cent of the time, and then presented to candidates with, in philosophy, what is known as a "forced choice" or "false dilemma."

A forced choice in philosophy and logic refers to a situation where an individual is pressured to choose between limited, often extreme or opposing alternatives, while other viable options or nuances are ignored.

In informal logic, a forced choice is often a manipulative rhetorical tactic. It reduces a complex spectrum of possibilities into a rigid black-and-white choice. This fallacy forces an opponent into a corner, making them accept a premise they might otherwise reject.

The organizers ask a leading question, and the response must be either a "Yes" or a "No" answer. The candidate is then directed to answer why and give an example of how they would implement their answer. If the moderator is not satisfied that the candidate has made a strong commitment to one of the forced choices, they are again directed to do so.

To add more social pressure to each candidate, the moderator directs responders to consider, when answering, the judgement to be provided by two high school students about whether the students think the answer has been fulsome or not – a green card or a red card.

Yes, high school students were placed as the adjudicators of whether or not our adult candidates, responsible for managing a $31.7-million budget and addressing a very wide range of municipally controlled issues, give acceptable answers to forced-choice questions. This is not an insult to these students. It's an observation about the situation into which they have been placed.

All proceedings are recorded and promoted on YouTube, and could be a potential source, in future decision-making, of leverage. This technique of ascribing guilt was used in the July 27 council meeting during a delegation about the official plan.

One of the goals of this political action group is clearly stated on its website as, "In Wilmot, we want candidates who will pull the official plan that the current Wilmot Township council approved for better farmland protections." At each event, candidates must commit to doing one or the other. Yes, or No. Pull it, or won't pull it.

I encourage readers to contact the planning department in their municipality and get confirmation of what I have researched at my municipality:

1. The rules regarding what is in an official plan, how it is organized, is defined and determined solely by the province. It is defined as an actionable document, with administrative structure, not an aspirational story book narrative.
2. Wilmot provided multiple opportunities for participation in workshops and to provide written and verbal support for individuals and groups to contribute.
3. Wilmot used as many contributed suggestions as possible in extensive negotiations with the province's offices in London and Toronto.
4. The province has clearly and definitively indicated what it will and will not accept and approve in an official plan.
5. Once a plan has been submitted, it belongs to the province.
6. To ask that an already submitted plan be pulled, the decision is solely that of the province. The professional advice of the person answering my inquiries was: The province most likely will not send it back for any changes that do not comply with the defined parameters of the province.
7. To attempt to pull back a plan is equivalent to reneging on a process. His counsel was that if a municipality creates a confrontational, challenging-the-province relationship, the risk of future cooperation with the province, such as accessing grants, may become problematic.
8. There are limited, very specific situational opportunities for minor adjustments to an official plan, subject to the unilateral will of the province.

I invite your readers to use Google to research the terms "false dilemma" and "false dichotomy" to see if there are any associations with this political action group's methods of achieving its goal of installing candidates that meet their agenda in the mayor's chair, and in all ward chairs.

The search is easy. Just listen for the candidate who says, "Yes, I'll pull it" and you'll know who this political action group is advocating for.

Environmental conditions are important, but it's not the only issue in a municipality. Choosing the best candidate isn't easy. But voters don't need to face illogical and myopic options.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Wolfe, Baden

Letters to the Editor are the opinion of their authors and not that of the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette or Grant Haven Media.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Farmland loss data not accurate

Editor,

I attended the meeting on Sept. 28 for the candidates in wards three and four in Wilmot Township and was saddened to hear that the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, an organization that I once belonged to, continues to use false data to promote their cause of protecting farmland. It was stated that we are losing 319 acres of farmland daily, a number that has been repeated over and over.

The 2021 census explicitly stated that comparisons between the 2021 Census of Agriculture and previous censuses (such as 2016) should be interpreted with caution since the definition of a census farm changed significantly. Before 2021 (including 2016), a farm was defined loosely as any agricultural operation that produced at least one agricultural product intended for sale. In 2021, the definition was tightened to include only units that produce agricultural products and report revenues or expenses for tax purposes to the Canada Revenue Agency.

