KHANNA AND LOUIS DISCUSS BUDGET PAGE 10

PJHL ROUNDUP PAGE 18

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

Serving New Hamburg, Tavistock, Baden, Wellesley, New Dundee, St. Agatha, Shakespeare, Petersburg, Hickson, Punkeydoodle's Corner and area

Every 2.5 days in Canada, a woman or girl is killed in an act of gender-based violence.

Wilmot & Wellesley Resource Centre
Your Community Support Hub
Unit 1-175 Waterloo St., New Hamburg ON N3A 1S3
519-662-2731 • wilmotwellesleyrc.ca

SINCE 1895 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2026 FREE



(AMANDA NELSON PHOTO)

Kitchener-Conestoga MP Tim Louis lays a wreath at the New Hamburg Cenotaph, flanked my members of the New Hamburg Legion Colour Party, on Remembrance Day Nov. 11. See next week's edition of the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette for full coverage of the New Hamburg Remembrance Day ceremony.

Plattsville hockey players turn vandalism into an act of community kindness

AMANDA NELSON

Gazette Reporter

In response to the vandalism of a local war memorial banner, players from the Plattsville and District Minor Hockey Association's U18 and U13 boys teams came together earlier this month to raise money for the New Hamburg Royal Canadian Legion Branch 532 and support a younger team heading to a tournament.

The players raised $2,500 through a community breakfast and a neighbourhood leaf-raking fundraiser, showing that even in the face of hate, there are young people who care deeply about their community.

Continued on page 2

Province names Kitchener councillor to Region of Waterloo's top political spot

Redman's term comes to an end after applying for the job

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

Scott Davey has been appointed by the provincial government as the new Waterloo regional chair for the current term of council. Current chair Karen Redman's last day on the job is Nov. 14.

The Ward 1 City of Kitchener councillor was first elected in 2010 and was re-elected for his fifth term on Oct. 26. Davey easily held his seat, getting over 67 per cent of the vote in Ward 1. Redman served as chair for eight years, succeeding Ken Seiling who held the post for 33 years. She applied for the role but was not successful.

"I've built my political reputation on integrity. I think the first way you deep-six that is to walk away from a role that you just won and disappoint the residents that I made a promise to run for," said Davey. "I will be stepping away from some of the more elective duties at the lower tier, but I believe that

Continued on page 3

CHECK OUT SOME OF THE UPCOMING GROUP TOURS STONETOWN TRAVEL IS HOSTING!



www.stonetowntravel.com



Rhone River Cruise Plus 2 Nights in French Riviera
August 30 - September 9, 2027



Croatia, Slovenia & the Adriatic Coast
September 11 - 22, 2027



Shrines of Italy
November 1 - 11, 2027



Vietnam, Cambodia & the Mekong River with Hanoi & Ha Long Bay
January 21 - February 5, 2028

210 Mill St., New Hamburg, ON N3A 1P9
226-333-9939 newhamburg@stonetowntravel.com
TICO#5003193

143 Queen St E, St. Marys, ON N4X 1B4
519-284-2332 agent@stonetowntravel.com
TICO#5003192

Young hockey players rally to turn hate into hope

Continued from page 1

The fundraising effort was prompted by news that a memorial banner honouring Pte. Tyler William Todd, a local soldier killed in Afghanistan, had been vandalized with spray paint in downtown New Hamburg on Oct. 24.

Todd's family is from the Plattsville and Bright area, and he had previously played hockey in Plattsville, making the incident particularly personal for the players, coaches and families involved.

"It's heartbreaking; nobody wants to hear about something like that happening, especially during this time of year when we honour what these people have done for our communities and our country. We just really wanted to do something," said Scott Higgins, U18 team coach.

The U18 players began by hosting a community breakfast at Trails Edge, where they took orders, bussed tables and washed dishes throughout the morning. The restaurant donated the food and staff, while proceeds from the breakfast went to the Legion and tips, which amounted to $1,200, supported an upcoming U11 boys tournament.

Later, players from both the U18 and U13 teams joined forces for a neighbourhood leaf-raking fundraiser.

For nearly five hours, the boys went door to door asking residents if they would like their leaves raked in exchange for a donation. There was no set amount, allowing residents to contribute whatever they could toward the cause.

In total, the teams together raised nearly $2,500. A cheque for $1,300 was presented to the Legion, while another $1,200 was donated to the U11 team.

"I think it means a lot for us as a team," said Nolan Filiatrault, U18 B assistant captain. "Showing up and donating as a team and giving back to the community feels good. Being able to show up and mentor the younger team means a lot to us, too."

For the coaches, the initiative was about more than raising money. It was also an opportunity for the older players to set an example for the younger boys teams and show what it means to be part of a community.

"The Todd family is local to Plattsville and Bright, and he used to play for Plattsville. It just really meant more to us because of that. We wanted to show up and show the community that there are good kids out there. And these kids truly are great kids. They really are," said Talon Keys, U13 B coach and president of the Plattsville and District Minor Hockey Association.

Keys said the initiative also highlighted the connection between the two teams, with younger players looking up to the older players as role models.

"At an age when they're learning how to be men and how to be part of the community, taking part in these types of initiatives shows them what it means to be a good community member. We wanted to support that as an organization, too," he said.

"It was also great to see the U13 players looking up to the U18s, who are setting an example of how to be good people in the community. It created a nice little lineage between the two teams. It was a couple of great days, for sure."

Keys said he was proud to see how enthusiastically the players embraced the opportunity to give back.

"It feels great to be … the head of an organization that wants to give back the way that they have. The kids were out there having a blast. It was a beautiful day. There were smiles on everybody's faces, so nobody was out there against their will. They wanted to do this, and it feels good to be behind an organization that wants to do something like this," he said.

Bill Pearson, president of the New Hamburg Legion, said he was pleased to hear about the hockey teams coming together to support the Legion through their donation and show their commitment to the community. He also praised the families for their support.

"We need the younger generation to continue becoming involved in the Legion and supporting veterans through initiatives like helping the community and taking part in Remembrance activities for years to come," he said. "Without younger people becoming active members of the Legion, some Legions across the country may eventually be forced to close their doors."



(AMANDA NELSON PHOTOS)

Members of the Plattsville and District Minor Hockey Association's U18 B and U13 B boys teams joined forces earlier this month to raise nearly $2,500 through a community breakfast and neighbourhood leaf-raking fundraiser. The initiative supported the New Hamburg Royal Canadian Legion Branch 532 and the U11 boys team ahead of an upcoming tournament. Pictured in the back row (U18 B): Coach Don Filiatrault, head coach Scott Higgins, Caleb Hunter, Monny Monachan, Nolan Filiatrault, Zander Crozier, Marcus Higgins, Dexter Braunig and Mac Nelson. Pictured in the front row (U13 B): Phil Broschek, Kaeleb Cameron, Tanner Eidt, Hudson MacKenzie, William Hall, Carter Jessop and Levi Perkovic. Also pictured are head coach Talon Keys, manager Jill Eidt, assistant coach Ryan Jessop and Trails Edge owner Lindsay Shantz.



Plattsville and District Minor Hockey Association president and U13 B head coach Talon Keys shakes hands with New Hamburg Royal Canadian Legion Branch 532 president Bill Pearson during the presentation of a $1,300 donation raised by the hockey teams in response to the vandalism of a memorial banner honouring local soldier Pte. Tyler William Todd.

MEN'S CLUB SINCE 1937 TAVISTOCK

Santa Claus Parade

Saturday, November 28, 2026 at 1 p.m.

Meet Santa at Memorial Hall for milk, cheese and candy

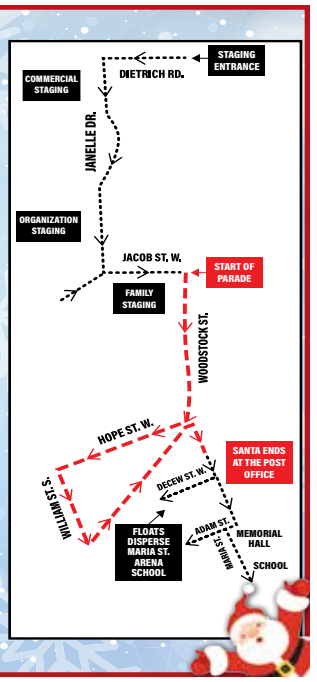
Theme: Favourite Christmas Carol

Float Registry – Family, Organizations, Commercial

Judged at 12:30 p.m.

Email: info@tavistockmensclub.ca
or call 519-655-3573
or online: tavistockmensclub.ca for entry and details

Monetary donations collected for TAP along route.



Oak Grove Cheese
Factory limited
Since 1879

Factory Fresh To Your Table

Over 20 cheese varieties available in our factory

****

Cheese Trays for Entertaining
Homemade Cheese Balls

****

Monday to Friday 9 am to 3 pm • Saturday 9 am to 1 pm
Closed Sundays

www.oakgrovecheese.ca | 29 Bleams Road West, New Hamburg | 519-662-1212

Davey appointed new Waterloo regional chair

Continued from page 1

I can do both."

The region's top job along with seven other regional chair postings were posted on the Public Appointments Secretariat website on June 29 and interested candidates were able to apply until July 13.

"I look forward to working with Scott Davey as Waterloo Region's new chair. His extensive experience on Kitchener City council and proven track record of responsible budget management will serve the region well," said newly elected Wilmot Township Mayor Kris Wilkinson. "I particularly appreciate his focus on affordable, accountable government and look forward to working together on behalf of residents."

Kitchener-Conestoga MPP Mike Harris said he's proud his government selected Davey.

"Waterloo Region is one of the fastest growing regions in Ontario. Families are choosing to live here, businesses are choosing to invest here and innovators are choosing to build here. With that growth, we need infrastructure that keeps pace, homes that people can afford and an economy that creates good jobs in every community across the region."

Harris added Davey has the experience and the local knowledge the region needs.

"Before entering public life, he held senior positions in the finance and technology sectors. As chair of Kitchener's finance and corporate services committee, he has led every municipal budget since 2012."

He said over that time, Kitchener has delivered surpluses, paid down debt and kept tax increases below inflation for more than a decade while protecting the services residents rely on.

"Scott will bring that same steady, responsible leadership to the regional chair position."

The Gazette reached out to former 570 News talk show host and political commentator Mike Farwell for his thoughts. He said Davey is an excellent choice for the job.

"While I still don't like that what was once a position we voted on is now an appointment by the province, I think Waterloo Region is well-served here. Scott was elected five times by residents of Kitchener's Ward 1, and he's demonstrated his ability as an attentive, collaborative and consensus-building councillor. On top of that, his record as finance chair is phenomenal."

The Region of Waterloo's CAO also provided a written statement to the media. Darshpreet Bhatti said the region will work with chair-elect Davey and regional council to support an orderly transition and a strong start to the new term of council.

"I also want to thank Chair Karen Redman for her many years of dedicated public service and leadership. Chair Redman has led the region through significant challenges and change, and her commitment to the organization and the community has made a lasting impact. On behalf of the region's staff, we are grateful for her service and wish her well."



(PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF KITCHENER)

cott Davey has been appointed as the new Waterloo regional chair. The longtime Kitchener councillor takes over from Karen Redman who served two elected terms in the role.

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack made the announcement on Tuesday along with naming seven other regional chairs across the province. He said his government is focused on making Ontario the most competitive economy in the G7 and on making sure Waterloo Region's growth works for the people who live there.

"That means building the water, wastewater, roads and transit that new homes and businesses depend on. It means speeding up approvals so shovels get in the ground faster and getting more housing built that families can afford."

He added it also means protecting good jobs and attracting investment across our advanced manufacturing, agri-food and technology sectors, while supporting world-class post-secondary institutions.

"Scott will be a strong partner in delivering on these priorities. I look forward to working closely with him, regional council, municipal leaders and residents to advance our shared priorities and create a stronger region."

The Better Regional Governance Act, 2026, enables a consistent approach to regional chair appointments across the province, allowing the minister of municipal affairs and housing to appoint the heads of council for eight upper-tier municipalities.

Compensation will be determined by municipalities. In cases where appointees are also a lower-tier mayor or councillor, their total compensation will be capped at the higher of the two salaries.

Upper-tier and lower-tier municipalities are two levels of local government that work together, with separate sets of responsibilities. An upper-tier municipality, especially a region, is typically responsible for delivering regional services (i.e. regional roads, housing and social services) across its lower-tier municipalities. A lower-tier municipality is typically responsible for local services (i.e. local roads, fire protection, garbage collection and recreation.



New Hamburg author Nancy Silcox launching book celebrating remarkable Canadian cats

GALEN SIMMONS

Regional Editor

After nearly two years spent tracking down remarkable feline stories from across Canada and bringing them together in a book, New Hamburg author Nancy Silcox is ready to celebrate the launch of her latest work with local cat lovers.

Silcox will launch The Cat Did It: Tails of Marvellous Canadian Cats at the New Hamburg Pet Valu in Sobeys Plaza Nov. 14, followed by a second launch at the Stratford Pet Valu, 581 Huron St., Nov. 21. Both events run from 10 a.m. to noon.

The book, published by Dundurn Press and officially releasing Nov. 17, features stories of extraordinary cats from coast to coast to coast, including feline celebrities, lifesavers, medical miracles and beloved companions.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Fern, the beloved greenhouse cat at Stratford District Secondary School, is among the remarkable Canadian felines featured in New Hamburg author Nancy Silcox's latest book, The Cat Did It: Tails of Marvellous Canadian Cats.

Among them is Nico, Prime Minister Mark Carney's family cat, whose story Silcox secured through conversations with Carney's daughter, Tess Carney.

"I suppose other politicians, when they get out their phones, they show people their family. Our prime minister pulls out the phone and shows Nico," Silcox said, recalling what Tess told her about her father's affection for the family pet.

Silcox even crocheted Nico a crown, which helped her secure a meeting with Mark Carney's wife, Diana Fox Carney, during a visit to Kitchener.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Prime Minister Mark Carney's family cat, Nico, is among the feline celebrities featured in New Hamburg author Nancy Silcox's newly published book, The Cat Did It: Tails of Marvellous Canadian Cats.

The book also features singer-songwriter Jann Arden's cat, Shrodie; Diggory, the musical cat owned by Ken and Roberta Harrison of the Wild Strawberries; and Fern, the beloved greenhouse cat at Stratford District Secondary School.

The project began after comments about "childless cat ladies" made by American vice president J.D. Vance inspired Silcox to celebrate the important roles cats play in people's lives.

An interview with CBC K-W's Craig Norris, which was broadcast nationally, brought submissions from cat owners across the country. Silcox spent roughly 10 months collecting their stories before Dundurn Press took over the publishing process.

"Some of the stories are sad and some of them are delightful and some of them are surprising," she said.

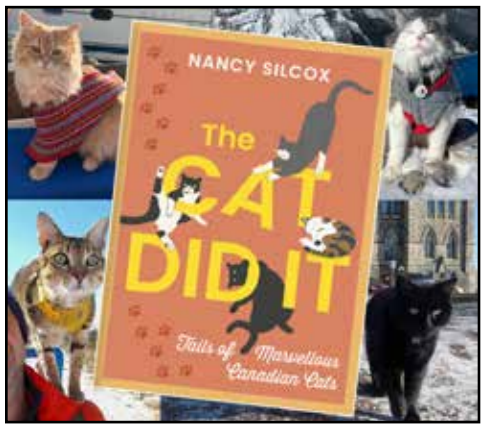
While Silcox hopes readers enjoy those stories, she is particularly excited about the book's charitable purpose.

All of her author royalties will be donated to three Canadian cat rescues featured in the book, including Pet Patrol in Elmira and organizations in Ottawa and Edmonton.

"I don't keep any of the royalties. None," Silcox said.

She credited Pet Valu owner Kayla Orleck and her staff for enthusiastically supporting the local launches.

Visitors will have an opportunity to meet Silcox, purchase the book and potentially meet some of the cat owners and four-legged stars featured in its pages.



