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(PHOTO COURTESY OF SHOW US YOUR WILMOT)

A smoky morning sunrise was captured by Mario Coniglio from the Mike Schout Wetlands on July 16 and shared to the Show Us Your Wilmot Facebook page.

Wildfire smoke prompts cancellations, schedule changes across Wilmot

GALEN SIMMONS

Regional Editor

Thick wildfire smoke drifting into southern Ontario from forest fires in northwestern Ontario forced the Township of Wilmot to postpone events, move programming indoors and adjust

outdoor work schedules as air quality deteriorated between July 15 and 17.

Environment and Climate Change Canada issued an orange-level air quality warning for Huron and Perth on July 15 as smoke blanketed much of southern Ontario, creating hazardous conditions for people spending extended periods

outdoors.

While the township reported no major disruptions to municipal operations, officials took several precautionary measures to protect staff and residents.

"Township staff were advised to reduce time outdoors where possible, take

Continued on page 2

Several area municipal spots up for grabs with 30 days left to file

UWO professor offers thoughts on small town politics

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

There are many good seats available with one month remaining to file nominations papers in upcoming municipal-election races.

Martin Horak is a University of Western Ontario (UWO) professor and an expert in the field of local politics, and he said there are several reasons why so few people run for office including what he called the incumbency advantage.

"Incumbents have a huge advantage at the polls and it's very substantial," said Horak, associate professor and director at the school's Centre for Urban Policy and Local Governance. "In small places where we don't have political parties, name recognition matters. A lot of people tend to vote for the folks who are familiar unless they are really unhappy with them."

Horak said the situation often leads to the same people being voted into office for long periods of time and discourages others from putting their hat in the ring. He added it's also

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Wildfire smoke prompts cancellations, schedule changes across Wilmot

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more frequent breaks, pace their work and report any air quality-related concerns," deputy CAO Harold O'Krafka said.
One of the most visible impacts was the postponement of the Castle Concert Series performance at Castle Kilbride, which had been scheduled for the evening of Thursday, July 16.
Township-run day camps also shifted activities indoors as a precaution, while sports organizations and user groups were given the option to cancel field bookings without penalty.
"All users cancelled on Wednesday, and most cancelled on Thursday," O'Krafka said.
The poor air quality also prompted

changes for township crews working outdoors.
"Operational impacts were minimal. Some outdoor tasks were rescheduled and indoor work was prioritized where possible," O'Krafka said.
No other significant impacts were reported by the township.
The smoke affected communities across much of southern Ontario as Environment Canada warned that increasing smoke concentrations also increased health risks. The smoky conditions coincided with a period of extreme heat, creating additional challenges for people working and exercising outdoors.
According to local public health units,

wildfire smoke can affect everyone's health, but older adults, young children, pregnant people, individuals with chronic heart or lung conditions, people experiencing housing insecurity and those who work outdoors are at greater risk.
Health officials advised residents to monitor for symptoms such as coughing, throat irritation, shortness of breath, dizziness and chest pain, reduce strenuous outdoor activity when the Air Quality Health Index reaches high-risk levels, stay hydrated and seek cleaner indoor air whenever possible. Well-fitting N95 respirators can also help reduce exposure to fine smoke particles when time outdoors is unavoidable.
University of Waterloo air-quality expert

Dr. Rebecca Saari said wildfire smoke can cause immediate respiratory symptoms, including coughing, headaches and irritation of the eyes, nose and throat. She noted people with respiratory or cardiovascular conditions, along with children and older adults, are at increased risk of more serious health effects.
Smoke from large wildfires can travel thousands of kilometres, meaning communities far from active fires can still experience dangerous air quality for several days.
By Friday, air quality across southwestern Ontario had begun to improve, allowing postponed activities to resume and outdoor programming to return to normal.

Several area municipal spots up for grabs with 30 days left to file

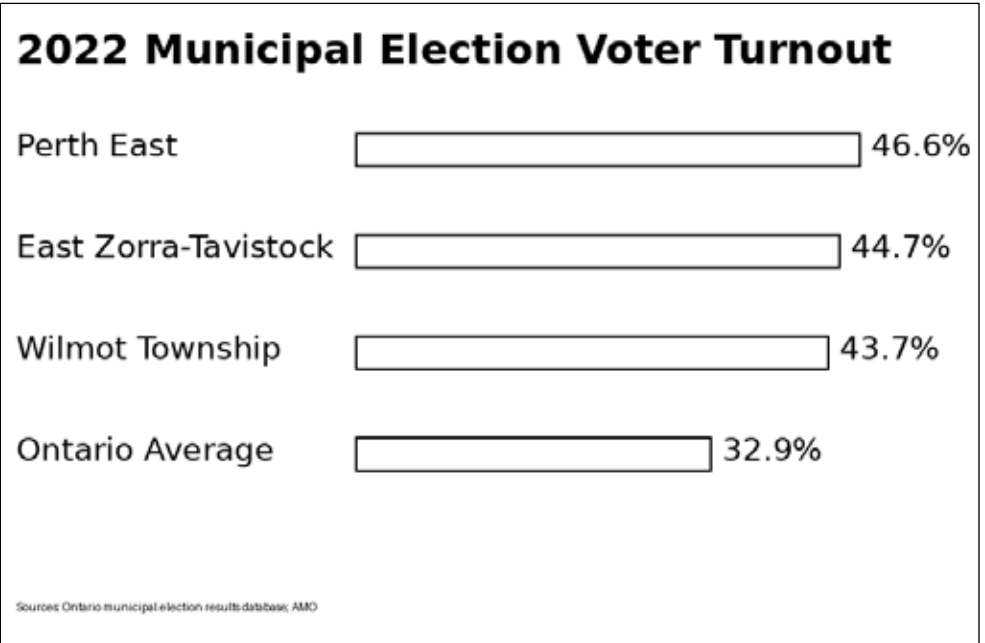
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very difficult to get people to run for office and the pay municipal politicians receive also acts as a barrier.
"They typically come with small honorariums, people have other things to do and these days, politicians face a lot of public criticism and even abuse, and people know that. It can be really hard to get folks to run for that reason as well."
In East Zorra-Tavistock (EZT) there is only one registered candidate for the position of mayor and also just one for the deputy-mayor spot. There are no candidates for Ward 1, which has two councillors elected, while Ward 3 has a single candidate. The only race is in Ward 2 where two residents have put their names forward.
Wilmot Township is in a bit better situation with three candidates running for mayor. Three of the four wards have a single councillor elected with no candidates registered in Ward 2 and one in wards one and three. Two people have filed papers for Ward 4 where two councillors are elected.
In Perth East, two candidates have registered for the mayor's position and one for deputy-mayor. Not a single candidate has filed for each of the four wards where one councillor is elected in each. It is interesting to note that not a single candidate has filed nomination papers in the municipality since June 6.