It is unfortunate that people and organizations continue to ignore that warning if it better suits their purpose. It seems that we have learned from the U.S. president that if you repeat a lie over and over, it soon becomes accepted as the truth.

Doug Wagner,
New Hamburg

Letters to the Editor are the opinion of their authors and not that of the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette or Grant Haven Media.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Lions/Lioness' new barbecue a great purchase



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Wilmot Lions/Lioness longtime member John Nielson rolling hot dogs at the Wilmot Fire Department's Fire Safety Day held on Saturday, Oct. 3.

A heartfelt thank you to the Township of Wilmot for the generous grant that made it possible for the Wilmot Lions/Lioness Club to purchase our new TSSA certified barbecue!

We were excited to fire it up for the very first time at the Wilmot Fire Departments Fire Safety Day at the old arena. It was wonderful to see our new barbecue in action and to be able to use it to help serve our community.

We truly appreciate the Township of Wilmot for supporting our club and the work we do in our community. Your generosity helps us continue bringing people together and supporting local events and causes.

Thank you for helping us make a difference one barbecue at a time!

Wilmot Lions/Lioness Club

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WR votes

Local voices, local choices

The municipal election is happening on

Monday, October 26

Visit wrvotes.com for voting information and a list of candidates in your area.

I'm back at my desk after a whirlwind wedding and honeymoon

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

By Galen Simmons



Some of you may have noticed my name has been missing from the paper in recent weeks – for most of September actually.

No, I haven't abandoned you, my faithful readers, and I haven't hung up my editor's hat for another job elsewhere. Julia and I were just off getting married and touring Quebec and the East Coast on our honeymoon.

On Sept. 5, Julia and I hosted our wedding with roughly 50 of our closest family and friends. We wed under sunny skies with Georgian Bay as our backdrop and the sound of waves lapping on the shore as our music.

We enjoyed a wonderful meal catered by Athens Greek Souvlaki here in Stratford, delivered to our wedding venue by Grant Haven's own Gary West – who also attended our wedding and delivered a very heartfelt toast.

The evening was perfect with speeches, cake cutting and dancing under the stars.

Then, a short time later, on Sept. 17 after returning home for a week, Julia and I departed on a whirlwind honeymoon tour of Quebec and the East Coast, with a quick trip down into Maine, before returning home on Oct. 4.

The trip was everything we'd hoped it would be and more. Highlights included eating at two Michelin Star restaurants – one in Montreal and the other in Quebec City – spending two nights in Victoria by the Sea on P.E.I., driving the Cabot Trail and spending time near Baddeck on Cape Breton in Nova Scotia, spending a night at the Hollywood Casino and Hotel in Bangor, Maine, learning about the resilience of the residents of Lac Mégantic, Que., in the 13 years following the 2013 rail disaster, and revelling in the natural beauty of the changing leaves atop Mont-Tremblant.

Though we only spent one or two nights in each location, we did our best to experience as much culture, food, history and art as possible, and we promised ourselves we'd return to experience those things we didn't have time for.

We also recorded much of our trip for our online publication, Northern Arts Perspective, where I review and write about people and places that inspire me. I've already written about several of our experiences in Quebec, New Brunswick and P.E.I, but I have a lot more stories and photos to share from our trip, so if you're interested in reading more, check us out at northernartsperspective.ca and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Julia and I are planning to experience, photograph and write about future travels and destinations across this wonderful country and beyond, so we hope you'll follow along.

For now, however, we're both just happy to back home with the dogs. Being away from them for 17 days was probably the hardest part of our trip, so we're looking at ways to bring them with us on our future travels.