(IMAGE BY DAN TAUROZZI)

The cover of New Hamburg author Nancy Silcox's latest book, The Cat Did It: Tails of Marvellous Canadian Cats, is pictured alongside some of the remarkable felines whose stories appear in its pages. Silcox will celebrate the book's release with launches at the New Hamburg Pet Valu Nov. 14 and Stratford Pet Valu Nov. 21. All of her author royalties will support three Canadian cat rescues, including Pet Patrol in Elmira.

For Silcox, the launches offer an opportunity to celebrate the animals that bring so much to people's lives while supporting organizations dedicated to rescuing them.

"The book is a celebration of cats who have many, many jobs in our lives, as companions, as nurses, as comedians, whatever," she said.

"I think the really big thing is the support of the cat charities."

GRANT HAVEN MEDIA

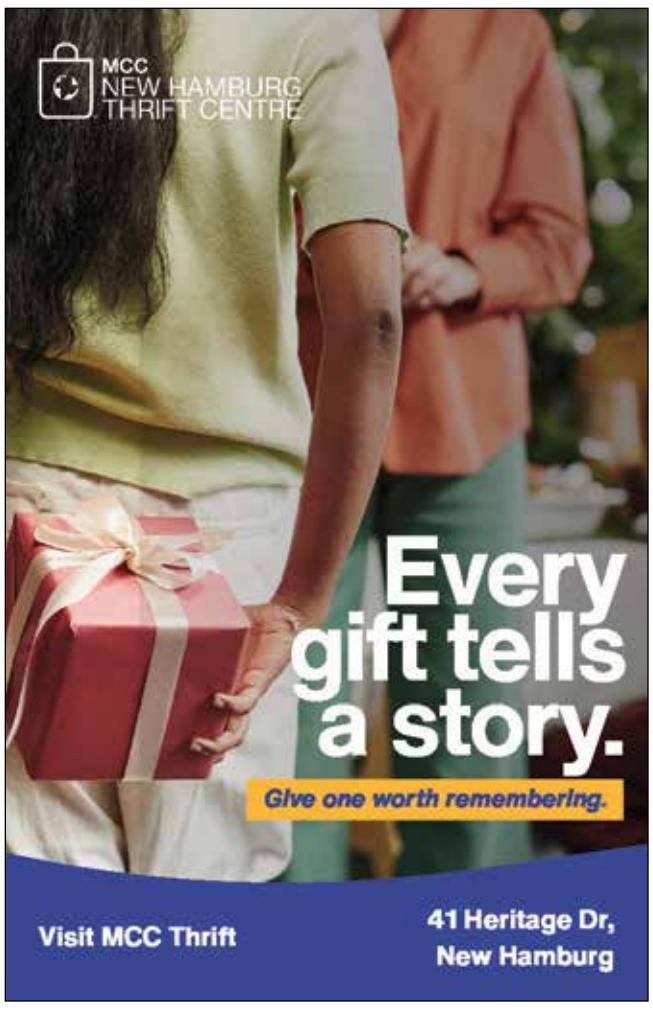
Restoring small-town journalism, one community at a time!

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

Publisher
Stewart Grant • stew@granthaven.com
Editor
Galen Simmons • galen@granthaven.com
EZT/Oxford Reporter
Lee Griffi • leegriffi@rogers.com
Wilmot/Wellesley Reporter
Amanda Nelson • amandajanewriter@gmail.com
Graphic Design / Sales Inquiries
Erin Parsons • thewtgazette@gmail.com
Business Development
Heather Dunbar • heather@granthaven.com
Billing Administrator
Cindy Boakes • boakescindy1576@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant
Wendy Lamond • wendylamond74@gmail.com
Contributors
Gary West, Diane Danen, Mercedes Kay Gold

143 Queen Street E., St. Marys, ON, PO Box 2310 N4X 1A2
thewtgazette@gmail.com | 519.655.2341 | granthaven.com

ocna Funded by the Government of Canada Financé par le gouvernement du Canada | Canada



massel's marine
38 Milton Street New Hamburg
(519) 662-1650 (866) 627-7357
www.masselsmarine.com
Factory Trained Technicians ~ Accessories ~ Service to all Makes
Shrink Wrap & Winter Storage ~ In House Financing
LEGEND BOATS MERCURY GO BOLDLY.

Franklin E. Hinz



Donna L. Hinz
Maximize Your Return
Conservative Advice for Intelligent Decisions
196 Ontario St., Stratford, ON
519.273.1633 • franklinehinz.com

Repair Café returns to help keep household items out of the landfill

AMANDA NELSON

Gazette Reporter

The Nith Valley Ecoboosters (NVEB) will once again host a Repair Café on Nov. 28 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Zion United Church fellowship hall, located at 215 Peel St. in New Hamburg.

Repair Cafés are community events where anyone can bring broken or damaged items to be repaired by volunteer fixers.

"It's just as much a community event as it is a repair café," said Ron Helps, an NVEB member and fixer. "People come to have things repaired and avoid having to dispose of them, but at the same time, they meet likeminded people. Sometimes people want to know where they can find people, and this community event is a great space of great people."

With repair cafés now taking place every other month, the local group has become a model for other regions looking to establish similar initiatives. The NVEB Repair Café was among the first to expand across Ontario and has since become a recognized example of how to run the program successfully, attracting visitors from other regions interested in learning more about its operations.

"It's starting to reach beyond Wilmot," said Helps. "We've had others come to see how our events are run, and it's great to be an example for others. We've also offered to come out to their events to help as well. It has really become quite a great example of community."



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Nancy Birss of New Dundee brought her fan to the Nith Valley Ecoboosters Repair Café, where volunteer fixers helped repair the household appliance and give it a second life. The community event encourages residents to repair rather than replace broken items, helping reduce waste while bringing people together to share skills and knowledge.

The NVEB Repair Café will have fixers available for small household mechanical and woodworking repairs, clothing mending, knitting and crochet items, jewellery, book repairs, and even wobbly chairs.

Fixers can also troubleshoot electronics, including small appliances and audio and video equipment. Helps said sometimes the solution is as simple as finding a hidden on-off switch.

"Sometimes it can be frustrating; an item seems like it could be fixed, but you just don't know where to start," said Helps. "That's where we can help. You bring in your broken items and we have fixers who can work to troubleshoot the problem with you."

The Repair Café will provide most materials, tools and safety equipment. However, attendees with items requiring specialized materials or tools are encouraged to bring those along as well.

The free, in-person community event aims to reduce waste, share valuable skills and foster community connections. Refreshments and resources on repairs and sustainability will also be available.

For more information or to find out whether a specific item can be repaired or donated, contact the Eco Boosters at nvebrepaircafe@gmail.com.

WHEN IT'S HARD TO KNOW WHAT'S TRUE ONLINE...



TURN TO THE LOCAL NEWS YOU CAN TRUST!

Woodstock Ingersoll Echo · The Paris Independent · Exeter Examiner Newspaper · GRANT HAVEN MEDIA · SIMCOE ADVOCATE · Stratford Times · Tillsonburg POST · St. Marys Independent · Goderich Sun · The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

WWW.GRANTHAVEN.COM

FUTURE GRADE NINES

Waterloo Oxford District Secondary School Presents...

Grade 8 Night

Wednesday, November 18th, 2026

From 6:00-8:30pm

W-O GATORS

Join us in the cafeteria at 6:00 pm for the opening presentation followed by school tours.

For more information about W-O, please visit our Future Grade 9 page at:

wod.wrdsb.ca

CTS COMPLETE TREE SERVICE N.H. INC.

CALL THE "SNO-PROS"

NOW ACCEPTING SNOW CLIENTS

519-580-6255 or treefellar@netflash.net

PROUDLY SERVING WILMOT TOWNSHIP AND AREA FOR OVER 25 YEARS

NOW HIRING SEASONAL AND YEAR ROUND HELP

BEAUTIFUL FRASER FIR WREATHS

CHRISTMAS URNS AVAILABLE NOV. 21ST

Bickle's Orchard Park Farms

Varieties available:

Gala, Spartan, Honeycrisp, Cortlands, Empire, Ambrosia, Red and Golden Delicious, Russett, Mutsu, Tolman Sweets and Idared

WELLESLEY APPLE CIDER

Fresh local produce, Honey, Jams and Pickles

Kintore Coffee and Deep Purple Lavender

HOURS: Monday - Saturday • 9 am - 5 pm

Call 519-462-2259 or 519-462-2947

596633 County Rd 59, 3 miles south of Tavistock

FOR ADVERTISING INQUIRIES CONTACT HEATHER DUNBAR AT 226.261.1837 OR HEATHER@GRANTHAVEN.COM

Caressant Care selling long-term care and retirement homes

Jarlette Health Care Services will double in size once approved

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

After more than five decades providing care for seniors, Caressant Care is selling its operations to Jarlette Health Care Services.

The two companies announced late Thursday that, pending provincial government approvals, Caressant Care's homes will transfer to the Jarlette family as owner Jim Lavelle retires after more than five decades in long-term care. Applications have been submitted to the Ministry of Long-Term Care and Ontario Health to transfer Caressant Care's long-term care bed licences, and to the Retirement Homes Regulatory Authority to transfer its retirement homes.

The for-profit Caressant Care owns a total of 15 long-term care homes and 10 retirement homes, stretching to Bourget in the east and St. Thomas to the south. The Maples Home for Seniors in Tavistock is also part of the chain. President Jim Lavelle made the announcement in a video on the company's website on Wednesday afternoon.

"We have entered into an agreement with Jarlette … to purchase Caressant Care and we have to go through a process, which is working through now, with the ministry and with the licensing body for retirement homes," he said.

The company has had purchase offers in the past but Lavelle said Jarlette was simply the best fit.

"We picked Jarlette because, first of all, it is a family business. It started in 1970 by the great-grandfather and transferred to David Jarlette who became president and, a year ago, Harrison Jarlette took over the presidency. … I feel it's a good fit because they are a good organization, they have a good reputation, they care about the residents, which is what we've tried to do for all our years in the business."



(CARESSANT CARE SCREENSHOT)

Caressant Care Nursing and Retirement Home President Jim Lavelle announced the sale of the chain's 15 long-term care and 10 retirement homes on the company's website on Nov. 4.

Founded in Midland in 1970, the Jarlette family operates 14 long-term care homes and eight retirement lodges, mostly in rural communities such as Midland and Southampton.

Both companies said there will be no disruption to services, no one will be required to move as a result of this transition, and team members' employment will continue with the Jarlette family.

Caressant Care's first long-term care home was built in Woodstock in 1975 and its corporate office is located on Norwich Avenue in Woodstock. Its future is up in the air.

"As for specific plans for the homes and the corporate office, our focus right now is on supporting the Caressant Care team through this transition and on continuity for residents, their families and team members," said Jarlette president Harrison Jarlette.

"All Caressant Care team members will continue their employment with the Jarlette family. That was essential to Jim Lavelle as part of this agreement. Residents and families rely on the people who care for them every day, and keeping those relationships and familiar faces in place is a priority," he added.

Caressant Care's corporate team along with Lavelle will be visiting each home in person, followed by visits with the Jarlette family.

"We've also set up a dedicated webpage at CaressantCare.com/NextChapter and an email address, NextChapter@CaressantCare.com, so anyone with questions has a direct place to go," said Caressabt Care vice president of operations Natalie Dechert. "Keeping our communities informed is top of mind for us, and we'll continue to communicate openly as details of the transition become clearer."

Dechert added that after more than 50 years in long-term care, Lavelle is looking forward to spending more time with his family. He's proud of what Caressant Care has become, and he wanted to step back knowing the homes were in good hands.

The Ministry of Long-Term Care conducts public consultations before making decisions on long-term care home licensing proposals. Information about Caressant Care Nursing and Retirement Homes Limited Project #26-027, including how to participate in the consultation, is available through Ontario's long-term care licensing public consultation registry at www.ontario.ca/page/ontarios-long-term-care-licensing-public-consultation-registry#26-027.

"A public meeting will be held on Nov. 26 to give an opportunity for interested parties to provide oral feedback on the project. The ministry also accepts written input for the full consultation period, in this case, up to Dec. 18," said a ministry statement.

"This public consultation is conducted over a 45-day period, with notices posted in affected long-term care homes, shared with resident and family councils, published in local media, and posted on the ministry's public-consultation website. The public has 23 days before and 22 days after the public meeting to provide feedback."

Before a licence transfer is approved, the ministry conducts a thorough review to ensure all legislative requirements are met. This includes assessing whether the transfer is in the public interest, reviewing the proposed licensee's financial and operational capacity and compliance history, and seeking community input through a public consultation process. Once these reviews are complete, the director will make a decision on the licence transfer request.

Editor's note: Lee Griffi worked for Caressant Care for 14 years as manager of corporate communications.

FULL MECHANICAL SERVICES
& TIRES FOR ALL VEHICLES

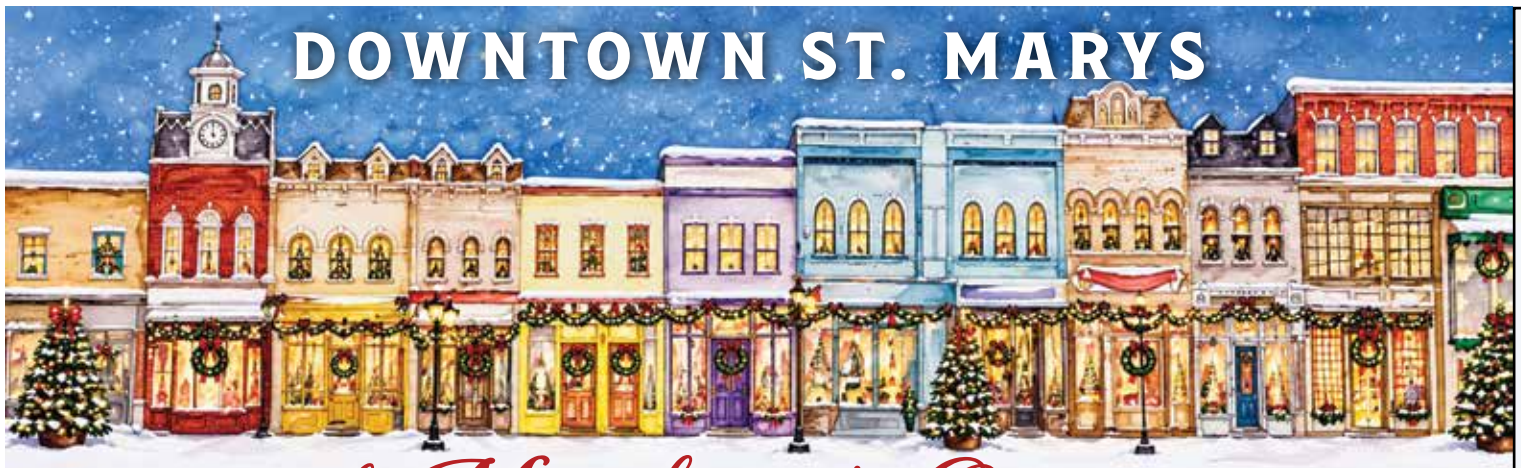
ALIGNMENT
SUSPENSION
OIL CHANGES
BRAKES
LICENSED VEHICLE INSPECTION STATION

PASSENGER & LIGHT TRUCK
FARM TIRES
HEAVY TRUCK
LAWN & GARDEN
CAMPERS, RV'S, ATV'S & MORE

OK TIRE
Service, Repair and Tires.
1413 Gingerich Road, Baden
519.662.4990 | oktire.com

We Think You Could Do Better.
Ask us how income investments earn you monthly income without monthly fees.
Private Wealth Income Portfolios
Tchabushnig Wealth Group | RAYMOND JAMES®
519.883.6066 • twealthgroup.ca
© 2026 Raymond James Ltd. All rights reserved. Raymond James Ltd. is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Raymond James Financial,Inc., regulated by the Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization (CIRO) and is a member of the Canadian Investor Protection Fund.

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



Annual Merchants' Open House

NOVEMBER 20, 21 & 22

Enjoy a festive weekend of local shopping, seasonal food and drinks, horse-drawn carriage rides, and visits with Santa & Mrs. Claus! Discover special offers, giveaways, discounts and in-store promotions, including tax-free shopping at select businesses.