Horak said many smaller municipalities in Ontario and Quebec see incumbents re-elected on a regular basis and they are often acclaimed as no one runs against them. He added anyone attempting to defeat an incumbent may need to get their chequebook out.
"It doesn't matter if (incumbents) spend money or not, they have the same likelihood of winning again. For non-incumbents, the spending can make a difference. It doesn't necessarily overcome the incumbency advantage but in order to win, non-incumbents do have to spend money and mobilize volunteers whereas those in office can usually coast into re-election."
Nearly one in every 11 municipal candidates in Ontario was acclaimed in the 2022 election. About 8.7 per cent of all candidates won their seats without opposition, up from 7.2 per cent in 2018, according to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.
Thirty-two of Ontario's 444 municipalities had entire councils acclaimed, meaning no municipal election was required in those communities. They all had populations under 10,000 and 22 were located in northern Ontario.
EZT had the most acclaimed municipal candidates in 2022 with three, while Perth East had one and Wilmot had none.

Horak said there are some solutions to get more people on the ballot for municipal elections
"You can increase remuneration, but people are often reluctant to go down that road. I chaired the council compensation task force here in London last year and we recommended a significant salary increase, partly to attract really good quality people to run, but the public didn't like it."
He added more people tend to run in places where good local media coverage exists and people actually know what's happening at the municipal government level. The same can be said in municipalities where a scandal has occurred.
"People then sense an opportunity when there is a lot of attention being paid to a race. It brings out not only candidates, but more voters."
Horak noted there are some countries which have made voting mandatory, including Australia.
Voter turnout during the 2022 election was much higher locally than the provincial average, which sat at 32.9 per cent.



(PHOTO COURTESY OF UWU)
University of Western Ontario (UWO) professor Martin Horak said more municipal politicians are being acclaimed during elections as fewer people across the province put their name on ballots.
See graphic pictured below.
The nomination period ends on Aug. 21 at 2 p.m.



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No shortage of criticism and support after Oxford County's homelessness centre public meeting

Some attendees frustrated at format and lack of answers while most elected officials were pleased

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

Over 200 people turned out on July 15 to ask questions about the future Homelessness Support Centre (HSC) in Woodstock.

Planning for the former YMCA on Dundas Street is in its infancy, meaning there were many more questions than answers. Residents were allowed to submit questions beforehand and during the meeting on paper, but there was no live microphone for attendees. The meeting was facilitated by Vink Consulting at a cost of \$4,500.

"The purpose of this session is to share information about the county's vision about the future (HSC), answer questions, hear concerns and considerations that may help inform the future development and operation," said Jody Ball, the meeting's lead facilitator.

The question-and-answer session lasted more than an hour, with the first question focusing on community safety once the facility opens to people experiencing homelessness.

"We are planning to have 24/7 security on site. There will also be standards on site for the future operator to ensure safety is the number one priority, which is certainly the focus for us at the county," said Rebecca Smith, the county's director of human services. "We are also looking at some design-related things. Obviously, there will have to be some interior work we have to provide, which will be interior cameras, surveillance as well as controlled entryways."

The new HSC is expected to open in 2027 and will replace the current three-shelter system. It will serve residents from across Oxford who are unhoused or at risk of becoming homeless. Health-care support services, along with other community supports, are proposed on site. The county will eventually be issuing a request for proposal to find an operator.

Oxford County Warden Marcus Ryan said despite the lack of a plan for when the centre opens, he was pleased with how the event went.

"The questions were excellent. I totally agree that there are many, many unanswered questions because the HSC is a year away from opening, and our intention of the public meeting was to get input from residents before we answer questions. Council does not want the services and site design finalized without public input."

Ryan added the format of evening was

the right choice, despite some participants' frustration.

"We offered opportunities for questions to be submitted before or during the meeting, either electronically or handwritten on paper. This gave the most options for people to submit whenever and however they were comfortable. In my experience in public meetings, many residents are reluctant to speak publicly and wary of having a negative reaction to their comments, and so don't participate. We wanted to get maximum participation."

Grant Haven Media reached out to each member of county council for their thoughts, including East Zorra-Tavistock Mayor Phil Schaefer.

"I was in attendance for the entire meeting Wednesday night. The warden's response sums up my feelings regarding the meeting," Schaefer said.

Not all council members praised how the evening went. Woodstock city and Oxford County Coun. Deb Tait criticized the format.

"This was not a public meeting. It was a public orchestration designed to limit real public input and to insulate the elected councillors who supported this shelter location from any accountability to the public. Those that supported and voted for this location were not at the front; a staff person was made to answer all questions, not any of the elected people that supported it."

Smith did most of the talking during the meeting and was joined at the front of the room by Anthony Dolcetti, manager of housing and homelessness, Mike Amy, manager of facilities and fleet, and Jillaine Blair, manager of outpatient mental health and addictions at Woodstock Hospital.

Tait added the site will have a huge impact on the public and the City of Woodstock.

"This location is going to cost millions of dollars to renovate and will have a direct impact on every single taxpayer in Oxford County. In Woodstock, the public will bear not only the cost of the building but also the extra costs because of the location on our main street. The hardest hit will be those businesses and homes closest to this location, all done with zero public input or public consultation. Anytime you are using taxpayers' money, it should be done in complete transparency."

The meeting and more details on the HSC are available at <https://speakup.oxfordcounty.ca/homelessness-support>. Updates will also be provided on the same web page.

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Petersburg residents push back on possible forced water hookup

Couple cries foul after installing new well

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

The opposition to Wilmot's Petersburg water project is mounting as some residents are crying foul at being forced to hook up to a water system they don't want or need.

Tanya and Dwayne King wanted to join the municipal system six years ago but were not allowed, as they were on the opposite side of the road from the water connection.

"We then had to have a well installed at a cost of \$17,000 plus tax. Then we had to get the pump and all the stuff in the house, which was about another \$4,000 and an iron filter," said Dwayne King.

"We're still paying that off right now on a line of credit because we didn't have that kind of money lying around. Now, we are being told we are obligated to pay for this. They should have enough money to cover their own water problems."

The couple said they have been told their portion of the connection would tentatively be just under \$26,000.

"It doesn't make sense why one property a street behind us and one up the road is not being forced to join," said Tanya King.

"This would significantly bring down the total cost if this is where the region/township is wanting to go. It doesn't make sense to have private well owners pay when we already have sourced our own water systems."

The pair have started a petition, and those opposed have met to discuss next steps to advocate for themselves.

"I have spoken with a few other residents and there seems to be a lot of buzz

around people not supporting this project and the amount of money that residents will be out. We don't need it and we didn't ask for it," Tanya King added.

The couple feel if they are going to be forced into the water system, they should be compensated for the money they spent on their well. The cost of the work can be financed at a low interest rate over 25 years, but they said that doesn't make it any easier for them.

"This isn't just about money. It's about choice, fairness and having a voice in decisions that directly impact our homes and livelihoods," said Tanya King.

Both Tanya and Dwayne King are small business owners, something that makes the potential burden even tougher to deal with.

"I own a guitar shop and I'll tell you, with the present government and the recession we are in, my shop isn't doing the best right now. We're still recovering from COVID," said Dwayne King.