The hottest Summer time savings at Stratford Nissan

2016 Toyota RAV4 LE - AS IS

AWD
$11,999 + HST & lic
MILEAGE - 283,770 KM

2018 Cadillac XT5 LUXURY

FWD
$18,988 OR $124 B/W + HST & lic
MILEAGE - 115,218 KM

2018 Honda CR-V TOURING

iQ GREAT PRICE
AWD
$18,988 OR $153 B/W
MILEAGE - 184,636 KM + HST & lic

2025 Hyundai ELANTRA PREFFERED

iQ GREAT PRICE
FWD
$23,495 OR $153 B/W
LOW KMS - 36,204 KM + HST & lic

2025 Nissan Sentra SR

iQ GREAT PRICE
FWD
$23,495 OR $153 B/W
LOW KMS - 19,060 KM + HST & lic

2026 Toyota Corolla LE

FWD
$29,888 OR $221 B/W
LOW KMS - 13,803 KM + HST & lic

2024 Toyota RAV4 XLE

iQ GREAT PRICE
AWD
$32,888 OR $214 B/W
MILEAGE - 93,721 KM + HST & lic

2025 Nissan Rogue SL

AWD
$32,888 OR $214 B/W
LOW KMS - 28,540 KM + HST & lic

2023 Mercedes-Benz CLA 250

iQ GREAT PRICE
AWD
$33,495 OR $251 B/W
MILEAGE- 57,463 KM + HST & lic

2025 Kia Niro Hybrid EX

FWD
$33,888 OR $253 B/W
LOW KMS- 36,766 KM + HST & lic

2022 Ford Explorer ST

iQ GREAT PRICE
AWD
$36,777 OR $295 B/W
MILEAGE- 104,325 KM + HST & lic

2025 Subaru Forester

iQ GREAT PRICE
AWD
$42,888 OR $346 B/W
LOW KMS - 21,660 KM + HST & lic

2023 RAM 1500 REBEL

4WD
$53,888 OR $376 B/W
LOW KMS - 43,913 KM + HST & lic

*While every effort is made to ensure accuracy, we are not responsible for any errors and omissions. Please see your dealer for current pricing. Plus tax and licensing. Bi-weekly payments are based on an interest rate of 7.99% O.A.C. Some terms and conditions may apply.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR - OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2026

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

High Noon Lunch and Speaker
12 noon
ATTENTION SENIORS! Featuring Richard and Joan Hyrniw of "The Little Boxes Story." Please bring used greeting cards.
Grace United Church Tavistock
116 Woodstock St. South

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

Pumpkinfest '26
9 a.m. - 12 noon
Free admission and hot cider. Live music, no crowds, Pumpkins, Bake Table, fresh flower centerpieces, small & bulk root veg, apples, kale, Squash.
Morningside Adult Community,
10 Homstead Place, New Hamburg

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

Oxford Philatelic Society
2-4 p.m.
If you have never belonged to a stamp club, now's the time. Meet new friends, grow your knowledge and collection.
Contact: Don Eaton dheaton3e3@gmail.com
Website: http://www.rpsc.org/chapters/oxford
Church of the Epiphany
560 Dundas Street, Woodstock Ontario N4S 1C7

Shakespeare Optimist Club is hosting AN EVENING WITH THE CANDIDATES
Doors open at 6 p.m.
Come here the candidates speak about their platforms and ask questions. Facilitated and moderated discussion. Coffee, water and treats provided
Shakespeare & District Optimist Hall
3976 Galt St., Shakespeare

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

Community Care Concepts Lunch and Fellowship
12 p.m.
Please register by October 9 by calling 519-664-1900 or Toll Free: 1-855-664-1900
Wellesley Recreation Complex,
1401 Queen's Bush Rd., Wellesley

Tavistock Men's Club are hosting a CANDIDATES NIGHT for the 2026 Municipal Election - East Zorra Tavistock
7:30 p.m.
Tavistock Men's Club Hall
78 Woodstock St N, Tavistock, ON

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

Let's Tree Wilmot is partnering with Stonecroft
9 a.m. - 12 noon
Join us to add more trees to their community and increase Wilmot's tree canopy. For details and registration: https://letstreewilmot.ca/events/
StoneCroft, New Hamburg

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 CONTINUED

Optimist Club of Petersburg is hosting a Bottle Drive
9 a.m. - 12 noon
Let us take your empty bottles and cans back, as this allows us to raise funds to help organizations and youth in our community. Also accepting donations fo the food bank. For information call 519-465-1157, leave a message and we will get back to you.
Bechthold Home Improvements
1239 Notre Dame Drive Petersburg