The O'G Man
Nov 20, 21, 22 10am - 5pm
MEN'S POP UP STORE
162 Queen St.
Right next door to O'Grady's
SOME OF OUR AMAZING BRANDS
ROYAL ROBBINS
SAXX UNDERWEAR CO
Wrangler
AND MORE!!!

WE PAY THE TAX!
www.theogman.ca



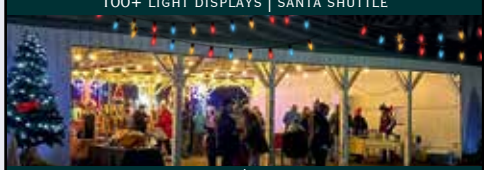
Make Troyer's One of Your Stops in St. Marys
Spices, seasonings, custom blends & specialty grocery finds.
110 Queen St. E., St. Marys, Ontario
Follow us on Facebook & Instagram
www.troyersspices.ca

JACOBS LIQUIDATION & AUCTION LTD
FIND SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE ON YOUR LIST!
TOYS • CLOTHING
FURNITURE • HOUSEWARES
& SO MUCH MORE!
1911 James St. S., St. Marys
(Just off highway 7)
226-661-4000
www.jacobsliquidation.com

ZENFIRE POTTERY
Give the gift of beautiful pottery
Handcrafted Pottery • Local Artisan Gifts
Gift Certificates • Workshops & Classes

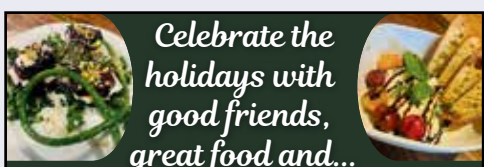
114 Queen Street East, St. Marys
www.zenfirepottery.ca

O'GRADY'S
ST.MARYS
Join us for a weekend of Holiday Fun!
NOV 20.21.22
OPEN 10AM - 5PM
Enjoy Tax Free shopping during this weekend only!
• some exceptions and items not included see instore for details!
519-284-4436 158 Queen St. E www.ogradysclothing.com

WinterLights Night Market
Wagon Rides | Artisan Vendors | Food Trucks
100+ Light Displays | Santa Shuttle

December 4 & 5 | 5:00 - 8:00 PM
Milt Dunnell Field | St. Marys, ON
@visitstmaryson

HOLIDAY HAPPINESS IN EVERY CUP!
SNAPPING TURTLE COFFEE ROASTERS
145 QUEEN ST. E., ST. MARYS
226-661-8000
www.snappingturtlecoffee.com

RIVER VALLEY
www.rivervalleygolfandtube.com


Celebrate the holidays with good friends, great food and...
PERTHSTONE KITCHEN
159 Queen St E, St Marys
(226) 301-4036 | www.perthstone.ca





Tavistock Legion honours those who served

DIANE DANEN

Gazette Correspondent

The Tavistock Royal Canadian Legion Memorial Branch 518 held its annual Remembrance service on Sunday, Nov. 8, bringing members of the community together to honour those who served and remember the sacrifices made by Canada's veterans.

A church service was held at Grace United Church featuring the reading of the local military honour rolls. A historical First World War knitting project was also on display.

The wreath-laying ceremony held at the Tavistock Legion Cenotaph began at 1 p.m. and was led by Rev. Mary Boland, chaplain for Branch 518. The ceremony opened with a land acknowledgement, followed by the March of the Colours and the singing of "O' Canada." "The Last Post" was sounded, followed by a prayer of Remembrance and two minutes of silence.

The laying of the wreaths was an important part of the service, with representatives from local government, community organizations, churches, businesses and families taking part.

Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Dominion of Canada by Oxford MP Arpan Khanna, the Province of Ontario by Oxford MPP Ernie Hardeman and the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock by Mayor Phil Schaefer. The Tavistock Royal Canadian Legion wreath was laid by Comrade Jane McKay, president of Legion Branch 518.



(DIANE DANEN PHOTOS)

Rev. Mary Boland, chaplain of the Royal Canadian Legion Tavistock Memorial Branch 518, stands behind a display featuring the knitting project undertaken by Sharon Louttit in 2022.

Wreaths representing other community organizations included The East Zorra-Tavistock Firefighters, Tavistock Men's Club, Tavistock Optimist Club, Tavistock Opti-Mrs. Club, Tavistock and District Historical Society, Tavistock Masonic Lodge, St. Elizabeth Branch of the Women's Institute, Tavistock and Area Ministerial, South Easthope Mutual Insurance Co., Jeff Glendinning Funeral Home, Francis Chapel, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Sommers Family and the Baker Family.

Remembrance remarks followed, with Boland sharing the story of Sharon Louttit and the knitting project she undertook in 2022.

Louttit had discovered a pamphlet titled Knitting Instructions for War Work among her grandmother's belongings. The 11-page booklet contained knitting patterns circulated by the Canadian Red Cross during the First World War.

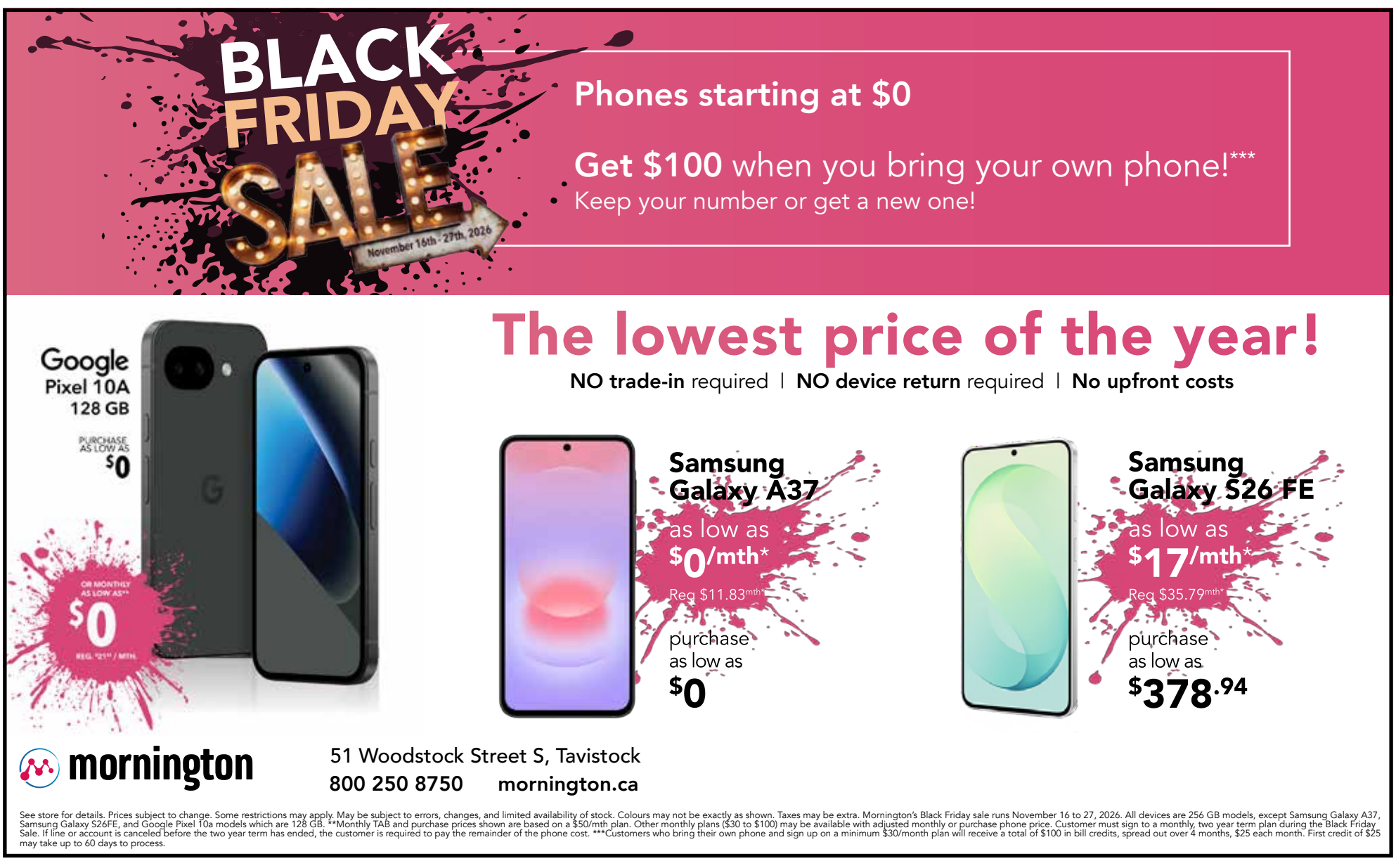
Intrigued by the historical instructions, Louttit challenged herself to complete all 11 projects. Describing herself as a novice, self-taught knitter, she turned to YouTube videos for guidance as she worked her way through each pattern.

The completed collection included a sleeveless vest, rifle mitts, half mitts, an aero cap, a helmet cap, wristlets, knee caps, bed socks, day socks, seamen's stockings and a scarf. Sharon Louttit completed all 11 pieces, and all were on display at the Remembrance service.

Boland explained that Canadian knitters played an important role in providing clothing and other essentials for military personnel during the First and Second World Wars and the Korean War. Knitting projects were encouraged by the Canadian Red Cross and the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire (IODE).

Much of the knitting was done by women on the home front, along with children

Continued on page 9



Continued from page 8

and those who were sick or recovering from injuries. It provided an opportunity for people to contribute to the war effort from home. Convalescing soldiers also took up knitting as a form of therapy and relaxation, while those unable to knit were encouraged to donate yarn.

Socks were among the most urgently needed items. Soldiers often wore two pairs at a time because their boots were not lined. Socks were changed frequently to prevent trench foot.

The Canadian Red Cross estimated that approximately 750,000 women produced more than 50 million garments during the war years.

Boland recognized the contributions of women in Canada's military. While thousands served on the homefront during wartime, women have also been serving in Canada's armed forces for more than a century. The Canadian Armed Forces was among the first military forces to open all occupations to women. Today, women play an important role in protecting the country's safety and security.

Boland's remarks were followed by a video presentation titled Women in the Canadian Military – A Generational Success.



Memorial wreaths are displayed following the wreath-laying ceremony at the Remembrance Day service held at the Royal Canadian Legion Tavistock Memorial Branch 518.

The ceremony concluded with the closing ritual by the Colour Guard and the singing of "God Save the King."

Following the service, Legion members and guests were invited to join together for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

Community members were invited to gather at Tavistock Legion Branch 518 on the morning of Wednesday, Nov. 11, for a traditional Act of Remembrance. A moment of silence was observed in honour of Remembrance Day.



Tavistock Memorial Branch 518 members Deb Stevely, treasurer, Bruce McKay, sergeant-at-arms, and Jane McKay, president, take part in the Order of Colours during the Remembrance Day service.



Wreath presenters pause for a moment of silence following the wreath-laying ceremony.

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

WILDFIRE FUNDRAISER
RISING FROM THE ASHES
for
NAMAYGOOSISAGAGUN FIRST NATION
or Trout Lake (Collins First Nation, ON)

On behalf of the people of Namaygoosisagagun First Nation , the Trout Lake Fundraiser wishes to sincerely thank the following for their generous gift donations as well as the superb work of all of the volunteers who enabled this event to be a success.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

- Gladys Bender
- Clarence Cachagee
- Audrey Chin
- Roger and Nancy Dale
- Elder Nina De Shane-Gill
- Hope Engel
- Joanne Green
- Ron Helps
- Dennis and Pat Mighton
- Judy Neuman
- Nancy Norman
- Brent and Marie Pavey
- Kitch and Dee Radke
- Eli and Barbara Safri
- Donna Schyff
- Andy and Dorothy Wilson
- Yvonne Zyma
- Liam, Lorne and Lilly Holst
- Lou Devita

BUSINESS DONORS

- Beaded by Bellaire
- Chef Adam Brenner
- Cook's Pharmacy
- Cressman Meat Limited
- Crow Shield Lodge
- Deja-vu Textiles
- Expressway Ford
- Focus Computers
- Happy Explorers Learning Academy
- Herrle's Country Farm Market
- Imperial Restaurant
- Is This Chair Taken
- Kathie Jordan Design
- Mennonite Central Committee
- My Place Restaurant
- NH Cycle & Machine
- New Dundee Emporium
- New Hamburg Home Hardware
- Nith Valley Apiaries
- Nith Valley Butcher and Deli
- Office Pro
- Old Country Restaurant
- Panache Hair Lounge
- Pet Valu
- Pfenning's Organic Farms
- Portuguesa Bakery
- ReNu Health and Wellness
- Soul Metal Sculpture & Fine Art
- Shantz Mennonite Church
- Steinmann's Mennonite Church
- Sultans of String
- Trinity Lutheran Church
- Vivi Café

VOLUNTEERS

- Elder Nina De Shane-Gill
- Audrey Chin
- Barbara Safri
- Dee Radke
- Kitch Radke
- Jeff Magdy
- Jill Magdy
- Alene Schultz
- Joanne Green
- Hope Engel
- Nancy Dale
- Roger Dale
- Staff at Steinmann's Mennonite Church
  - John Iutzi & Glen Gingerich
  - Michael Gingerich
  - Lynn Dueck
- Rachel Hunter
- Scott Morton Nimoniya and daughter Bertha
- Steve Clark
- Patty Clark
- Bernard Saintima
- Caterina Lindman
- Melissa Miller
- Buddie Choir led by Lori Maloney
- The Band: Brian Jantzi, Tim Aston, and Brian Masters
- Autumn Diamond
- Mannheim Women's Healing Circle Drummers

Khanna and Louis weigh in on federal budget

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

Two area members of parliament have released their thoughts on the recently released federal budget and their opinions on the 532-page document couldn't be more polarizing.

Oxford Conservative MP Arpan Khanna said the budget, named Masters of Our Destiny, does nothing to help Canadians when it comes to the cost of living, including the price at the pumps, and the cost of housing and food.

"Unfortunately, we didn't see that. We just see another $765 billion in new debt that is going to drive up inflation. That means more taxes and debt interest payments in the future. Carney talks about being a great fiscal manager but he's blown by his own fiscal anchors."

Kitchener-Conestoga Liberal MP Tim Louis held a press conference at the Wilmot and Wellesley Resource Centre in New Hamburg on Monday where he said sometimes people need a helping hand.

"I believe that same principle is at the heart of our 2026 federal budget. We know that even as Canada's economy shows resilience, affordability remains a challenge to a number of Canadians. That can mean the cost of groceries, housing and heating, and the cost of filling up your car."

He added the budget builds on the Canadian Groceries and Essentials Benefit and renews the Local Food Infrastructure Fund which is a program in the past that has supported organizations like the resource centre.

"The budget provides a 50 per-cent top-up to the benefit, providing up to $2,500 per family. That matters because food security is not only what happens at the grocery store, it's also about strengthening community organizations and local networks to make sure food gets to the people who need it."



(LEE GRIFFI PHOTO)

Kitchener-Conestoga MP Tim Louis held a press conference at New Hamburg's Wilmot and Wellesley Resource Centre earlier this week to deliver his thoughts on the Federal Government's 2026 budget.

Louis explained the government is making it easier for people to access federal benefits by supporting automatic access to programs, helping those who experience difficulties navigating the system.

The budget came in with a deficit of $62.3 billion for 2026-2027, which Khanna said will add $6,000 in debt for the average family of four, while the biggest line in the budget is debt-interest payments.

"We're paying more on that than we are for health care payments to the provinces. When people ask me why it's important to have balanced budgets and strong fiscal management, I tell them it's because then we can invest in things that really matter to Canadians," he said.

Khanna explained when the country is spending $80 billion to pay interest to foreign bond holders every single year, that money could be better spent in local communities on new hospitals, doctors and recreation centres. He added other Conservative asks were ignored.

"We asked the government to take taxes off fuel. They didn't do that. We talked about cutting waste. There is $150 billion worth of waste they could have cut from the number of consultants, foreign aid and other problematic spending the Liberals have had, yet they kept all of that in place."