In addition to the payment to the township, homeowners would have to hire a company to perform the actual hookup to the municipal system. That bill would come in somewhere around the \$4,000 mark.

The Gazette was provided a written statement from the township's director of infrastructure services.

"In 2024, the Ministry of the Environment, Climate and Parks (MECP) ordered the Region of Waterloo and the Township of Wilmot to assume responsibility for a private drinking water system known as the Knipfel Private Drinking Water System," wrote Ken VanderWal.

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(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Tanya and Dwayne King are pictured in front of their well cap. The pair recently spent over \$17,000 on the well and aren't in favour of being forced to hook up to a future water service in Petersburg.

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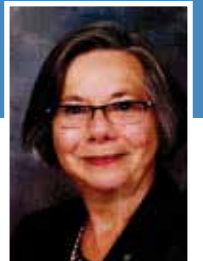
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"Prior to this date, the oversight of this system was through the MECP, not the township and the region. Due to the condition of the private system, upgrades were required, which the township has proposed to fund through local improvement charges as outlined by the Province of Ontario."

The township said it is looking to minimize the impacts on residents by incorporating a road reconstruction project in conjunction with the watermain project.

"The funding for the road portion of the project is covered from the general tax base and was already considered within the budget," VanderWal said.

As for the petition being started by the Kings, it could carry some weight. It would be valid if it is signed by a majority of the owners representing at least half of the value of the lots liable to be specially charged for the work. In this case, the local improvement is proposed for 85 lots, 62 of which are currently connected to the system. The final date to receive this petition is Aug. 9.

VanderWal said the existing 62 lots will be connected to the new system as part of the work. For the remaining 23 properties, a water service will be provided at the property line. The lots will not be forced to abandon their existing wells at this time

to connect to the municipal system.

"All provisions for the connection will be available. Should the resident wish to connect during construction, we would work with the property owner to connect to the municipal system."

Staff will be returning to council to bring forward a bylaw with a final actual cost next year or in 2028, depending on the construction schedule. It will not begin until the petition period has passed.

"Should a successful petition be received, the project will be paused and staff will bring forward a recommendation to council to either appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal or the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care," VanderWal added.

Wilmot Ward 2 Coun. Kris Wilkinson said the issue is a complex one.

"I've met with many residents to hear their concerns and I'll continue meeting with residents throughout this process. I'm happy to answer questions related to the Petersburg water project, the Petersburg municipal drain and the Local Improvement Charge process."

He added he will explain the procedure as best as he can.

"How it may affect your property and listen to your feedback. This is a complicated matter, so please don't hesitate to reach out."

10-year-old killed in Wellesley Township collision

WILMOT-TAVISTOCK GAZETTE STAFF

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A 10-year-old girl has died following a collision between a vehicle and pedestrian in Wellesley Township.

According to Waterloo Regional Police, on July 16 at approximately 7:50 p.m., emergency services responded to reports of a collision between a van and a pedestrian on Ament Line near Road 116, northwest of Linwood.

The 10-year-old girl was transported to an out-of-region hospital with

life-threatening injuries. She later died as a result of her injuries.

The driver of the Chevrolet van, a 71-year-old Huron County male, was not injured in the collision.

The road was closed for several hours for the investigation and has since been reopened.

The investigation is continuing.

Anyone who witnessed the collision or has dash camera footage is asked to contact Waterloo Regional Police at 519-570-9777 ext. 8856.

Waterloo Regional Police respond to serious collision in Wellesley Township

WILMOT-TAVISTOCK GAZETTE STAFF

thewtgazette@gmail.com

Waterloo Regional Police continue to investigate a serious collision that occurred in Wellesley Township last week.

According to police, on July 17 at approximately 9:15 a.m., officers responded to reports of a collision on Kressler Road and Erbsville Road, west of Erbsville.

Through the investigation, police say the driver of a Toyota SUV was travelling west on Kressler Road and had slowed to make a left turn onto Erbsville Road when the vehicle was struck from behind by a Chevrolet pickup truck. As a result of the collision, the Chevrolet rolled onto its side.

The driver of the Chevrolet, a 52-year-old man from Wellington County, was transported by Ornge air ambulance to an out-of-region hospital with serious injuries. A 17-year-old female passenger was transported to a local hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The driver of the Toyota, a 52-year-old Waterloo woman, was transported to a local hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The intersection was closed for several hours for the investigation.

Anyone who witnessed the collision or has dash camera footage is asked to contact Waterloo Regional Police at 519-570-9777 ext. 8856.



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TVDSB faces over \$20 million deficit amid staff reductions and declining enrolment

Oxford trustee lays blame on underfunding

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

The Thames Valley District School Board is facing a \$22.1-million deficit as it faces dwindling enrolment and potential job cuts.

The board is proposing to reduce full-time staff by 150 compared to last year. The Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) is facing another year of difficult financial decisions with a draft budget forecasting a \$22.1-million deficit and more than 150 fewer full-time positions compared with last year's staffing levels.

The board says the changes are largely driven by declining enrolment and shifting student needs, but education workers warn the reductions will add pressure to already stretched staff.

Among the proposed reductions are nearly 30 early childhood educator positions. The board says those changes are tied to an expected decline in student numbers.

Trustees at the board have been shut out of its operations since April 23, 2025. The province took over and appointed Paul Boniferno as supervisor six days later. Oxford County trustee Dave Cripps said there are a few reasons for the board's perilous economic picture.

"I'm reasonably sure the deficit is made up of the increase in Canada Pension Plan

contributions the federal government implemented a few years ago that the province didn't fund; our transportation costs because our board is so rural and has been overbudget for a number of years. Unless we stop taking kids to school, there's no way to fix that."

He added the third problem area is special education and the monetary problems it has posed.

"Our board of trustees was hugely supportive of it, and I suspect the supervisor has gotten in there and realized there's not a lot of wiggle room."

Special education was one of the biggest financial pressures identified in the provincial investigation of the TVDSB. The investigators did not conclude the board was overspending because of mismanagement in special education. Instead, they found the board was providing services beyond what provincial funding covered, resulting in recurring deficits.

The Thames Valley District School Board's special education program has recorded annual deficits ranging from \$2 million to \$7.7 million since 2020. Staffing accounted for nearly all of the program's costs, with about 96 per cent of special education spending in 2024-2025 going toward salaries and benefits, according to the provincial investigation.

Cripps said there are no other ways for

boards of education to generate revenue other than provincial funding. He added the current system sets the board up for failure.

"When there is an increase in payroll the board has no control over, if the province does not fund it, I'm not sure what the expectations are of what the board could do with that. It comes down to looking at the three areas I mentioned and realizing how important they are and funding the proper level."

Each school board across Ontario is distinctive and has its own unique funding demands, something Cripps said should be taken into account when funding decisions are made.

"It's not so much about modifying the funding formula, per se, but funding to the relevant areas of importance to each board. There are very large differences between Toronto and Oxford County. There are differences between the Thames Valley board and northern Ontario. There is no one-size-fits-all solution here."

Mary Henry is president of CUPE Local 4222 and said her members are already overworked due to fewer staff.