Perth East Fire Fest
9 a.m. - 12 noon
Explore fire trucks, tackle the firefighter obstacle course, spray the fire hose, explore the fire safety house, watch a live extraction demo, fire safety giveaways, light refreshments and more!
Shakespeare & District Optimist Hall
3976 Galt St., Shakespeare

Tavistock & District Historical Society Museum
1-4 p.m. (other times by appointment)
Email: info@tavistockhistory.ca or call 519-655-3334. All welcome.
37 Maria Street, Tavistock

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Free Caregiver Connection peer support groups
6:30-8:30 p.m.
Worried about your child or youth? Parents and Caregivers for Mental Health (PCMH) offers free peer support groups for caregivers, in person, virtual, or hybrid. Visit family.cmho.org or email oxfordcounty@pcmh.ca for more information.
Revel Realty Woodstock,
111 Huron Street, Woodstock

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

Community Care Concepts Lunch and Fellowship
12 p.m.
Please register by October 16 by calling 519-664-1900 or Toll Free: 1-855-664-1900
Wilmot Rec Complex,
1291 Nafziger Rd, Baden

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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

Flag Raising Ceremony hosted by Royal Canadian Legion Branch 532 New Hamburg
10 a.m.
You are cordially invited to attend a Flag Raising Ceremony in honour of Canada's Veterans and active service members. The ceremony will include brief remarks, a moment of reflection, and the raising of the Royal Canadian Legion Lest We Forget poppy flag.
Castle Kilbride
60 Snyder's Rd W, Baden

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

Let's Tree Wilmot is increasing the tree cover on a rural property
9 a.m. - 12 noon
Join us in planting 100 trees offering some of the best opportunities for increasing the tree canopy in our township. For details and registration: https://letstreewilmot.ca/events/
Perth Street, New Hamburg

Tavistock Fall Expo: Market & Carnival
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Shop local this fall with our amazing vendors, and join us for our FREE family carnival. We will have games, candy prizes, Bouncy Castle, and more. Lunch is also available to be purchased at the market. For more information, find us online: www.facebook.com/tavistock.church
Tavistock Missionary Church
77 Mogk St, Tavistock

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

Rescue Junction: Gospel Bluegrass Concert
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Free Will Offering taken.
Rosebank Church
1434 Huron Road, Petersburg

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

Community Care Concepts Lunch and Fellowship
12 p.m.
Please register by October 23 by calling 519-664-1900 or Toll Free: 1-855-664-1900
Linwood Community Centre,
5279 Ament Line, Linwood

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

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

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

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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

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

FREE SENIORS ACTIVITIES

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

TAVISTOCK & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM DISPLAYS

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

TAVISTOCK MEN'S CLUB SAUERKRAUT & BBQ PORK CHOP SUPPER

Supper Date: Wednesday, November 11, 2026
Supper Time: 4:00 7:00 pm
Pick Up Only
TAVISTOCK MEMORIAL HALL
3 Adam St., Tavistock

Tickets are available from club members or call 519-655-3573 or at Tavistock arena booth or email: info@tavistockmensclub.ca or online at www.tavistockmensclub.ca.
Starting on October 10th until November 10th tickets will be available at Men's Club Hall (78 Woodstock St N) every Wednesday from 4-6 pm and Saturdays from 11am-2pm

PROMOTE YOUR EVENTS WITH US! HERE'S HOW:

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

MEN'S CLUB TAVISTOCK

CANDIDATES NIGHT

2026 Municipal Election East Zorra- Tavistock

Wednesday, October 14, 2026
7:30 pm

Tavistock Men's Club Hall
78 Woodstock St N, Tavistock, ON

Quiz Time Answers

1. Wellington
2. Iron
3. Michelangelo
4. China
5. Joe Frazier
6. Twelve
7. Play-Doh
8. True
9. Moby-Dick
10. Prince Edward Island

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

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