He said Canadians are the ones paying for all the bills being wracked up by the government.

"They don't have an unlimited bank account. It's Canadians' hard-earned dollars and unfortunately, it's being recklessly spent on Liberal pet projects which will probably have zero impact on the lives of average citizens who are struggling to make ends meet."

Louis is confident the budget will help with affordability in the short-term and, at the same time, position the country for long-term economic growth.

"The long-term growth will bring the jobs, security and sovereignty we need, but in the short term, we are addressing what people need now while keeping our social safety net intact. Programs like child care, dental care and school food programs, all of which are important to maintain."

Khanna brought up recent figures show 2.5 million Canadians are being forced to visit food banks on a monthly basis while many parents are reducing portion sizes or skipping meals so their kids can eat. He said that tells people everything they need to know about Canada's economy.

"The other thing the budget released was immigration numbers. Carney promised he would get the file under control, but he's going to add record numbers going forward. Canadians were looking for this budget to be a strong plan to return some prosperity to our country but unfortunately, they missed the mark."

The budget sets annual targets for 2027-2029 of 380,000 permanent-resident admissions and 370,000 new temporary-resident arrivals. The temporary-resident figure is a target for new arrivals, not the total number of temporary residents in Canada. It also proposes a one-time pathway for up to 200,000 temporary residents already in Canada to become permanent residents by the end of 2027.

"I'm confident we have the immigration system under control," Louis said. "Right now, we have the lowest numbers since World War II, and the 200,000 temporary residents are being moved towards permanent residency. That's not adding to the numbers, they are people who are already here working in trades, a lot of them are in health care and agriculture."

He added his government is keeping the system under control and moving people along in a responsible way.

Wellesley council approves new compensation policy tying annual wage increases to inflation

GALEN SIMMONS

Regional Editor

Wellesley Township council has approved a new compensation policy that will tie annual wage increases for non-unionized municipal employees, firefighters and council members to inflation, taking routine cost-of-living adjustments out of annual budget deliberations.

At its Nov. 10 meeting, council approved the policy, which will take effect Jan. 1, 2027, and link annual wage adjustments to the year-over-year change in Statistics Canada's September median consumer price index (CPI). Following discussion, council amended the policy to establish a minimum annual adjustment of zero per cent and a maximum of four per cent.

Director of corporate services Jeff Dyck told council the policy is intended to provide a fair, consistent and transparent approach to wage increases while ensuring municipal employees do not lose purchasing power as the cost of living rises.

"As council balances many competing priorities each year, wage increases have not always kept up with the rising cost of living," Dyck said. "Over time, this can result in employees gradually losing purchasing power."

Dyck said the policy will also support employee recruitment and retention, which remains a significant concern for township administration.

"I'm constantly worried about losing our top performers," he said. "This is a major risk for us."

Beyond providing predictable wage adjustments, the policy is intended to eliminate annual debates over routine cost-of-living increases during budget discussions and reduce potential conflicts of interest when councillors consider their own compensation or that of firefighters, positions some councillors may also hold.

Coun. Derek Brick, who also serves as a volunteer firefighter in Wellesley, welcomed the proposal, noting he had previously expressed interest in separating compensation adjustments from annual budget deliberations.

"When we talked about this at the last budget, this was something I was kind of interested in, taking it offline of the budget discussion," Brick said.

Brick also suggested establishing a maximum annual increase, arguing a predetermined cap would provide greater clarity about when council should reconsider the adjustment.

Coun. Shelley Wagner questioned whether the policy's provision allowing council to deviate from the formula under extraordinary financial circumstances would already address unusually high inflation.

Brick maintained a specific cap would remove uncertainty over what constitutes extraordinary circumstances.

Council ultimately agreed to Brick's proposed four-per-cent ceiling, along with a zero-per-cent minimum to ensure wages would not decrease during periods of negative inflation.

Dyck explained the median CPI measure smooths out unusually large price increases or decreases in individual categories, providing a more stable measure of underlying inflation. The September 2026 year-over-year figure was 1.9 per cent, he told council.

While future adjustments will be automatically calculated and incorporated into the township's operating budget, council will retain the authority to approve alternative increases under exceptional financial circumstances.

The policy will not replace the township's existing five-year compensation review, which compares municipal wages with those offered by other municipalities.

Employees earning minimum wage and unionized employees are excluded from the policy, as their wage increases are governed by provincial legislation and collective agreements, respectively.

The Royal®
AGRICULTURAL WINTER FAIR

LONGINES
FEI
JUMPING
WORLD CUP™
TORONTO

ON NOW!

THE COUNTRY COMES TO THE CITY



EXPERIENCE WORLD-CLASS ATHLETES IN ACTION

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BUY TICKETS NOW

OR VISIT **ROYALFAIR.ORG**

NOVEMBER 6 - 15, 2026

EXHIBITION PLACE, TORONTO

DAIRY FARMERS of ONTARIO Milk EST. 1965
SEMEX®
LONGINES
UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
ECCLESTONE HORSE TRANSPORT
Ford ONTARIO FORD DEALERS

Sprucedale students discover how things were done long ago

DIANE DANEN

Gazette Correspondent

Sprucedale Public School students stepped back in time to experience how things were done long ago in the everyday lives of early settlers.

Through hands-on activities in the classroom, they explored how people lived and worked long ago before visiting Brocksden Country School Museum to experience a day in the life of a student in a one-room schoolhouse.

Activity centres set up in the classroom gave Ms. White's Grade 2/3 class and Mr. Fleuriet's Grade 3 class the opportunity to learn about some of the daily tasks and skills used by early settlers.

Students tried their hands at washing clothes using a washboard before hanging them on a clothesline with wooden pegs. They also discovered just how heavy a flat iron can be.

Children had an opportunity to explore and identify a variety of old-fashioned kitchen utensils, including eggbeaters, graters, a hand chopper and a pie iron.

At the antique tools centre, students examined a collection of hand tools, including unique wrenches, rasps, chisels, a mallet and a pulley. They also had a chance to drill a hole in a piece of wood using a hand-crank drill.

One of the students' favourite activities was using an old-fashioned, hand-crank apple peeler that spirals the apple as it turns. After enjoying their apple snack, the children put the cores through an old-fashioned meat grinder to see how it worked.

Other activities included building log cabins with Lincoln Logs and rolling out dough using a variety of vintage wooden rolling pins.

The activities offered a fun, hands-on opportunity to explore some of the everyday tasks of early settlers and served as a lead-up to their visit to Brocksden Country School Museum, where they would experience a typical school day in 1910.

Everyone was encouraged to dress in period clothing and carry traditional pail lunches. As students took their seats in the historic classroom, their teacher for the day, Ms. Kim Schelhaas, began with morning health inspections before leading lessons in mental arithmetic, choral reading and handwriting on slates.

Later, the children headed outdoors to enjoy recess, playing on the swings and see-saw just as students did over a century ago.

By experiencing the hands-on classroom activities and visiting Brocksden Country School Museum, students gained an appreciation for the hard work and simple joys of the past. The memorable journey through time left the Sprucedale students with a lasting connection to Perth County's rich pioneer heritage.



Levi Gautreau tries out an old-fashioned beater at the vintage kitchen utensil centre.



Eleanor Bettencourt and Harper Wagenknecht hang their "laundry" on the clothesline with wooden pegs after "scrubbing" it on the washboard.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS)

Brocksden Country School Museum teacher Kim Schelhaas calls on Sprucedale students during a lesson.

Crocheted poppies on display at Shakespeare Presbyterian Church



(DIANE DANEN PHOTO)

Members of Shakespeare Presbyterian Church crocheted poppies to create a display honouring those who have served. Inspired by poppy projects in other communities, Jean Smelski initiated the project, which will continue throughout the coming year. Community members are welcome to join in making poppies and contribute to the growing tribute.



Savaya Hobson demonstrates how to use a flat iron (minus the heat). These heavy, cast-iron blocks weighed up to 10 pounds and had to be heated directly on a wood stove.

Sprucedale Market supports young entrepreneurs and local charity

DIANE DANEN

Gazette Correspondent

Sprucedale Public School students are putting their creativity and business skills to work as they prepare for the school's Young Entrepreneurs Market on Thursday, Nov. 19.

Just in time for Christmas shopping, the market will run from 3-5 p.m. in the school gymnasium and feature approximately 30 student-run businesses representing all grade levels.

Senior students who participated in previous years have formed an organizing committee and have taken on the role of planning this year's market along with principal Lisa Cairncross.

The Young Entrepreneurs Market will offer a wide variety of products including bracelets, pressed flower bookmarks and greeting cards. Visitors can also enjoy treats such as popcorn, cotton candy and snow cones.

A Cat Café will offer baked goods and beverages, including tea, coffee and hot chocolate, and of course cat cuddles. Some vendors will even offer visitors the chance to spin the wheel to win a prize.

Students are working individually or in pairs to develop their business ideas, prepare products and get ready to welcome shoppers. About half of the vendors have teamed up with a partner, while parents are also lending a hand to younger participants.

The Young Entrepreneurs Market offers students more than an opportunity to sell their goods. It provides hands-on learning that extends beyond the classroom, giving students experience in developing a business idea, planning and preparing products, setting up their stalls and interacting with customers.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Sprucedale principal Lisa Cairncross is pictured with grades seven and eight students Tessa, Lyla, Abbie and Hayley, members of the organizing committee for the Young Entrepreneurs Market.

Each vendor is encouraged to choose a name for their business and create a sign to identify their stall. Grade 3 students Duncan Lindner and Jameson Lapointe have teamed up to create The Breakfast Crew. The duo came up with the name together and will be selling maple syrup and eggs.

Working with a partner provides opportunities to share ideas and learn to work cooperatively, developing valuable skills that extend beyond the classroom.

Since the market is cash-only, students will also learn practical money-handling skills, including preparing a float, counting money and making change.

Students are promoting the event through social media. As part of a new initiative called Vendor Spotlight, participating vendors are creating their own promotional flyers, which will be shared on the school's Instagram and Facebook pages.

Giving back to the community is another important part of this year's project. Students learned that businesses have a role to play in supporting the communities that support them.

The organizing committee presented three local charities for consideration, and the student vendors voted to support the Stratford House of Blessing. Vendors are encouraged to donate a portion of their sales to the organization.

Shoppers are also encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the House of Blessing. Cash donations will also be accepted.

Community members are invited to stop by Sprucedale Public School on Thursday, Nov. 19, from 3-5 p.m. Bring some cash, a non-perishable food donation and enjoy an opportunity to get a head start on Christmas shopping while supporting the school's young entrepreneurs and the House of Blessing.

Perth County's Mobile Integrated Health program completes more than 5,100 patient visits over past year

GALEN SIMMONS

Regional Editor

Perth County Paramedic Services' Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) program continues to help vulnerable residents access health care while reducing pressure on emergency services, with more than 5,100 patient visits completed over the past year.

Deputy chief of mobile integrated health Debbie Hunter presented an update on the program to Perth County council Nov. 5, highlighting its accomplishments between Oct. 1, 2025, and Oct. 1, 2026, as well as priorities for the coming year.

"Since the program began, MIH has become an integral part of our local health system," Hunter said. "Our role continues to focus on connecting residents with the right care at the right time in the right place."

Over the reporting period, community paramedics completed 5,146 visits involving 1,217 individuals, along with 147 wellness checks involving 98 individuals that could otherwise have resulted in calls to 911. The program also recorded 327 emergency calls involving 99 clients, including 38 initiated by community paramedics who identified emergencies while visiting patients.

Other statistics highlight the range of services provided, including 2,267 referrals to community partners, 6,817 vital-sign assessments, 1,208 blood draws for homebound patients and 1,853 medication-management interactions.

Of those enrolled in the program, 56 per cent were 65 or older, while 41 per cent were between 25 and 64. Stratford residents accounted for 59 per cent of clients, followed by North Perth at 17 per cent, St. Marys at 11 per cent, West Perth at eight per cent, Perth East at four per cent and Perth South at one per cent.

Hunter explained the program takes a proactive approach to health care, identifying potential problems before they become emergencies and connecting residents with appropriate services.

"Our value isn't just measured by how many calls we prevent. It's also measured by the care we provide, the barriers we remove and the support we offer before a situation becomes a crisis," she said.

Looking ahead, Hunter said expanding palliative-care services will be a priority, with paramedics receiving additional training and the introduction of symptom-relief kits to better support patients and families receiving end-of-life care at home.

The program will also continue its partnership with Stratford Social Services through the Access Resource Connection (ARC) program, which combines health care with housing and outreach supports for vulnerable residents. People experiencing homelessness currently represent half of ARC's caseload.

However, the report notes provincial funding for 2027-2028 remains uncertain. Without increased funding to offset rising costs, the service may need to consider reductions.

Warden Dean Trentowsky praised Hunter and her team for their work.

"It's an invaluable service, and our communities in Perth County are very grateful to have you and the staff lead this on our behalf," Trentowsky said.

Council unanimously approved the report for presentation to the Municipal Shared Services Committee Dec. 17.

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

Perth East Mayor Rhonda Ehgoetz reflects on 26 years in municipal politics as she prepares for retirement

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

After 26 years serving the residents of Perth East and Perth County, Mayor Rhonda Ehgoetz is preparing to close the door on her political career and begin the next chapter of her life on her family's dairy farm near Wartburg.

From her early days as an Ellice Ward councillor to serving as deputy mayor and mayor of Perth East, and eventually warden of Perth County, Ehgoetz says her time in municipal politics has been a rewarding experience filled with opportunities, accomplishments and lasting friendships.

As she prepares to retire from public office, Ehgoetz recently reflected on her upbringing, her family's farming roots and the many changes she has witnessed throughout her political career.

Ehgoetz grew up on a mixed farm just outside Mitchell, where her family raised cattle, pigs and chickens. She was involved in 4-H clubs and joined the Perth County Junior Farmers as a teenager.

Her interest in municipal politics began at a young age, thanks in part to her uncle, Laverne Gordner, who served as reeve of the former Logan Township. She remembers listening to her uncle discuss municipal issues around the family supper table.

She met her husband, Sidney, at a Junior Farmers dance, and the couple married in 1979. She then moved to the Ehgoetz family farm in Ellice Township, where the family has deep roots.

Sidney and Rhonda took over the farm in 1985, operating a dairy and hog operation while growing crops to feed their animals. Over the years, they expanded their dairy herd, introduced robotic milking technology and transitioned away from raising pigs.

Throughout her political career, Ehgoetz remained involved in the farming operation, helping with bookkeeping, cattle registration, milking and tractor work whenever needed.

The couple has two children, Adam and Diane, and five grandchildren.

Before entering politics, Ehgoetz was involved in numerous community organizations, including her church, the Perth Federation of Agriculture and minor sports.

Her involvement in researching and publishing the Echoes of Ellice history book helped inspire her decision to run for council.

After spending years researching the community's history and meeting residents throughout the former township, Ehgoetz felt she had developed a strong connection with the people she hoped to represent.

In 2000, she was elected to Perth East council as the representative for Ellice Ward.

"I enjoyed it very much and felt it was a great way to give back to my community," she said.

Though she initially had no aspirations of becoming mayor or holding higher office, her responsibilities gradually expanded.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

The Ehgoetz family gathers for a photo. Pictured in the front row, from left, are grandchildren Emmett, Laken and Ryker Chessell. In the back row, from left, are Diane Chessell (Ehgoetz), her husband Nick Chessell, Sidney Ehgoetz and outgoing Perth East Mayor Rhonda Ehgoetz. Absent from the photo are son Adam Ehgoetz, his partner, Katie, and their children, Parker and Evie.

In 2010, Ehgoetz was elected to represent Perth East at Perth County council, where former warden Jim Aitcheson encouraged her to become involved in additional committees.

She later served three years as deputy warden, was deputy mayor of Perth East from 2014-2018 and was elected mayor in 2018, a position she held for the following eight years.

She also served as Perth County warden for two consecutive terms, from 2022 to 2024.

"For someone who had no aspirations at all in the beginning to be at the top, I have now held both of those positions," Ehgoetz said.