"A lot of it has to do with the funding cuts that are not being provided by the Ford government, which is, if you ask me, neglect."

Despite the cuts, the TVDSB board said

the draft budget does include investments in areas where student needs are growing, including 18 additional educational assistants, 12 of those in special education. The board said it is forecasting 2,800 fewer students.

Henry added if the board is attempting to reduce its deficit, they need to examine other areas instead of where students need the most support.

"When you calculate the math, one superintendent's salary could pay for four or more support staff working directly with students."

The draft budget is expected to be approved sometime in August. The effect on schools in Oxford County is not yet clear.

The London District Catholic School Board is facing a \$3.7-million deficit and is considering a series of spending reductions for the 2026-2027 school year.

Proposed measures include reducing the number of school bus monitors, cutting spending on computers, scaling back professional development opportunities for staff and teachers, and lowering sick-time costs.

The board is also reviewing its special education programs to identify potential efficiencies while maintaining required supports for students.



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Goertz enters Wilmot mayor's race, promises greater transparency and community engagement

GALEN SIMMONS

Regional Editor

Stephanie Goertz says she is running for mayor because she believes Wilmot Township needs stronger leadership, more meaningful public engagement and a clearer long-term vision for the future.

The Petersburg resident and founder of Grassroots Response to the Ukrainian Crisis, a provincial non-profit that helps rehouse and integrate Ukrainian refugees, will challenge incumbent Mayor Natasha Salonen in the Oct. 26 municipal election.

Goertz said her decision to run was driven by concerns over the township's direction, particularly when it comes to growth, farmland protection and public consultation.

"As a mom with two children and family in Wilmot Township, I want a positive future for our community," Goertz said. "We're in a rural area, and (it's about) protecting farmland and water, but then also making sure we have housing that is the right size and the scale for our rural area."

"I didn't see us moving in the right direction, so I decided it was time for me to put my hat in for mayor because I believe strongly that our township needs a stronger mayor and someone who has the ability to listen to the community and value the community's voice."

Goertz said her experience leading Grassroots Response to the Ukrainian Crisis has prepared her for municipal leadership. What began as a local community group has grown into a provincewide organization that has helped house more than 1,900 Ukrainian refugees through



(PHOTO COURTESY OF STEPHANIE GOERTZ)

Local non-profit founder and Petersburg resident Stephanie Goertz is running for mayor of Wilmot Township in the Oct. 26 municipal election.

host families, transitional housing and partnerships with churches, service clubs and other non-profits.

She said the role has given her experience managing staff, writing grants, overseeing housing projects and bringing diverse groups together to solve community challenges.

"It's about creating engagement, creating this conversation," Goertz said. "When decisions need to be made, it's not the township making them and then hearing what the people say. It's really creating that engagement."

Beyond her work with the non-profit, Goertz has been involved with Citizens

for Safe Groundwater, Nith Valley EcoBoosters, the Wilmot Horticultural Society, Let's Tree Wilmot, the Waterloo Region Food System Roundtable and other community initiatives.

Transparency and community engagement form the cornerstone of her campaign.

Goertz said too many important decisions have been made behind closed doors or without residents knowing opportunities existed to provide input.

"When things are getting passed or decisions are being made, the community is not even aware that's even happening," she said. "They don't even know to ask the

right questions."

She also said Wilmot needs to balance future housing needs with protecting farmland and maintaining the township's rural character.

"I'm not against development," she said. "I do believe housing in the right scale, in the right amounts, can be done."

She said she would also advocate for more complete communities by ensuring future growth includes parks, recreation facilities, businesses and services alongside new housing.

Goertz said she has already visited more than 1,200 homes while campaigning and plans to continue hosting community conversations across the township on topics including farmland preservation, roads and water infrastructure, parks and trails, recreation, tourism and support for small businesses.

"I've planned to run my campaign as if I'm kind of already mayor," she said. "The idea is to collect as much information as possible, create opportunities for people to share their thoughts and ideas so that when I'm elected, I can actually start moving things forward more quickly."

As part of that effort, Goertz is also organizing a community breakfast from 8-11 a.m. Saturday, July 25, at La Bilancia Kitchen, located at the Petersburg gas station, where residents can meet with her and discuss issues affecting the township.

For more information on Goertz's campaign, visit www.stephaniegoertz.ca. To speak with Goertz directly, call 226-315-2988 or email Stephanie4Wilmot@gmail.com

The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette

Customer TESTIMONIAL

Ian McKie

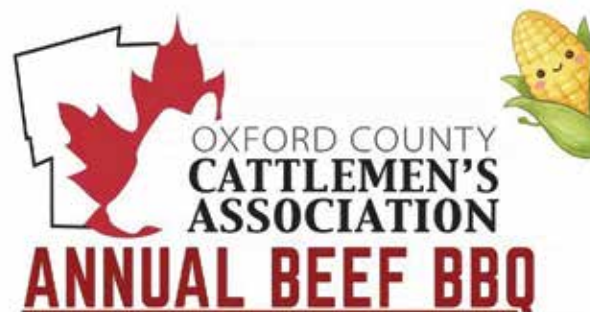
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Council adopts Wellesley's new official plan, approves Bamberg boundary expansion

GALEN SIMMONS

Regional Editor

After more than a year of research, public consultation and policy development, Wellesley council has officially adopted the township's new official plan, setting the framework for how the municipality will grow and develop through 2051.

At a special meeting July 20, council unanimously approved the new official plan, subject to one amendment adding 1.9 hectares of land at 4161 Weimar Line to the Bamberg settlement boundary and redesignating it as settlement residential. The amendment allows the property's owner to remain connected to the family farm after passing the operation on to the next generation.

The new official plan replaces both the township's current official plan and the portions of the former Region of Waterloo official plan that apply to Wellesley, consolidating planning policies into a single document that reflects recent provincial planning changes.

Planning consultant Joe Nethery said the project began roughly 13 months ago and has included multiple rounds of public engagement, including workshops, open houses, pop-up events and the statutory public meeting.

"We're at recommendation night," Nethery told council. "The only reason these projects get done is because of all of your hard work and efforts too."

He noted the municipality's work isn't finished yet.

"Tonight is the council meeting where we are recommending that the draft official plan and maps be adopted by council. From here, our work is not done as staff. We have some legislative bureaucratic things that we need to do ... to get this thing into a submission state to the province."

Nethery said the new plan has been designed to consolidate Wellesley's planning documents, align with the province's 2024 Provincial Planning Statement and anticipate future provincial planning requirements, while continuing to protect agricultural land and updating policies related to housing, land use and development.

Since the statutory public meeting in June, planning staff also incorporated provincial feedback into the document, including additional Indigenous engagement policies, updates related to residential permissions, transportation mapping, source-water protection and additional site-specific planning policies.

During discussion, staff also outlined late comments received from the Mississaugas

of the Credit First Nation that resulted in further revisions to the plan, including new language recognizing Indigenous stewardship of land and water and a policy supporting the development of an Indigenous consultation and engagement protocol.

Staff noted the township already has a similar protocol with Six Nations.