Looking back, she considers the growth and development of Perth East and Perth County among the most rewarding aspects of her career.

"One of the best things about being on council is watching how the community has evolved," she said.

She has enjoyed seeing existing businesses expand, new businesses establish themselves, agricultural operations grow and new housing developments take shape.

Among the projects she helped advance at the county level were a new official plan, farm severance policies, new paramedic services facilities, the county's archives building and the development of its economic development department.

One of her most memorable experiences as warden was travelling to Japan with then-economic development director Meredith Forget, where they visited businesses, learned about robotic technology and strengthened international economic relationships.

At the municipal level, Ehgoetz witnessed several major infrastructure improvements, including the construction of Perth East's administrative offices and a new public works facility that brought municipal operations and equipment together.

The public works building features an industrial wood-burning heating system that uses wood collected through municipal tree maintenance, a project that continues to attract interest from other municipalities.

She was also involved in bringing a wastewater treatment system to Shakespeare after problems developed with aging septic systems.

During her time as mayor, Ehgoetz placed considerable emphasis on improving the municipality's relationship with contractors and encouraging new development.

She recalled a time when some contractors were reluctant to work in Perth East because of issues within the building department. Under her leadership, council hired a new building official and worked to establish a more welcoming environment for builders and developers, helping attract contractors back to the municipality.

Another significant accomplishment was the privately developed Percon Industrial Park, which Ehgoetz supported by helping secure council's backing for a minister's zoning order to redesignate agricultural land for industrial use.

She also supported introducing development charges in Perth East to ensure new development contributes toward municipal infrastructure costs.

More recently, Ehgoetz was involved in the Shakespeare Water Treatment Plant project, designed to address naturally occurring arsenic in the community's drinking water.

Looking ahead, she is particularly excited about the proposed Waterfalls Agriplex development on the southern edge of Milverton. The proposed facility would accommodate international horse shows and other major events, potentially attracting visitors and generating economic activity for local businesses.

"This project is going to put Perth East on the map," she said.

Another highlight of her time as mayor was helping strengthen Perth East's relationship with its twin community of Neresheim, Germany.

Following visits by German delegations to Milverton, Ehgoetz signed a declaration of friendship in 2021 and later travelled to Neresheim with approximately 40 others, where they received a warm welcome from local families.

Ehgoetz and her husband continue to maintain friendships with their German hosts and look forward to welcoming another delegation to Perth East in October 2027.

Her commitment to municipal politics has also become something of a family tradition.

In 2022, her daughter, Diane Chessell, followed in her mother's footsteps and was elected to West Perth council as the representative for Logan Ward.

Ehgoetz said it was especially rewarding to share experiences and discuss municipal issues with her daughter throughout the past four years.

Chessell chose not to seek re-election in 2026 as her family is planning to relocate to Perth East.

Throughout her career, Ehgoetz also developed strong working relationships with provincial and federal representatives, including Perth-Wellington MPP Matthew Rae, MP John Nater and former MPP Randy Pettapiece.

Despite the many accomplishments and opportunities, Ehgoetz said her greatest satisfaction has always come from helping

Continued on page 15

Two EZT councillors attend final township council meeting

Zehr did not seek re-election; Rudy voted out

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

Scott Rudy and Scott Zehr took part in their final East Zorra-Tavistock (EZT) council meeting last week.

Rudy was voted out of office, losing his Ward 2 seat to Angie Brenner, while Zehr chose not to seed a second term. Ward 1 will be represented by incumbent Steven Van Wky and newcomer Nicholas Faye.

"I want to take the opportunity to offer my gratitude for the last four years, serving the residents of EZT and especially Ward 1 in Tavistock," said Zehr. "Just thankful for each of my colleagues around the horseshoe and the wisdom, knowledge and sharing back and forth."

Zehr also thanked Mayor Phil Schaefer for his leadership and commended staff for their assistance in providing information.

"They answered questions and helped guide us in this process of leading municipal government. I am grateful for that and wish the next batch of folks coming in all the best."



(EZT.CA PHOTOS)

Scott Rudy (left) and Scott Zehr took part in their final East Zorra-Tavistock council meeting last week, marking the end of their time on municipal council.

Coun. Jeremy Smith, who was re-elected in Ward 3, thanked Zehr and Rudy for their service to East Zorra-Tavistock.

"Both readily accepted additional committee work on behalf of this council and have always served with the residents and ratepayers interests at the fore. I could say a lot of things about both of them, but I'll keep it brief."

Smith, who sat beside Rudy in the council chamber, said he will miss their pre-meeting banter.

"I want to acknowledge Scott (Rudy)'s acumen of interest, curiosity and observation. He has been a true asset to this council, and it has been my pleasure to have served with the both of you."

Schaefer thanked not only Zehr and Rudy, but all members of council for the last term's efforts.

"I want to thank everyone for being such a productive council for the last four years. For those staying on, congratulations. For those departing, … I want to thank you for your service to the community and to this council in particular."

Schaefer presented Zehr with a certificate of recognition for his four years on council. Schaefer said he would present Rudy's certificate at a later date. Rudy attended the meeting virtually and did not offer any remarks regarding his two terms on council.

Continued from page 14

residents.

"As the mayor, when anyone asked for a meeting with me, I always met with them to hear what they had to say and how or if I could help them," she said. "I always told people that I would get the answer, but they may not always like the answer I got for them."

She said she believes being accessible, honest and willing to ask difficult questions are important responsibilities for any elected representative.

"I have always spoke up for the ratepayer, even when others did not think I should be," she said. "I called a spade a spade and was not scared to ask questions or give my opinion. My job was to be their voice, and I tried to do that all the time."

Her years in politics have also provided plenty of memorable family moments.

Ehgoetz said her grandchildren enjoy telling people their grandmother has served as both mayor and county warden.

When they notice something in the community they think needs attention, they sometimes turn to her for help.

"Come on Grandma, you're the mayor. Can you not fix that or make it happen?" they ask.

Ehgoetz hopes watching her serve in public office might one day inspire one of her grandchildren to become involved in politics.

Outside of council chambers, she has enjoyed baseball, snowmobiling, broomball and travelling with Sidney. These days, she especially enjoys watching her grandchildren participate in sports and other activities.

As she prepares to leave public office, Ehgoetz said she is grateful for the volunteers, municipal staff, fellow councillors and residents who made her political career so meaningful. Above all, she credits her family for making it possible to balance public office with operating a family farm.



Outgoing Perth East Mayor Rhonda Ehgoetz is retiring from municipal politics after 26 years of service, including eight years as mayor and two terms as Perth County warden.

"My husband Sid has been my rock and very understanding when I was needed at a meeting elsewhere and not helping on the farm," she said.

"To our family, thank you so much for stepping up and helping so I could be away. Without you, it would never have been possible."

After 26 years representing her community, Ehgoetz says she is ready to enjoy retirement, spend more time with her family and continue helping on the farm.

While she may be stepping away from the council table, the relationships she has built and the changes she has helped bring to Perth East and Perth County will remain an important part of her life.

"Being on council has given me many opportunities which I am so grateful for," she said. "It has been a humbling experience."

Township pulls sale of former EZT offices off the market

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

The former East Zorra-Tavistock (EZT) Township office is no longer for sale, though no explanation for its removal from the market has been provided.

The building, located at 90 Loveys St., was first put up for sale in 2025, but the tender closed with no bids submitted. In August 2026, council directed staff to raise the reserve bid to $550,000 after a Phase 2 environmental assessment, and to include that assessment in a future tender package once approved by the province.

A motion was brought to the council floor following a 70-minute closed session.

"The clerk has a resolution that will be on your screen coming out of closed," said Schaefer.

"Moved by Coun. Gillespie and seconded by Coun. Rudy that council rescind the declaration of surplus land at 90 Loveys St. and that staff be directed to look at alternative purposes for the property," said EZT clerk Meagan Vader.

There was no discussion on the motion and it was carried unanimously.

The former township office in Hickson was East Zorra-Tavistock's township hall and office for decades. The township built it and moved its offices there in 1970. It later moved its administration to a new, roughly 13,000-square-foot office at 89 Loveys St.

The Gazette has reached out to Mayor Phil Schaefer and township staff for more details. There was no response before press time.

One injured in Perth East collision

WILMOT-TAVISTOCK GAZETTE STAFF

thewtgazette@gmail.com

One person has suffered serious injuries following a collision in the Township of Perth East, south of Milverton on Nov. 10.

Just before 9:30 a.m., the Perth County OPP along with the Perth East Fire Department and Perth County Paramedic Services responded to a two-vehicle collision at the intersection of Perth Line 55 and Perth Road 119.

Police say the collision involved a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) and a passenger vehicle. The driver of the CMV was uninjured, while the driver of the passenger vehicle suffered serious, life-altering injuries and was airlifted by ORNGE to a trauma centre. There were no other occupants in either vehicle.

The OPP deployed members from the West Region Traffic Incident Management Enforcement Team to assist with the collision investigation.

Perth Line 55 remained closed at Perth Road 135, as well as Perth Road 131 at Perth Line 59 and Perth Road 119 at Perth Road 130 for several hours Nov. 10.

This investigation remains ongoing. Police are asking anyone with information or footage of this incident to contact the Perth County OPP at 1-888-310-1122.

Zion United Church celebrates successful fundraiser, upcoming anniversary

JANET BRADLEY WORTHINGTON

Submitted to the Gazette

Zion United Church in New Hamburg has plenty to celebrate this November, including a successful fundraising dinner and the church's upcoming 186th anniversary.

On Nov. 6, the church's United Church Women (UCW) welcomed 64 guests for a spaghetti dinner and silent auction, raising nearly $2,000 to support the church's mission.

Thanks in part to promotion through social media, the UCW was pleased to welcome guests not only from New Hamburg but also from across the wider Waterloo Region.

The celebrations will continue Sunday, Nov. 22, when Zion United Church marks its 186th anniversary with a special service.

Guest soloist Darielle Chomyn-Davison will perform, accompanied by the church's pianist, Jack Wyndham.

Joan Berge, a retired minister from Chesterfield United Church and longtime member of Zion, will also share memories of the church and its history over the years.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

From left, John and Linda Wagner, Glen and Ev Diamond, and Sharon Ross take part in Zion United Church's spaghetti dinner and silent auction Nov. 6, which raised nearly $2,000 to support the church's mission.

OBITUARY

Denise Emmalene Bell
December 2, 1961 – November 1, 2026



With immense love, we announce the peaceful passing of Denise Emmalene Bell on Sunday, November 1, 2026, at Rotary Hospice in Stratford, following a courageous nine-year journey with metastatic breast cancer. Denise was a devoted mother to her four cherished children, Meghan, Mitchel (Bianca), Matthew (Marilyn), and Madelyn, and an endlessly proud "Gaga" to her seven-year-old grandson, Finley Bell McCabe. One of Denise's greatest joys in her final weeks was attending the wedding of her son Mitchel and his wife Bianca on October 17, 2026. Her presence that day was nothing short of miraculous, a testament to her extraordinary strength, tenacity, and, above all, the boundless love she had for her family. Denise was predeceased by her loving parents, William Gordon Bell and Emmalene Marie (Gerber) Bell; her brother Bruce Bell; her niece Jaimee Bell; and her nephews Steve Baechler and Joey Erb. She was also predeceased by her cherished former in-laws Joseph Clement McCabe and Elsie Mae (Wilson) McCabe, and sister-in-law Maureen McCabe, all of Norwood, Cincinnati. Denise will be profoundly missed by her siblings Dianne Currah (Larry), Donna LeSouder (Pete), Darlene Schmidt (Calvin), Joe Bell (Cathie), Brian Bell (Harla Morris), John Bell (Connie), Pete Bell (Bev), Deb Bell (Paul Bender), as well as her sister-in-law Michelle Denier, her treasured nieces and nephews, cousins, extended family and so many cherished lifelong friends. Born the youngest of ten children, she grew up surrounded by the joyful chaos of a large family, a spirit she carried throughout her life. Her door was always open, her heart always generous, and there was always room for one more at her table. Denise enjoyed a lifelong love of travel and spontaneous adventures. She relished playing volleyball and golf with friends. She was the social convenor of countless card and board games with family. Denise was a community builder and loved connecting good people to one another. She believed in second chances and always rooted for the underdog. She loved a charitable silent auction, bought tickets to every fundraiser and stopped at any farm market or lemonade stand on her path. Her work ethic was informed by her agricultural upbringing, and her generosity knew no bounds. She found particular joy in sunsets over Lake Huron, annual trips to Port Stanley and Sunnybreeze, Florida. Yet wherever her travels took her, it was always the people she shared those moments with who mattered most. Celebrating Denise's Life, family and friends were warmly invited to gather on Friday, November 6, 2026, to honour, remember, and celebrate Denise. Funeral Service was at 1:30 PM - Shakespeare Presbyterian Church. Celebration of Life was at 2:30 PM – 5 PM - Shakespeare Optimist Hall. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Wellspring Stratford/London in honour of Denise. **Denise's children warmly request family and friends to gather with them again on Wednesday, December 2, 2026, at Quehl's in Tavistock for an Open House between 1 PM and 4 PM to celebrate what would have been Denise's 65th birthday.** Donations to Rotary Hospice are very welcome in honour of Denise's birthday. Denise's family is incredibly thankful to the team at London Health Sciences, Stratford General Hospital and HealthSource Integrative Medical Centre of Kitchener for the care they have provided Denise over the last decade. Denise was a trailblazer in the metavivor community. The innovative trials and care that Denise engaged with will enhance the experience and improve outcomes for many others.

OBITUARY

James (Jim) Donaldson



James (Jim) Donaldson, 78, passed away at his home on November 3, 2026. His family is saddened by his passing and will forever cherish the memories they shared with him.

Jim was the loving husband of Anya for 55 years. He was a proud father to Tanya Waters (Gord) and Reagan (Erica), and a loving grandfather to Katelyn (Tyler), Gregory (Sylwia) Waters and Carsen Donaldson.

He will also be fondly remembered by his siblings, Peggy (Reg) Searles, Ted (Gail) Donaldson and Penny (Barry) Mulvey. Jim was predeceased by his parents, Stanley and Pearl Donaldson, and his sister, Betty and her husband Les Knott.

Jim graduated from the Diploma in Agriculture Program at the University of Guelph and went on to build a successful career as a Swine Export Specialist. His work took him to many countries around the world, where he developed lifelong friendships and lasting connections.

Jim was always at the heart of keeping family and friends connected. He took great pride in planning gatherings and making sure those near and far stayed in touch.

In keeping with Jim's wishes, we are hosting his last party! Please join us for a Celebration of Life in his honour at Craigowan Golf Club on Sunday, November 29th, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to St. Joseph's Health Care London in support of research into Microscopic Polyangiitis. Rheumatology Department Attention: Dr. Lillian Barra St. Joseph's Hospital, 268 Grosvenor St., D2-101, London, ON N6A 4V2

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

Sorry For Your Loss

The Old Gazettes

By Sydney Grant

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

November 11 - 18, 2021, Edition (5 years ago)

Tavistock Public School was placed in lockdown for about two hours on Thursday, Nov. 4, after an issue was brought to the attention of school principal Nicola Bankes, who quickly contacted OPP and secured the school. "My number one priority was the safety of 350 students and staff," said Bankes. Following standard procedures, teachers and students immediately locked classroom doors, covered windows and moved to designated locations in the classroom. Officers and the police K9 unit thoroughly inspected the school grounds and surrounding area. Once police determined there was no risk of public safety, the school was notified that students could be dismissed for the day.

A vibrant red poppy is now permanently displayed down a country road in Bright. This sketched poppy is in the centre of a seven-by-seven-foot painted barn quilt. The piece was recently completed and erected on a farm shed owned by Edward and Maribeth Bird in Bright. Two Wellesley residents were instrumental in making this quilt happen. Ralph and Sandra Bean of RR#1 Wellesley put in hours of dedicated work to bring the quilt to fruition. Their daughter, Elaine Ballantyne, a resident of Bright, is the quilt's organizer.

Two local residents have made it to the big screen. Brothers Glen and Alex Smyth, owners of Wellesley Appleflats, will appear on the Canadian reality show Dragon's Den. The episode was filmed in late May this year and will air on CBC Thursday, Nov. 25, at 8 p.m. The show's premise is for aspiring Canadian entrepreneurs to pitch business ideas to a panel of venture capitalists (called "Dragons") hoping to secure financing and partnerships. The Wellesley Appleflats is a Shakespeare-based food producer that creates a variety of crab-apple-based products, including crab-apple jelly, and crab-apple-based mixers.

November 9 - 16, 2011, Edition (15 years ago)

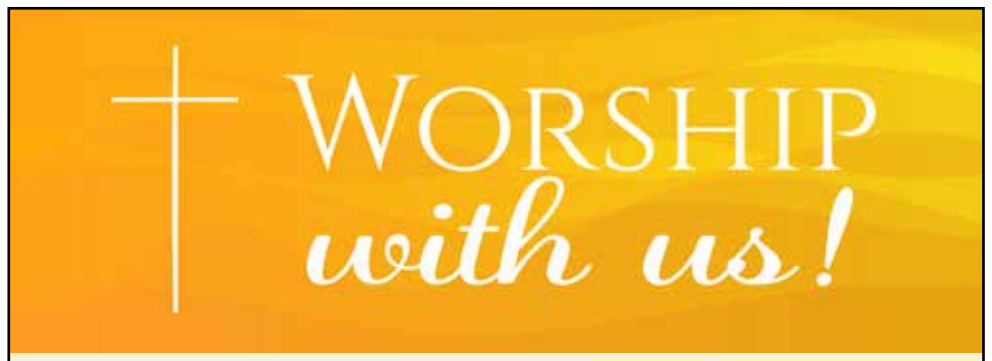
Skaters from the Plattsville Skating Club recently competed in Huntsville at the Skokie Skate Competition on Oct. 21-23. These skaters are coached by Cindy and Danielle Brick. Members of the team include Pier Nauta, Alysson Cunningham, Jacinda Nauta, Katie Szever, Clara Roth, Brianna Higgs, Tina Nauta, Eden Walser, Paige Szever, Derika Nauta, Connie Gozzard, April Trussler, Hilary Parson, Lauren Holdsworth, Mackenzie Kaufman and Emilie Bell.

Police have charged a Tavistock man with dangerous operation of a motor vehicle and mischief endangering life after he drove his Dodge Magnum through the front entrance of Waterloo Regional Police Service headquarters located at 200 Maple Grove Rd. in Cambridge on Sunday, Nov. 13, 2011, at 5:24 a.m. The vehicle travelled about 30 metres within the confines of the lobby and came to rest alongside the reception area of the records branch. Civilian and uniform employees were at work at the time. There were no injuries as the result of the incident.

November 6 - 13, 1996, Edition (30 years ago)

Students of Tavistock Public School enjoyed a Halloween theme for their October assembly on Thursday, Oct. 31. Over 80 pumpkins were entered in the annual pumpkin carving contest with the winners displayed on stage. Six categories were awarded for carving and one class category was judged. Katelyn Leyser earned first prize for the funniest pumpkin. The scariest pumpkin was carved by David Witzel. Marcus and Katie Yantzi had the biggest pumpkin.





TOWNSHIP OF EAST ZORRA-TAVISTOCK

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

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

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

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

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

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

WILMOT TOWNSHIP

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette SPORTS

PJHL Roundup: Top Doherty Division teams riding high after undefeated weekend

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

Wellesley is on a four-game win streak. Tavistock has rattled off three straight wins following a four-game losing skid. New Hamburg has also won three in a row.

The top three teams in the Provincial Junior Hockey League's (PJHL) Doherty Division have created some breathing room between them and the rest of the pack as the halfway mark of the regular season approaches.

The Applejacks kicked off the weekend with a 6-1 victory in Norwich over the Merchants as they peppered 52 shots on goal. Ryhs McCloskey led the offence with three assists while five skaters chipped in with two points apiece and James Gall stopped 30 of 31 shots between the pipes.

Wellesley finished the weekend with an identical 6-1 home-ice win on Sunday over Paris. Kyler Morgan scored twice in a winning effort while Hudson Parker and Cooper Vickerman had a goal and assist each. The Mounties have now lost six straight games.

"Everything is starting to click now," said Applejacks captain Issac Lorentz. "In the locker room, guys are getting closer and chemistry is building. Like I told you before, we have a lot of new faces and we knew it would take time to gel, but we have some games under our belt now and it's starting to trend in the right direction."

He added it has become easier for set lines to work more cohesively.

"We are learning how our linemates play, what their tendencies are and where they go on the ice."



(CALEB EGGERT, CLB.DIGITAL PHOTO)

Wellesley forward Ethan Stover controls the puck inside the Norwich blueline being chased by a pair of Merchants during the Applejacks 6-1 road win on Friday night. Wellesley is riding a four-game win streak and are three points behind first-place Tavistock in the PJHL's Doherty Division.

Ryan Gerber is in his first year as bench boss in Wellesley and Lorentz said he's been doing what he needs to do to motivate the team.

"Gerbs has been awesome. He pushes us to be the hardest working team out there and play a simple blue-collar style. His messaging is good and it's starting to pay off."

The team has a respectable penalty kill rate of 82 per cent but is only taking advantage of 18 per cent of its powerplay opportunities, something the captain said is improving.

"The last two games, our powerplay has been good and same with the penalty kill. We can always take less penalties, but when we do, we need to be able to kill them off."

Wellesley has allowed just five goals against during its four-game win streak, something Lorentz at least partly attributes to strong goaltending by the duo of Gall and Brock Schaus, who have a combined goals-against average of 2.86.

"Both of them are playing great right now and we can't go wrong with putting either of them out there. Our defence is also blocking a lot of shots, so it's been a team effort."

The Applejacks have a good chance to extend their win streak to six games this coming weekend. They host Dorchester on Saturday before travelling to Paris for a rare Monday night contest.

Tavistock swept its three-game weekend starting with a 6-0 drubbing of Dorchester on home ice Friday. Owen Yagar scored twice to lead the Braves with Yann Raskin and Evan Palubeski added a goal and assist each. Andrew Torchia stopped all 24 shots he faced to earn his second shutout of the season. The Baden native lowered his goals-against average to 1.71 and save percentage to .931.

The Braves travelled to Paris on Saturday and squeaked out a 3-2 come-from-behind overtime victory after Yagar scored his 10th of the season with a shorthanded, unassisted effort. Tavistock trailed 2-0 in the third period before goals by Tucker Otto and Keaton Bartlett forced the extra period.

The Braves finished the weekend with another overtime thriller thanks to a 4-3 win in Hespeler as Yagar scored his second straight game-winner with Jacob Skuta and Raskin earning helpers. Tavistock trailed 3-2 late in the third period but Palubeski potted his ninth of the season to extend the game. Raskin and Skuta led the attack with three points each.

New Hamburg earned four points with a pair of weekend victories starting with a 6-2 home ice win over Paris despite being outshot 36-17. Ezra Fischer, Lincoln Cormier and Oliver Lyon led the attack with two points each and Deklan Jermol stopped 34 shots in net.

The Firebirds hosted Hespeler on Saturday night and earned a 5-3 victory thanks to another balanced attack that saw four skaters earn two points each.

DIVISION LEADER	MOST GOALS FOR	BEST DEFENSE	BEST PP%
Tavistock Braves 29 PTS	Tavistock Braves 80 GF	Tavistock Braves 44 GA	Paris Mounties .255 PP%

SOUTH - DOHERTY DIVISION

gamesheetstats.com

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	OTL	T	OTW	PTS	SOW	SOL	GF	GA	DIFF	PCT	PIM	RW	ROW	STK
1	Tavistock Braves	18	13	2	2	0	3	29	0	1	80	44	+36	.806	406	10	13	Won 3
2	Wellesley Applejacks	17	13	4	0	0	1	26	1	0	77	47	+30	.765	450	11	12	Won 4
3	New Hamburg Firebirds	17	12	4	0	0	1	25	0	1	72	54	+18	.735	231	11	12	Won 3
4	Norwich Merchants	18	9	9	0	0	2	18	2	0	57	78	-21	.500	443	5	7	Won 1
5	Dorchester Dolphins	17	6	10	0	0	1	13	0	1	61	78	-17	.382	372	5	6	Lost 3
6	Hespeler Shamrocks	18	5	10	3	0	0	13	1	0	57	77	-20	.361	324	4	4	Lost 2
7	Paris Mounties	19	4	11	3	0	0	12	0	1	58	84	-26	.316	445	4	4	Lost 6

Royals drop overtime thriller on Minor Hockey Night

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

Tavistock split a pair of Ontario Elite Hockey League (OEHL) games last weekend, starting with a 6-5 shootout loss on home ice against Elora.

The Rock forced overtime after finding the back of the net with just over five minutes remaining in the third period after Deven Kropf had given the Royals the lead five minutes earlier. After a scoreless overtime, the teams headed into a shootout and Elora's Adam Brubacher scored the lone goal, beating Tavistock goalie Adam Masters.

Kropf finished with three goals and an assist while Sam Rhodes added one goal and three helpers. Drew Gerth also scored for the Royals, who outshot the Rock 40-35.

As is tradition on the team's Minor Hockey Night, the Tavistock Optimist Club presented a free minor hockey registration to one young player attending the game. This year's winner was Ellis Harmer.

Tavistock travelled to Ridgetown on Sunday and bounced back with a 7-4 win. Bryan Foster led the attack with one goal and three assists while Gerth added two goals and an assist. Kropf scored twice and is tied for fourth in league scoring with seven goals and 17 points in just six games. Tyler Reid and Mitch Atkins also had two points each in the winning effort.

Marek Pavlas earned the win in net, stopping 24 shots in his first start as a Royal. The native of Jihlava, Czechia, made 10 starts for the Stratford Irish during the 2025-2026 Northern Premier Hockey League season.

Luke Eurig is off to a sizzling start to the 2026-2027 OEHL season. The Durham forward is averaging over four points per game and has already racked up 26 points in six games as the Thundercats are undefeated and averaging just under 10 goals per game. Teammate and fellow Mount Forest native Brody LeBlanc sits second in league scoring with 22 points.

Tavistock now sits fifth in the OEHL's South Division with three wins against two losses. The Royals will host the Milverton Four Wheel Drives on Friday night at 8 p.m. and travel to Seaforth on Saturday to battle the Centenaires. Game time is 7:30 p.m.



(PHOTOS COURTESY OF TAVISTOCK ROYALS)

Members the Tavistock Titans U8 LL team took part in a scrimmage Friday night during the first intermission.



Ellis Harmer (middle) was the winner of a free minor hockey registration for the 2027-2028 Tavistock Minor Hockey season, sponsored by the Tavistock Optimist Club. Club member Dan Brenneman (left) and Royals president Kyle Wynette presented Harmer with his prize.



Some members of the Royals, including Trevor Sauder (pictured), visited residents at the Maples Home for Seniors in Tavistock on Sunday. Players had a snack with residents and talked about their hockey memories.

SUDOKU

by PeterS 2026

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

Answers found on classified page

QUIZ TIME

BY JAKE GRANT

1. How many times has Donald Trump been impeached?
2. What sport's lingo uses the term "Bonspiel"?
3. In the game of Battleship, how many hits does it take to sink the submarine?
4. Which actor bought the first Hummer made for civilian use?
5. What is the Minion's primary language called?
6. Lego originated from what country?
7. What is the tallest type of horse?
8. Which ocean does Bangladesh have direct access to?
9. In the beer world, what does the abbreviation IBU stand for?
10. Who is the "Father of Country Music"?

Answers found on classified page

Saying the quiet parts out loud: Is social media how we really feel?

NICK KOSSOVAN

Submitted to the Gazette

There's more truth to the hatred, taboo beliefs and raw emotions expressed on social media than we're willing to admit.

From morning to night, you and I practise the unbending routine of self-control. We force a smile when our boss moves the goalposts. We stay silent when an acquaintance spews absurd conspiracy theories. We internalize the friction of daily life – the rudeness, the entitlement, the petty demands and the constant noise of unfiltered egos around us.

You and I constantly filter our behaviour, swallowing our truths and compromising our beliefs because we learned early in adulthood that "go along to get along" is the price of admission to society. It's the survival strategy that lets us get through the day with as few scars as possible.

However, when we unlock our phones, scroll through social media, or read the comments on an article, our filters give way to pent-up emotions.

Within seconds, our carefully constructed mask of public politeness slips off. We start leaving comments that don't merely disagree; they're meant to decimate. We post visceral rants about everything from geopolitical crises and political ideologies we feel are ruining the country to local zoning laws.

For years, cultural critics and psychologists have warned that social media isn't just distorting our worldviews; it's poisoning our empathy. Algorithms are portrayed as external pollutants that corrupt our innate goodness, turning mild-mannered people into aggressive keyboard warriors. We want to believe this narrative because it lets us avoid acknowledging that our toxic online behaviour is entirely our own doing.

Social media isn't a distortion chamber; it's a reflection of our unfiltered human subconscious, letting us say our quiet parts out loud.

Because digital distance and anonymity strip away the threat of real-world consequences, online platforms have become the ultimate dumping ground for our raw mental overflow. We vent online precisely because we don't expect consequences. As NYU social psychologist Jonathan Haidt observed, technology acts as an accelerant because "anonymity and distance remove the normal social brakes – the shame, the embarrassment, the immediate human eye contact – that keep our worst impulses in check."

Shielded by the illusion of zero accountability, we unleash online what we'd never dare say to someone's face.

For centuries, social friction and physical



(VECTEEZY PHOTO)

Cut Social media offers a window into our unfiltered emotions, revealing the thoughts and reactions we might otherwise keep to ourselves.

distance created a delay between thought and speech. Digital networks have eliminated that delay. As author James Gleick noted in his 2011 book, The Information: A History, a Theory, a Flood, instant global connectivity means "we live in an era of near-instantaneous transmission," in which impulse no longer has time to cool before it becomes a public statement.

We've built civilizations through the necessary act of self-censorship, which has enabled us to coexist peacefully rather than destroy one another. For centuries, our darkest impulses – petty resentments, partisan rage, intolerance, vindictiveness – were kept locked in the mind's basement, suppressed by basic etiquette and our need to survive together. Then came the internet and social media, which gave us a means to amplify those impulses.

In the physical world, saying what you really think carries immediate costs: an awkward silence, a broken friendship, or a bloody nose. Online, those consequences don't carry the same weight. Without the physical proximity and the quiet restraint that keep us civil while standing in line at the grocery store, our urges run free.

Seen this way, the online outrage machine looks less like an aberration and more like a massive unburdening. Social media lets us set down the exhausting weight of daily politeness and ease the cognitive strain of swallowing our truths and feelings to maintain decorum.

Social media companies didn't invent human toxicity; they discovered an oil field and built derricks to monetize it. Algorithms don't create our latent hostilities; they're scientifically engineered to profit from them. They know anger feels like truth and outrage feels like power. Digital oligarchs don't just drill for our anger; they refine our fears, biases, flaws and grudges into dopamine hits that incentivize us to turn our basement thoughts into public performances they can monetize.

Blaming the algorithm is a convenient excuse. It lets us preserve a flattering myth: that behind our keyboards, we're all decent, empathetic citizens who merely lost our way online. In fact, we knowingly take off our masks because wearing them is exhausting.

By elevating emotional transparency to a virtue, social media is eroding the foundation of social harmony. While civilization can endure flawed algorithms, it cannot survive the loss of social hypocrisy, which is essentially adults choosing manners over raw impulse. When we abandon this courtesy, our ability to coexist collapses. I'm sure you've noticed this is already underway.

The real challenge of the digital age isn't fixing our feeds; it's accepting what they reveal about who we truly are. The hostility that has permeated every corner of the Internet and social media reflects how we truly feel when no one is watching. Society won't hold together by tweaking algorithms or regulating Silicon Valley. It requires each of us to lock eyes with the backlit screen we're hunched over, recognize what's looking back and decide whether to wear masks online.