Council then considered an amendment to approve settlement-area boundary expansion request No. 10 in Bamberg.

Proposing the amendment, Coun. Claude Hergott said the proposed expansion was appropriate because it fit the character of the community and involved land that was not considered prime farmland.

"There's roughly 68 households there. The majority are larger half-acre, three-quarter lots or bigger. So the lot size that they are asking for fits with the surrounding area," Hergott said. "It allows the landowner to remain connected to the farm when he passes the farm on to his daughter and son-in-law."

The amendment passed unanimously before council unanimously adopted the official plan as amended.

Following adoption, staff will issue a notice of adoption and submit the official plan, along with supporting documentation, to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for review and approval, as required under the Planning Act.

Nethery said the province has the authority to modify the document before approving it.

"They do have the right ... to modify the document as it is approved," he said. "The minister's decision on this plan will be final. There will be no appeals of the document in its entirety."

"We should hear in the coming months."

Following the vote, Dieter Kays, the applicant for the Bamberg boundary expansion, thanked council for its support.

"Obviously the amended motion ... is just incredible news for our family," Kays said. "I also understand your commitment to preserving agricultural land in Wellesley Township and the quality of life that we have here. I think with this decision ... you have passed on this particular farm to the next generation."

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Photo frame project continues to boost tourism across Perth County

AMANDA NELSON

Gazette Reporter

Perth County is celebrating the first anniversary of its "Shareworthy Moments" project, which has encouraged visitors and residents to capture and share photos at destinations across the county.

The project was supported by \$30,000 through the Province of Ontario's Rural Economic Development (RED) program. Last year, 10 photo frames, two custom farm stands were installed throughout Perth County to create photo opportunities for visitors while showcasing local businesses and attractions.

Designed to enhance the visitor experience, the frames provide shareable social media moments for families and tourists while encouraging them to support local businesses and farms.

"It's more about enhancing the experience, giving people an opportunity to take

a photo while still having the business name in the background," said Meredith Forget, director of economic development and tourism.

Experiential tourism continues to play an important role in attracting visitors and encouraging longer stays. The installations encourage people to travel throughout the county, discover local businesses, support the agricultural community and share their experiences online.

"A lot of our attractions don't have a sign other than the road sign, and that's not exactly something people are going to post on Instagram," Forget said. "But now they have the frame, and visitors can stand behind it and get a picture with a beautiful background. So, I think it's less about creating an attraction and more about enhancing the experience that's already being offered."

The initiative has encouraged visitors to explore Perth County's diverse landscapes and agricultural heritage while creating

memorable, shareable experiences.

"Since the frame was installed, we've noticed many visitors stopping to take photos and spending time chatting around the frame and enjoying the moment," said Sarah Tkaczuk, owner of River Valley Golf Course and Winter Tube Slide. "It's been wonderful to see families, golfers, wedding guests and visitors sharing their experiences on social media and discovering River Valley through the project."

Tkaczuk said the frames have added value to the guest experience by giving visitors another reason to stop, stay a little longer and share their visit with others. She added every photo shared online helps introduce River Valley and Perth County to new audiences.

"The frame has become more than just a photo opportunity," said Tkaczuk. "It has created a destination within our property. It encourages people to pause, appreciate the landscape and create memories with family and friends. We've seen people of

all ages use it, from children having fun to groups of golfers, couples and families."

Each frame has been placed to showcase a unique view of Perth County, from farmland and conservation areas to bustling farm markets, family attractions and local culinary destinations.

"Overall, we've been very pleased with the project," Tkaczuk said. "It's simple, interactive and creates lasting memories while encouraging people to explore everything our community has to offer."

Frame locations include:

- Anna Mae's Bakery & Restaurant
- Apple Bottom Orchards
- Hoover's Maple Syrup
- Lynn River Farm
- Pootcorners
- River Valley Golf & Tube Slide
- Perth Farmhouse
- TNT Berries
- West Perth Wetlands
- Wildwood Conservation Area

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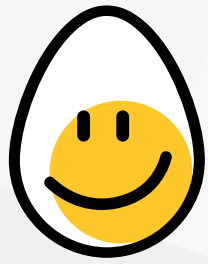
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Hickson Lions Daze draws crowds for weekend of community fun

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

From a successful auction and fish fry to ball games and a new cornhole tournament, this year's Hickson Lions Daze once again brought the community together for a weekend of fun while raising money to support local causes.

One of the weekend's highlights was the annual auction, led by Canadian Grand Champion auctioneer David Jacob of Mitchell. Bidders filled the sale in support of the Hickson and District Lions Club, helping raise hundreds of dollars for the organization's ongoing support of youth programs and community initiatives throughout Oxford County.

The annual co-ed three-pitch softball tournament kicked off the festivities Friday evening at Hickson Park. Though rain threatened to disrupt play, organizers were able to keep the tournament on schedule.

"Mother Nature tried to dampen the spirits with rain, but those players and the grounds crew and friends brought the diamond back to playing shape in fine order," Lions Club member Brad Smith said.

The tournament wrapped up later than usual, with the championship team crowned at 10:30 p.m.

Smith thanked Dan Lovie, Rob McLaren, Ken McIntyre and Derek Gillespie for helping ensure the tournament ran smoothly.

Saturday evening, more than 340 people enjoyed the club's annual fish fry, with meals prepared by Craklins Best Fish and Chips of London.

The weekend also featured the inaugural cornhole tournament, organized by Dave and Kim McLaren. Sixteen teams

took part, with Brian Kittmer and John Herrett claiming the championship over runners-up Justin Baer and Jeremy Munro.

The Hickson and District Lions Club thanked the many volunteers and community members whose support made the annual fundraiser possible.

Club members say the organization may be small in number, but it continues to make a significant impact in the community through its fundraising efforts. They also encourage anyone interested in giving back to consider joining the Lions Club.



(BRAD SMITH PHOTO)

Brian Kittmer and John Herrett won the inaugural Hickson Lions Daze cornhole tournament, defeating runners-up Justin Baer and Jeremy Munro. The tournament, organized by Dave and Kim McLaren, attracted 16 teams.



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Longtime Hickson and District Lions Club members Val and Brad Smith, seated, and Geraldine Classens help serve guests during Saturday's annual fish fry at Hickson Lions Daze.

Wellesley Fall Fair invites seniors to afternoon tea

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

Organizers of the 2026 Wellesley Township Fall Fair are once again inviting seniors and "almost seniors" from Wellesley Township and surrounding communities to enjoy an afternoon of tea, entertainment and fellowship during the second annual Wellesley Fall Fair Senior Tea.

The event will be held Friday, Aug. 28, from 2:30-4 p.m. at the Bill Gies Recreation Centre and celebrates the many people who have helped build and support the Wellesley Fall Fair over the years.

The event is organized by fair committee members Joanne Stewart, Wendy Richardson and Theresa Bisch to recognize the volunteers, exhibitors and community members whose dedication has helped make the fair a longstanding local tradition.

Following a successful inaugural event last year, organizers hope to welcome an even larger crowd this summer for an afternoon of friendship, entertainment and community spirit.

Guests will enjoy an afternoon tea

prepared by Schmidtsville Restaurant, along with live entertainment by the Dynamic Duo, a popular Waterloo Region musical act.

After the tea, attendees will receive early admission to the Wellesley Township Fall Fair, giving them the first opportunity to view the prize-winning exhibits when they open at 4:30 p.m.

Admission is \$25 per person and includes both the Senior Tea and Friday evening admission to the fair. Proceeds from the event will help support the continued success of the Wellesley Township Fall Fair.

Tickets are limited and must be purchased by Aug. 14.

To reserve tickets, contact Stewart at 519-658-0764, Richardson at 519-656-2961 or Bisch at 519-502-9120. Tickets can also be ordered by emailing wellesleyfair@gmail.com or by e-transfer to the same email address with "Senior Tea" noted in the memo line.

Organizers look forward to welcoming guests for an afternoon celebrating the people whose support has helped make the Wellesley Township Fall Fair a cherished community tradition.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Guests gather for the inaugural Wellesley Fall Fair Senior Tea during last year's fair. Organizers hope to welcome another large crowd for this year's event on Aug. 28.



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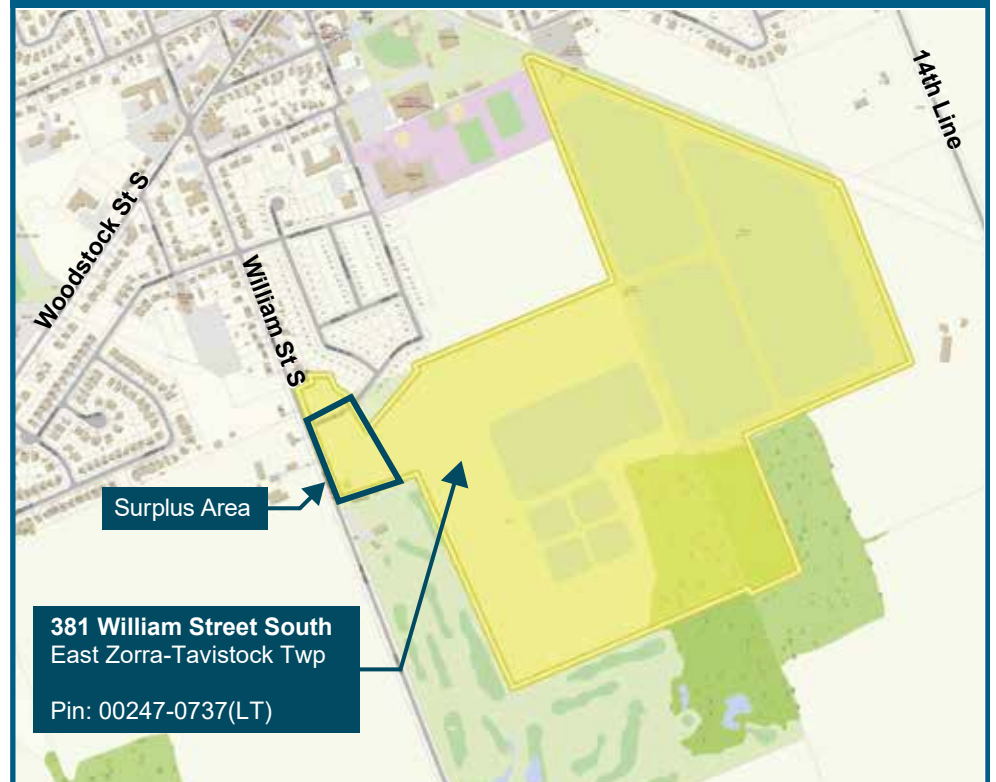
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Pin: 00247-0737(LT)

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Township of East Zorra-Tavistock
PIN 00247-0737(LT)

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For further information and/or to submit written comments, please contact the Office of the Clerk.

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Oxford County
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clerksoffice@oxfordcounty.ca
519-539-9800 ext. 3017

Sign language and French language interpretation are available with written notice to the Clerk at least seven (7) days in advance of public meeting.

Public meeting

A public meeting will be held, and a by-law considered for adoption, at the Oxford County Council meeting on:

Wednesday, August 12, 2026 - 9:30 a.m.

Oxford County Administration
Building – Council Chamber
21 Reeve Street, Woodstock

Written and/or verbal comments will be considered at the Council meeting noted. Additional information concerning this notice is available by contacting Jamie Yeung, Project Engineer, at contact information to the right.

Contact for more information

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

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


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This notice issued July 23, 2026

Faith, fun and friendship at Tavistock Bible Chapel Vacation Bible School

DIANE DANEN
Gazette Correspondent

Children spent the week of July 13-17 learning about faith while making crafts, playing games and building friendships at Tavistock Bible Chapel.

The Vacation Bible School (VBS) program welcomed 30 children, ages five to 12, and was led entirely by volunteers from Tavistock Bible Chapel, along with several volunteers from Tavistock Missionary Church. The program is offered free of charge and supported by Tavistock Bible Chapel.

"VBS is just a joy each year," said Matt Williams of Tavistock Bible Chapel. "Everything is run and supported by the Tavistock Bible Chapel. Everything is free for the kids and families. This is one way we want to give back to the community."

Vacation Bible School has been a summer tradition at Tavistock Bible Chapel for decades, and Williams said one of the greatest rewards is seeing former participants return as volunteers.

"We've even had a couple of helpers this year who attended the program as children," he said.

For Williams, one of the highlights each year is watching churches and community members work together.

"One of the most rewarding things each year is the joy of working together as people from the community and the local church family," he said. "We really do enjoy each other's company."

Williams expressed his appreciation to the volunteers from both Tavistock Bible Chapel and Tavistock Missionary Church, as well as the families who participated and helped make the week a success.

Throughout the week, children took part in Bible lessons, singing, memory verse activities, crafts, snacks and outdoor games. Organizers took extra precautions by limiting outdoor time and planning activities in the shade due to the poor air quality and hot temperatures.

This year's theme for Vacation Bible School was based on the story of Joshua, which echoes the Bible's central

message that salvation comes by faith alone. Throughout the week, children explored stories that highlighted Joshua's faith, with each lesson demonstrating God's guidance in ways that may seem "crazy" from a human perspective.

"Who has ever heard of stepping into a raging river, or facing scary, tall giants or circling a fortress?" said Williams. "But we learned that as we accept 'crazy' messages in faith, God can do miraculous wonders!"

The daily activities reinforced the theme. Songs reflected the importance of faith, while many of the crafts and snacks were inspired by camping since Joshua camped along his journey.

"The children really enjoy the crafts," Williams said. "That is always a big hit."

The children also embraced the memory verse challenge, with many earning prizes for learning passages from the Book of Joshua.

Williams noted that many of the children who attend are not part of the church's regular congregation.

"Most of the kids are from outside of our congregation, so it is great to meet others within the community and build those connections," he said.

The week concluded with a slideshow for parents highlighting the activities and memories from the week.