Nick Kossovan, a self-described connoisseur of human psychology, writes about what's on his mind from Toronto. You can follow Nick on Twitter and Instagram @NKossovan.

Christmas will be here before you know it
– let's get your ad on the nice list!

Share the Spirit of Christmas with the
The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

Get a head start on the season with the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette's Christmas Greetings, publishing December 17 — a great way to wish the community a Merry Christmas and thank your customers for their support. A portion of proceeds will be donated to the Wilmot/Wellesley ads to Wilmot Family Resource Centre & Tavistock to Tavistock Assistance Program, helping provide care and comfort to local families.

heather@granthaven.com
226.261.1837 | granthaven.com
GRANT HAVEN MEDIA

Honouring Dave Brown: Decades of dedication and service

DIANE DANEN

Gazette Correspondent

After decades of quietly giving his time and talents to Shakespeare Presbyterian Church, David Brown was honoured during a special service on Sunday, Nov. 1, in recognition of all he has done for the congregation and the church community.

Brown was born in Palmerston and is the second oldest of 10 children. His family moved to Dublin, where he began working at the local abattoir as a teenager. He eventually took over the business.

Brown married Charlene Kramp in 1969. The Kramp family had moved from the Arthur area to Dublin when Kramp was a child. The Brown and Kramp families lived across the highway from one another.

In 1980, Brown sold the abattoir business in Dublin and began working at Schneider's in Kitchener. The following year, David and Charlene Brown moved to Shakespeare, where they raised their two children, Jeff and Tracey.

David Brown worked at Schneider's for a number of years before accepting a position at the Stone Crock Butcher Shop in St. Jacobs, where he remained until his retirement.

While living in Dublin, the Brown family attended the Presbyterian church in Mitchell. After moving to Shakespeare, they began attending Shakespeare Presbyterian Church, where David Brown became actively involved in the congregation.

Over the years, David Brown fulfilled almost every role within the church. He served on session and was very involved with the board of managers, serving as chair for many years.

"David Brown has been the go-to guy at Shakespeare Church for decades, and we want to say thanks," said Rev. Rob Congram. "David Brown could best be described as the quiet heartbeat of our church. He was always the first to handle the heavy lifting behind the scenes, yet he never once stood around waiting for a 'thank you.' He possessed a deep dedication, one that served completely from the heart, never seeking recognition or praise."

David Brown took on many projects around the church, from overseeing the construction of the church addition and renovating the hall in the church basement to looking after the maintenance of both the interior and exterior of the building.

Mike Hill, chair of the board of managers, recognized David Brown's many years of dedication and the work he has done behind the scenes. Whether overseeing a major construction project or simply tightening the legs on a wobbly table, David Brown gave the same attention to every job, no matter how big or small.

"Often, it's the people working quietly behind the scenes who make the biggest difference, and Dave, you are certainly one of those people. You've given this church something money can't buy – your time, your commitment and your heart. Dave, your countless hours of hard work, generosity and willingness to lend a hand have truly made a difference," said Hill.

Last spring, David Brown began stepping back from the many tasks he had taken on over the years at the church. Now, he enjoys working on puzzles and crosswords, puttering in his flower beds and playing solitaire.

While he may no longer be seen shovelling snow, cutting the grass or tending the flower beds at the church on the corner in Shakespeare, the congregation is grateful that he will continue to be a familiar and friendly face at Shakespeare Presbyterian Church, greeting members each Sunday morning.



(DIANE DANEN PHOTOS)

Dave Brown is joined by his family following a church service celebrating his many years of service to Shakespeare Presbyterian Church. Cake was served in his honour. From left: John and Tracey Segeren, Brown's son-in-law and daughter, Dave Brown and his wife, Charlene.

Gazette Puzzles

WINTER PREP HOME MAINTENANCE

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

Caulking
Chimney
Downspouts
Drafts
Furnace
Gutter Cleaning
Hose Bibs
Insulation
Pipe Wrapping
Roof Inspection
Seal Windows
Snow Removal
Weatherproofing
Window Screens
Yard Cleanup

SPONSORED BY:

ZEHR INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.
Since 1954 | www.zehrinsurance.com
PROTECTING WHAT MATTERS TO YOU
59 Huron Street
New Hamburg, ON
519-662-1710
24 Hope Street
Tavistock, ON
519-655-2422

Pet of the Week

BLIZZARD

Meet Blizzard, an eight-month-old rabbit who is ready to hop her way into your heart! This sweet, curious girl loves having space to explore, discover new things, and show off her charming personality.

She's looking for a loving home where she can settle in at her own pace, feel safe, and be her wonderful self. With patience, care, and plenty of love, Blizzard could make a very special companion.

Could Blizzard be the missing piece of your family? Meet this lovely girl by contacting our Stratford Centre or online at kwsphumane.ca/adopt/small-animals



SPONSORED BY:
TLC PET FOOD
3514 Bleams Rd, New Hamburg, ON
519-662-9500 | www.tlcpetfood.com

Serious sushi satisfaction

HEAPS OF HEALTHY TIPS

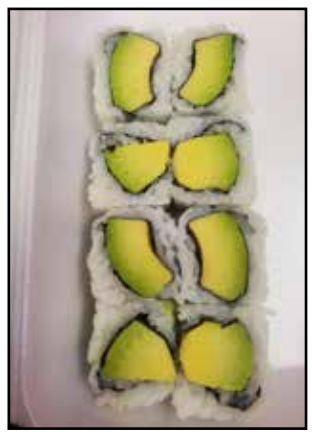
By Mercedes Kay Gold





(PHOTOS COURTESY OF SUSHI YOU)

A poke bowl is full of delicious, healthy and fresh ingredients.



The Yam Dragon sushi roll at Sushi You is my go-to choice.



Avocado, cucumber, seaweed and rice are staple ingredients of sushi.

Busy bees take notes; sushi is a sensational takeout option. Either stick to the 80/20 rule and go out and indulge in tempura or rolls with cream cheese or simply eat 100 per-cent clean.

Sushi is a traditional Japanese dish made with shari or vinegared rice, and topped with seafood, veggies, seaweed paper and even eggs. Raw fish is not the defining element but rather the shari.

Sushi is topped whereas sashimi is thinly sliced raw fish. There's nigiri, the hand-pressed blocks of vinegared rice with something on top. Maki are the cylindrical rolls filled with literally anything from raw fish to smoked salmon, tofu and eggs. Last but not least, temaki is the hand-rolled sushi shaped into a cone using a sheet of seaweed and filled with anything you desire.

Why sushi? Fish is outrageous for omegas and good fats, especially when it's straight out of the water. That means sashimi, standalone pieces without the rice, are number one on this holistic nutritionist's list.

Fish is a whole food, a power protein and an outstanding source of omegas. Most health experts agree that omega-3 fatty acids known as EPA and DHA are essential nutrients and lead to heaps of heart health, cognitive and eye love, plus all-star anti-inflammatories. Eating at least three ounces a week of fatty, cold-water fish – salmon, mackerel and herring – will help all the cells in your body function fabulously.

Let's not leave out shrimp; high in iodine and top-notch thyroid support. Unagi or eel, a popular choice among sushi lovers, is high in eye-support vitamin A and D, a bone-health booster. Fish is also a super source of marine collagen, building beauty from the inside out.

Miso soup is a great appetizer; the simplicity of water but full of fabulous flavour to fill the belly just a little so overeating is not quite as easy.

Edamame is endless plant-based protein. Think of peas in a pod but edamame is immature, young green soybeans, boiled or steamed intact and salted. Just shell and enjoy.

Maki rolls are a marvelous way to add cucumber, peppers and avocado. Rule number one, never pass on vegetables and always add more healthy fats.

Rice is not the enemy when eaten in moderation. Alongside protein, blood sugar can be managed. One whole roll or eight to 10 pieces is about a cup of rice.

Another great sushi roll is the yam dragon. The sweet potato stuffed rice topped with avocado is my go-to paired with a slew of sashimi. Skip the sauce to avoid any sugar.

Seaweed is stupendous. Seaweed is a form of algae coming straight from the sea. Seaweed contains iodine and tyrosine, essential for running the thyroid. This all-important gland in the endocrine system is crucial for optimal growth, energy production and repairing damaged cells in the body. The thyroid is linked to a healthy metabolism, helping manage weight. Seaweed is very low in calories and contains small amounts of vitamins and minerals, but it's full of copper.

New to sushi? My first-timer friends are sure to taste test the power of the poke bowl. Salmon poke bowl starts with a rice base and from there it's built; fresh salmon, cucumber, avocado, crab, raw veggies, sauce and ginger. There's also tuna, crab, spicy salmon, unagi, assorted and even a plant-based option.

Now there's one gorgeous, green spicy topper that is a powerhouse of heat. Wasabi is either love or hate for sushi lovers. Real wasabi or Japanese horseradish is hard to find with its short shelf life, but western wasabi is wonderful. Typically, it's a blend of horseradish, mustard powder and a touch of colouring.

Sushi menus are famous for tons of top-notch choices to tempt the taste buds, but as a health expert, I am sharing the best of the best for nutrient-dense options for body-building goodness. Roll into sushi and reap the rewards.

Support local and fall in love with Sushi You, located at 385 Waterloo St. in New Hamburg. To view all the mouthwatering options find them at sushiyou.ca

Staying engaged after the votes have been tallied

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

By Galen Simmons



The excitement from the Oct. 26 municipal elections has all but died down, and a new slate of council members will take their rightful seats around their respective council tables within the coming weeks.

With a lot to learn for those who are new to their roles, the real work of governing, setting budgets and strategic direction, reading through countless agendas filled with detailed reports, and attending council, committee and board meetings is about to begin.

And while many of us have placed our trust in those we've elected to serve, those of us who will not be serving on council need to stay engaged in municipal politics to hold those we've elected accountable for the promises they made during election season.

Though most people don't have the time in their day to attend every council meeting, read every report or advocate on every issue that reaches council chambers, there are more manageable ways to stay involved and engaged as we transition from the excitement of an election to the often less-interesting minutiae of running a municipality from day to day.

For starters, consider volunteering to serve on a municipal committee, community board or with a local organization working toward a cause you believe in.

I recently joined the fundraising committee for the Community Commons project at 14 Church St. N. in St. Marys because I believe in what the project aims to accomplish and wanted to lend a hand in making it a reality.

Like many of you, I have a busy schedule, and I can't always make it to every meeting. However, with meetings generally held once a month, it's a manageable commitment that allows me to contribute what I can.

Another simple way to stay engaged is to pick up your local newspaper each week and read about the decisions being made at council.

As journalists, we spend countless hours attending meetings, reviewing reports and asking questions so residents can remain informed without having to do all that work themselves. Even spending 15 or 20 minutes each week catching up on municipal affairs can make a difference.

And when something catches your attention, don't be afraid to reach out to your local councillor. Whether it's a concern about road maintenance, recreation facilities, housing or municipal spending, a conversation can help you better understand what's being done and ensure your concerns are heard and considered.

Municipalities also provide opportunities for public input through surveys, open houses, budget consultations and public meetings. Taking a few minutes to complete a survey or submitting a letter to council can help shape decisions that directly affect your community.

When an issue is particularly important to you, consider speaking as a delegation before council. You don't need to be an expert to share your experiences or explain how a proposed decision might affect you, your family or your neighbours. Sure, speaking in public can be intimidating, but if you can remember that the folks you elected to serve on council really do want to hear what you have to say, it really isn't that daunting.

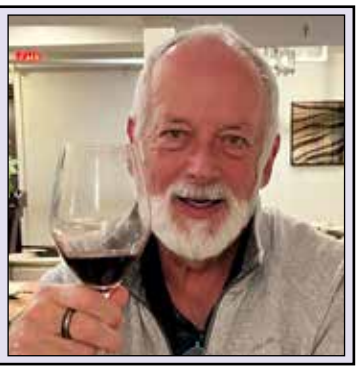
Most importantly, remember that civic engagement doesn't have to be an all-or-nothing commitment. You can follow one issue closely, support one community initiative or simply ask questions when something doesn't seem right.

Democracy doesn't begin and end at the ballot box. Electing our municipal representatives is just the first step. Holding them accountable, offering constructive input and helping build the communities we want to live in are responsibilities we share.

After all, the decisions made around the council table will continue to affect our daily lives long after the campaign signs come down.

Visiting three fine wineries in Niagara

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO



By Paul Knowles

Every autumn, I organize a coach trip to wine country. Accompanied by 30 or so friends, we visit a Niagara Region winery, have lunch, visit two more wineries and mostly sleep all the way home!

Finding a winery on the Niagara Peninsula is about as easy as finding sand on a beach. There now are well over 90 wineries, divided into two districts – Niagara-on-the-Lake and Area, and Niagara Benchlands and Area.

The rest of southern Ontario boasts an increasing number of wineries, with 22 in Prince Edward County, 13 on Lake Erie's North Shore and 23 lumped together in a category called "emerging regions," which includes wineries from the Ottawa area to the shores of Lake Huron.

But our trip is always to Niagara.

When I plan the tasting trip, I avoid the big brands. Yes, many of them make good wines (a lot of which I have personally consumed), but I find they offer a cookie-cutter, almost industrial visitor experience. So, I like to find smaller wineries, preferably (but not always) independently or family-owned, where they seem genuinely grateful that a group of 30 wine lovers have taken the time to visit them.

And then there is the matter of price point. When you're leading a group of 30 wine drinkers, the assembled multitude will probably include a few who are happy to pay $50 or $100 for a nice bottle of wine, but I promise there will be others for whom $15 is a stretch. But they still want to buy wine.

And also, there is what I would call the "visitor experience." Do the folks at the winery seem to be making an extra effort to make our visit a special event?

My partner and I have the onerous responsibility of driving to Niagara well ahead of the visit to check out potential destinations. The number of wineries that don't qualify is quite surprising for one reason or another. Some have only very pricey wines. Some cannot accommodate a tasting for 30-plus. Some have what I would call a "chilly" atmosphere – and I don't mean room temperature. Wine lovers are great; wine snobs are insufferable.

So, we eliminate some wineries, while a few make it onto our prospective list. Our goal is to always include wineries our group has not visited previously, though we may return to a favourite on occasion.

The 2026 tour visited one of the Niagara-on-the-Lake wineries (Konzelmann) and two Benchlands destinations (Henry of Pelham and The Foreign Affair Winery).

We chose Konzelmann because it has an unusual history and their wines are also unique. This winery, on a property on the shore of Lake Ontario, was actually founded in Germany, well over 130 years ago. Friederich Konzelmann first made wine in the German village of Uhlbach in 1893. Almost 100 years later, Friederich's great-grandson, Herbert Konzelmann, moved the entire operation to Canada, opening Konzelmann here in 1984. The German heritage is still very evident in the wines they make. And surprisingly, though their wines are virtually all made from grapes (of course), their most popular product is their peach wine.

Lunch, by the way, was at the Old Winery restaurant, where we had pre-ordered a pizza buffet. It was terrific.

Our visit to Henry of Pelham, another family-owned winery, was highlighted by the unique and very special location of our wine tasting. When we clambered off the coach, we were ushered to an outdoor gazebo where we enjoyed a welcome drink. However, we were then led down several flights of stairs to Canada's largest underground working barrel cellar, a perfect setting for a wine tasting. In fact, I often wonder if the wines taste as good as they seem, or if I get carried away with the experience. A bit of column A, a bit of column B, I suspect.

Our sommeliers at Henry of Pelham were informative, charming and funny. Everyone in the group was delighted with the experience.

There is history here, too. The Speck brothers who own the winery are the sixth generation to occupy the family farm, and the retail store and restaurant are in an original inn and coach house. It was a lovely visit.

Our final stop was a return visit to the Foreign Affair Winery. The wines here tend to be somewhat more expensive, but most of our group would agree they are worth it. Foreign Affair is one of the best wineries in Canada when it comes to producing Appassimento wines – an Italian style of wine-making that includes drying some or all of the grapes before pressing.

A group wine-tasting at Foreign Affair combines elegance with entertainment; the tasting room is beautiful and the four wines are all poured before you are ushered in. Then, a highly qualified staff member leads you through the tastings, pairing insightful comments about the wines with funny anecdotes about the wine business.

There. Three excellent choices for anyone looking to enjoy some wine tastings in the Niagara region. Tell them Paul sent you.

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)

Konzelmann Winery carries on a 130-year-old German winemaking tradition.



Group tastings at Henry of Pelham take place in Canada's largest underground working barrel cellar.



Cabernet Sauvignon grapes awaiting harvest.



Foreign Affair Winery wines are known for their Appassimento style.

Explore THE WORLD with us!

YOUR JOURNEY BEGINS HERE

STONETOWN TRAVEL



RHONE RIVER CRUISE PLUS 2 NIGHTS IN FRENCH RIVIERA
August 30 to September 9, 2027



DISCOVER CROATIA, SLOVENIA AND THE ADRIATIC COAST
September 11–22, 2027



SHRINES OF ITALY
November 1 – 11, 2027



VIETNAM, CAMBODIA & THE MEKONG RIVER WITH HANOI & HA LONG BAY
January 21 to February 5, 2028

Book Your Dream Trip Today! Limited slots available!

GROUP TRIPS HOSTED BY

STONETOWN TRAVEL

ST. MARYS BRANCH: 143 QUEEN STREET EAST, ST. MARYS, ON N4X 1B4
519-284-2332 | agent@stonetowntravel.com | TICO #5003192

NEW HAMBURG BRANCH: 210 MILL STREET, NEW HAMBURG, ON N3A 1P9
226-333-9939 | newhamburg@stonetowntravel.com | TICO #5003193

www.stonetowntravel.com

Serving Ontario Agriculture since 1966!

B-W FEED & SUPPLY
BEYOND NUTRITION
WWW.BWFEED.CA • 519-662-1773

Family owned & Operated

Proud sponsor of the Community Calendar

COMMUNITY CALENDAR - NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2026

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Waterloo Oxford District Secondary School presents Grade 8 Night
6-8:30 p.m.
Join us in the cafeteria at 6 p.m. for the opening presentation followed by school tours. For more information visit the Grade 9 page at wod.wrdsb.ca
Waterloo Oxford District Secondary School
1206 Snyder's Road West, Baden

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

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

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

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21 CON'T

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

186th Anniversary Celebration
9:30 a.m.
Featuring soloist Darielle Chomyn-Davison
Zion United Church
215 Peel Street, New Hamburg

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Oxford Philatelic Society
7 - 9 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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Nith Valley EcoBoosters will be hosting its next Repair Café
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Questions? Contact nvecoboosters@gmail.com
Zion United Church
215 Peel St., New Hamburg

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28 CON'T

St. James Lutheran Church 29th Traditional Journey to Bethlehem
4 p.m. & 7 p.m.
A nativity re-creation with live farm animals. Dress warmly and bring a blanket! All welcome. For more details, contact Carol Horst 519-274-4494 or email carolh@cwisp.ca
St. James Lutheran Church (Church's Red Shed)
1998 Line 45, Perth East

"Alone Together" Concert
7:30 p.m.
Featuring Jack Wyndham and Mary Catherine Pazzano
Zion United Church
215 Peel Street, New Hamburg

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

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

The Zorra Caledonian Society (ZCS) 88th St. Andrew's Night in Embro
Doors open 6 p.m. Event begins 6:45 p.m.
Performers inlude the Sim School of Highland Dance, Ingersoll Pipe Band and The Devil's Brigade. For tickets visit www.zorracaledoniansociety.ca.
Embro Zorra Community Centre (EZCC)
355644 35th Line, Zorra

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

Waterloo Regional Police Chorus
6:30 p.m.
Free admission - Free will offering
Rosebank Church
1434 Huron Rd. Petersburg

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

Christmas Concert
7 p.m.
Featuring Jack Wyndham and Kyla Altrogge
Zion United Church
215 Peel Street, New Hamburg

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

Community Christmas Dinner
12 noon
Zion United Church is hosting a FREE sit down Community Christmas Dinner for those in Wilmot community who will be alone or lonely this Christmas. Fully accessible location. Registration appreciated by December 15th by email christmaswilmot@gmail.com or 519-662-1182.
Zion United Church
215 Peel Street, New Hamburg

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.
Inside walking Monday & Wednesday morning 8.30-12 p.m. (October to March)
Contact: Larry Brown 519-240-6715
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 4-H Clubs"
This display features 4-H Clubs in Hickson and area since inception in the early 1960's. Many awards and achievements over the years are on display. You can also view some of the projects completed at the 4-H Homemaking clubs.
Location: EZT Township Administration Building (lobby), 89 Loveys Street, Hickson

PROMOTE YOUR EVENTS WITH US! HERE'S HOW:

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

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

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

WANTED

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

WANTED

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

SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

UPCOMING AUCTION



Herd Dispersal Live Auction Sale

of 135 Bred Cows/Heifers

Saturday November 21, 11:00am

to be held at 554447 Mono-Amaranth TLine, Mono, ON

Preview on day of sale, or by appointment

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

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

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

Quiz Time Answers

1. Twice
2. Curling
3. Three
4. Arnold Schwarzenegger
5. Minionese
6. Denmark
7. Shire
8. Indian ocean
9. International Bitterness Units
10. Jimmie Rodgers

CLASSES

KARATE!
CLASSES BEGIN NOV. 23RD
SCHWEITZER'S MARTIAL ARTS
Self-defense, Self-discipline, Self-confidence
GROUP CLASSES FOR AGES 4 TO ADULT
Taught by Renshi Becky Schweitzer,
5th Degree Black Belt and 12X World Karate Champion
Location Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church - 23 Church Street, New Hamburg
EARLY BIRD SPECIAL ONLY $110+HST FOR 9 WEEKS
Uniform extra
Special ends Nov. 16. Regular price $130+HST
Call 519-580-1418 or
e-mail becky_schweitzer@hotmail.com
www.schweitzersmartialarts.com

COMING EVENTS

TAVISTOCK LEGION BR 518
FUNDRAISER
Saturday, November 21
2 p.m.
Tavistock Legion, 223 Hope St. W., Tavistock
Katfight Keys featuring Chuckee Zehr, Gail Selkirk, Katie Hamilton. Food available for purchase after show catered by Churchy's Pub. CASH BAR.
$20 each **CALL DON JUNKER 519-535-7052**

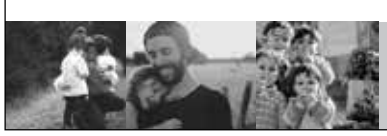
TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD CONTACT HEATHER DUNBAR AT 226.261.1837 OR HEATHER@GRANTHAVEN.COM

SERVICE DIRECTORY —

ASSISTANCE

TAP
Neighbours helping Neighbours since 2009

TAVISTOCK ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Assistance for people & families in Shakespeare, Tavistock, Hickson
519-655-3500
tapisforyou@outlook.com
NEIGHBOURS HELPING NEIGHBOURS



TAPISFORYOU.COM

AUTOMOTIVE

BADEN AUTOMOTIVE
519-634-9567
Full Service Maintenance & Repair on All Makes & Models
272 Snyder's Road, Baden
matt@badenauto.ca

AUTO UNDERCOATING

THE MOST POWERFUL CORROSION PROTECTION AND LUBRICATION
FLUID FILM
Stop winter rust before it starts with the solvent-free, lanolin undercoating that actively locks out salt and won't wash away.
CALL OR TEXT FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!
THE FAB SHOP
548-883-4640
MOBILE SERVICE AVAILABLE FOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT

CABINETRY

Mike's SELECTIVE CABINETS
Specializing in Custom Kitchens, Baths, Mantels, Bars, Entertainment Centers
Mike Foster • 519-655-2874
www.selectivecustomcabinets.com
e-mail: selective@sympatico.ca
380 Woodstock St. S. Unit 8, Tavistock

ADVERTISING

GRANT HAVEN MEDIA
The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette · Woodstock Ingersoll Echo · Exeter Examiner · Tillsonburg POST · St. Marys Independent · The Paris Independent · SIMCOE ADVOCATE · STRATFORD TIMES · Goderich Sun



CONNECTING YOUR BUSINESS TO YOUR COMMUNITY
Heather Dunbar | heather@granthaven.com | 226.261.1837

AUTOMOTIVE

CSN COLLISION CENTRES E&L
CSN - E&L
374 Hamilton Road, Unit 4, New Hamburg, ON, N3A 2K2
Ryan Pacey Manager
T: 519-662-1892
E: newhamburg@likenew.ca
Website: csncollision.ca/el
24-Hour Towing Assistance 1-877-700-4CS (4276)

CHIROPRACTIC

LAFAY FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC
Dr. Stephen M. LaFay (Chiropractor)
New Patients Always Welcome
296 Ontario St. Stratford
519-273-4404

To book your space call
Heather Dunbar
at 226.261.1837 or
heather@granthaven.com

SERVICE DIRECTORY —

COMPUTERS

73 PEEL ST,
NEW HAMBURG
519-662-6720

NOW SELLING AUDIO INTERFACES AND OTHER MUSICAL ACCESSORIES!!

- VIRUS REMOVAL
- ON SITE AND IN-STORE SERVICE
- NEW AND USED COMPUTERS

FOCUS COMPUTERS

CONSTRUCTION

Agcore CONSTRUCTION LIMITED
Brian Stere 519-276-1851
Foundations, Floors, Driveways, Patios
Drive Sheds, Barns & Bunk Silos
General Contracting - Anything Concrete!
www.agcore.ca • bstere@agcore.ca

RESIDENTIAL
AGRICULTURAL
COMMERCIAL
MOHR CONSTRUCTION
New Buildings and Renovations.
Box 250, Tavistock
Ph: 519.655.2355
info@mohrconstruction.com

CONTRACTORS

ENTWISTLE
CONCRETE & LANDSCAPE
DRIVEWAYS | PATIOS | WALKWAYS
STEPS | RETAINING WALLS
- EXPOSED AGGREGATE
- STAMPED
- SPIN FLOAT
- BROOM FINISH

519-501-5260
entwistlecl@hotmail.com
www.entwistlecl.com

FIVESTAR
CUSTOM CONCRETE LTD.
Foundations & Floors
Jon Willsey 519-778-2616 Tavistock, ON
jwillsey@fivestarcustomconcrete.com
www.fivestarcustomconcrete.com

M&G Carpentry
ADDITIONS • RENOVATIONS
REPLACEMENT WINDOWS & DOORS
DECKS & INTERIOR FINISHING
GARY PEARSON 519-655-2825

JW JON WITZEL CONTRACTING LTD.
Residential • Commercial
Agricultural • jonwitzel.com
519-662-4239

Paving stone (installation & repair), sidewalks, patios, pool decks, planters, driveways, retaining walls
ZEHR INTERLOCK & MORE
P.O. Box 979, Tavistock
Kris Zehr Cell: 519-801-1743

DENTAL

Tavistock Dental
DR. KWON KIM
Offering I.V. Sedation, Nitrous Oxide, Implant Tooth Replacement and Root Canal Treatment
48 Woodstock St. N.,
Tavistock, ON N0B 2R0
Tel: 519 655 2101
info@tavistockdental.ca
tavistockdental.ca

Wilmot Smiles
Independent Dental Hygiene Clinic
Where smiles are contagious!
NEW HAMBURG, ONTARIO
SERVICES (all ages welcome): dental cleaning & polishing (stain removal), teeth whitening, custom sport mouthguards, oral cancer screening, denture cleanings & more!
ONLINE BOOKING @ www.wilmotsmiles.ca
226-880-1648 lisa@wilmotsmiles.ca

E-BIKES / SCOOTERS

BriteSolutions
- E-Bikes
- Mobility Scooters
- Sales & Services
- Battery Replacements & Upgrades

AVVENIRE OFFICIAL DEALER
Unit 384-525 Beards Lane, Woodstock
519-602-7545
briteesolutions@gmail.com

ELECTRICAL

Specializing in Agricultural, Solar, Automation Control and EV Charging
Crescent Ridge SERVICES
163 Hope St. W. Toll Free: 1-855-655-6802
P.O. Box 495 Local: 519-655-6802
Tavistock, ON N0B 2R0 Email:info@crescentridge.ca

EXCAVATING

JEL-JOE HAULAGE
EXCAVATING SERVICES
Skidsteer and Mini Excavator
Like us on Facebook
Randy Fletcher 519-272-3641

To book your a space call Heather Dunbar at 226.261.1837 or heather@granthaven.com

MEET SOME OF THE LOCAL BUSINESSES THAT MAKE OUR COMMUNITY GREAT!



FARM EQUIPMENT

CFD
Canada Farm Distributors
163 Hope St., W., Tavistock
519.655.2584
Patrick Sommers
www.canadafd.ca
Authorized Distributor of
Mi-T-M INDUSTRIAL PRESSURE WASHERS
BURN-EASY INCINERATORS

HOME SERVICES



Call Kelly Nabrotzky
519-575-6198

Kelly's
HAPPY TO HELP
Home Services
Ladies - I'm happy to help you thrive in your own home. Whatever your needs are, we can make it work together.
Serving New Hamburg and surrounding areas.

INVESTMENTS



Tchabushnig Wealth Group | RAYMOND JAMES®
519.883.6066 • Twealth@raymondjames.ca
Twealthgroup.com

LANDSCAPING



LEGAL

Monteith Ritsma Phillips
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
519-655-2900
www.tavistocklawyers.com
Appointments as arranged

MASSAGE

Massage Therapy Associates of Tavistock
KRISTY SCHLEGEL, RMT
24 Hope St. W., Tavistock
- Prevent & Treat Muscular Disorder
- Restore & Enhance Physical Well-Being
- Massage Therapy • Reflexology

Ph: 519-655-2512 for appt. or inquiries

PLUMBING

McKay Plumbing
Commercial - Residential - Agricultural
Mark McKay
Owner/Operator
63 Hope St. W.
Box 899, Tavistock
N0B 2R0
519-301-1097
markmckay@rogers.com

To book your a space call Heather Dunbar at 226.261.1837 or heather@granthaven.com

REAL ESTATE



226-789-3846
KATE@KATEGINGERICH.COM
KATEGINGERICH.COM
RE/MAX

REAL ESTATE



ALISON WILLSEY
Real Estate Broker REALTOR® since 2005
(519) 275-4900 o: (519) 747-0231
willseyalison@gmail.com
90C Peel St. New Hamburg, ON N3A 1E3
25 Bruce St #5, Kitchener, ON N2B 1Y4
PEAK REALTY LTD BROKERAGE
Serving Oxford & Perth Counties & Waterloo Region for over 21 years
office: (519) 747-0231 www.peakrealtyltd.com

RE/MAX a-b REALTY LTD. BROKERAGE
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED



DEDICATED TO MEETING ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS!
Serving Tavistock, Stratford & Area since 1994
88 Wellington Street, Stratford, ON, N5A 2L2
SANDRA EBY, Sales Representative
mseby@rogers.com • www.remaxabrealty.ca
Cell: 519-272-7676
Res: 519-655-2548
Office: 519-273-2821
Independently Owned & Operated

RE/MAX a-b REALTY LTD. BROKERAGE
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED
Brian Wilhelm
BROKER
CELL 519-272-3465
brian@brianwilhelm.com
Kyle Wilhelm
SALES REP
CELL 519-574-7244
kyle@brianwilhelm.com

STORAGE

STORE YOUR STUFF!
MINI STORAGE: 8x13/8x16/10x11
INTERIOR MINI STORAGE
Call for Pricing!
MOHR STORAGE
114 John St, Box 250, Tavistock
Tel: 519-655-2355 • Fax 655-2715

RENT A BOX
Portable Storage Containers
Sizes 8'x12' to 8'x24'
Store at your place or ours.
Phone 519-625-8510

TRAVEL

STONETOWN TRAVEL
Main office: 150 Queen St E,
St. Marys • 519-284-2332
210 Mill St, New Hamburg • 226-333-9939
www.stonetowntravel.com





TLC® PET FOOD

NEW LOOK

Same Wholelife™ Nutrition You Trust!

TLCPETFOOD.COM | 519·662·9500