"On the final day, we play a slideshow for the parents to show them what we have been up to. The kids watch too, and they love seeing themselves. It's so rewarding to see their smiles," said Williams.

Beyond the games and crafts, Williams hopes the children leave with something lasting.

"We love the people of Tavistock. We love the children of Tavistock," he said. "We want them to know they can have a friend in Jesus. Kids today are dealing with so much stress and anxiety. We believe these Bible stories aren't just for adults. They can give children peace and hope for the future."

For more information about Tavistock Bible Chapel, visit tavistockbc.org.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS)

Children enjoy parachute games during Vacation Bible School at Tavistock Bible Chapel during the week of July 13-17.



From left to right are Zeke Schwartzentruber, seven, Joey Penner, five, and Aaron Fuller, 11, enjoying an outdoor game using pool noodles during Vacation Bible School at Tavistock Bible Chapel.



From left to right are Micah Williams, eight, and Piper Heintz, 10, enjoying painting during craft time at Vacation Bible School.



From left are Gemma La Haie, six, Ella La Haie, 11, and Corra La Haie, six, painting at Tavistock Bible Chapel.

QUIZ TIME

BY JAKE GRANT

- Who won the 2026 FIFA World Cup?
- What does WWE stand for?
- What was the name of Dorothy's dog in Wizard of Oz?
- What is the national flower of Japan?
- What was the main language spoken in the Roman Empire?
- What is the chemical symbol for Carbon Monoxide?
- What does CEO stand for?
- Who shot JFK?
- What is the only mammal capable of true flight?
- What is the world's largest commercial passenger plane?

Answers found on classified page

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by PeterS 2026

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Answers found on classified page

The Old Gazettes

By Sydney Grant

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

July 15 - 22, 2021, Edition (5 years ago)

Hair salons and other similar personal care services in the Township of Wilmot are finally reopening this week now that Waterloo Region has entered Step 2 of the province's reopening framework. Still, many will have to wait to book an appointment as salons play catch up. "Everyone is so excited to come in. We opened up our online booking system, and it's fully packed, and we're booking into August now," said Amber Kroetsch, spa manager at Puddicombe House.

A 17-year-old male is recovering from serious but non-life-threatening injuries at a hospital in London after being hit by a VIA Rail passenger train in New Hamburg on July 6. The incident happened at the train crossing near the intersection of Waterloo Street and Steinman Street. This isn't the first time someone has been hit by a train at this intersection. Comments on a post about the incident on the Waterloo Regional Police Service page came from former residents of the area recalling previous incidents in the past.

The Wilmot Agricultural Society has decided to cancel the in-person New Hamburg Fall Fair for the 2021 season. "It was a really hard decision, especially as we're entering a phase when it feels like the worst is behind us," said Stephanie Szusz, president of the Agricultural Society. "But we had to make sure we held our community members' safety in the highest regard and thought about the impact of the fair."

July 20 - 27, 2011, Edition (15 years ago)

Over the past three weeks, Sierra Construction had made good headway on the watermain and sanitary sewer project in Tavistock. The full length of Headershot Street from east of the elevated water tank has been completed to Maria Street. The construction progressed north to the intersection Tuesday with water shut-off valves

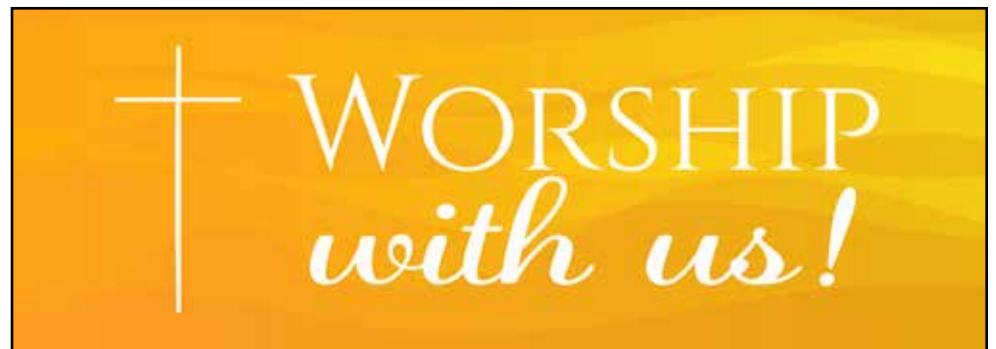
installed to keep residents and businesses supplied. They will then turn their attention to Decew Street East and the north end of Wellington Street to the intersection at Hope Street East.

Two Tavistock girls, teammates on the Squirt Girls' softball team, have thrown the distance to allow them to compete in the Hershey's Track and Field Games North American Final from Aug. 4-7, 2011, in Hershey, Pa. Grace Kalbfleisch, 10, and Anna Mohr, 12, earned first-place finishes in the ball throw held at the provincial competition at All Saints Catholic High School in Whitby, Ont., on June 26. Only children that placed first or second in a Hershey Qualifier are able to attend the finals.

July 17 - 24, 1996, Edition (30 years ago)

They walked, ran and guided their wheelchairs through the streets of Tavistock on Thursday, July 11, in support of The Paralympics and raised \$2,837. The WhyNot Marathon successfully completed its tour through the village with 25 residents signing up to carry the torch. It ended up in Toronto on Wednesday, July 24, after 59 days on the road from coast to coast. Money raised is helping to build a \$25-million Legacy Fund set up by the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons. The torch arrived at the Legion Hall in Tavistock about 11:15 a.m. and the parade of torch bearers made its way down Hope Street to the main intersection before turning south on Highway 59 and heading for Woodstock.

Work at the new East Zorra-Tavistock Arena continues to progress and over the past two weeks, the insulation and piping was installed in the curling rink and the pad poured last Thursday morning. Workers installed a frost guard layer to the main arena floor before compacting a layer of sand and another layer of insulation in preparation for the piping and concrete work to follow. Masons are busy completing the interior wall between the second-floor community room and the main arena before work begins on the stairways and lift shafts.



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The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette SPORTS

Tavistock Athletics capture provincial title

LEE GRIFFI

Gazette Reporter

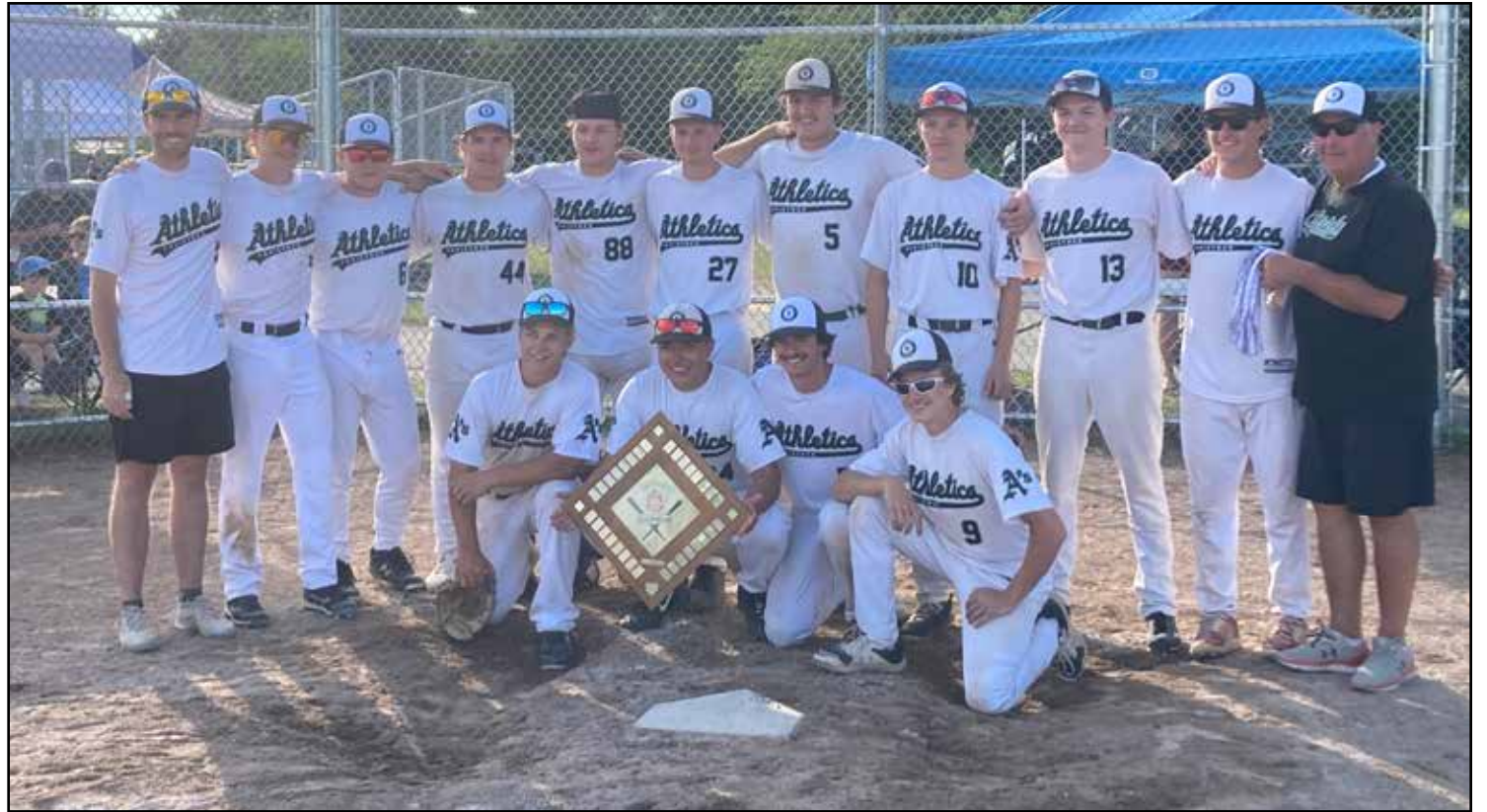
The Tavistock U20 Athletics may not have been the favourite coming into last weekend's Ontario Amateur Softball Association, but they rebounded from two losses to take home some hardware.

The team dropped a 9-3 decision to Southeastern Ontario Screaming Eagles before losing 12-1 to West Carleton Electric. Play was suspended thanks to weather conditions, allowing the team to regroup and come out strong on Sunday.

Tavistock qualified for the B final thanks to a 14-7 win over league rival Elmira, the squad in first place in the 10-team Church League. Tavistock is currently in eighth place with a record of four wins and nine losses while Elmira boasts a mark of 12 wins, two losses and a tie. Cal Taylor earned the win on the mound, with Grady Ryken coming in to close it out in relief.

The championship game was a rematch with Southeastern Ontario, a game that resulted in a 10-7 victory for the Athletics. Hayden McComb picked up the win.

While Tavistock won't be moving on to the national tournament, one Athletics player is. Keaton Bartlett will suit up for Chatsworth at the Canadian U20 tournament in Carp from Aug. 4-9.



(SHANE TAYLOR PHOTO)

The Tavistock Athletics U20 team captured the Ontario Amateur Softball Association (OASA) championship on the weekend in Sydenham. Despite rainy conditions on Saturday, the Athletics put together a strong tournament to earn the provincial title. Front row, from left, are Tucker Otto, Morgan Brenneman, Sam Baechler and Dylan West. Back row are coaches Carson Lamond and Doug Lamond, along with Cal Taylor, Carter Otto, Keaton Bartlett, Logan Rose, Hayden McCann, Grady Ryksen, Dean Alexander, Mitch Munro and Rowan Bartlett.

Shakespeare Falcons crowned Ontario U15 Tier 1 champions

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

The Shakespeare Falcons capped off a remarkable season by capturing the 2026 PWSA U15 Tier 1 Provincial Championship, earning the title of Ontario's top U15 Tier 1 softball team.

The provincial championship featured 18 of Ontario's best Tier 1 teams competing for the title.

Shakespeare opened tournament play Friday with three convincing victories, defeating the Milton Bats Purple 14-7, the Oakville Angels McKinney 21-5 and the Brampton Blazers Gold 11-0.

The Falcons secured first place in their pool Saturday with an 8-0 win over the Mississauga North Tigers, earning the top seed heading into the playoff round.

Their first playoff game was a rematch with the Stratford Flames-Wilhelm, whom the Falcons had defeated during the national qualifying tournament earlier this season.

Stratford jumped out to an early lead before the Falcons battled back to tie the game. Strong pitching and defensive play forced extra innings, where the Flames scored five runs. Shakespeare mounted a late rally with four runs but fell just short, sending the Falcons into the elimination



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

The Shakespeare Falcons celebrate after capturing the 2026 PWSA U15 Tier 1 Provincial Championship. Front row, from left, are Emma Collins, Ciana McLaren, Sydney Ryan, Brielle Jankura, Alise Crawford and Reese Flanagan. Back row, from left, are assistant coach Matt McLaren, assistant coach Shawn Collings, Hazel Kilpatrick, Alyssa Graham, Darin Patterson, Delia Bucholtz, Ella Andrews, head coach Shane Graham, assistant coach Bryan Patterson and team manager Rosalyn McLaren.

bracket.

Facing a must-win situation, the Falcons responded with a 5-0 victory over the Milton Bats Purple before defeating the Aurora Diggers 11-1, setting up another

meeting with Stratford.

The rematch lived up to expectations.

Shakespeare built an early lead before Stratford rallied to make it a one-run game in the late innings. The Falcons escaped

a bases-loaded threat in the seventh inning with a clutch strikeout followed by a groundout to secure the victory and advance to the championship game.

The win guaranteed Shakespeare at least a silver medal.

In the final, the Falcons faced the Oakville Angels Stix.

Oakville scored first in the second inning, but Shakespeare answered immediately before taking control with three runs in the third. Holding a 4-2 lead, the Falcons broke the game open with a six-run sixth inning on the way to a convincing 10-2 victory and the provincial championship.

The title capped an outstanding season for the Falcons, who finished with an impressive 64-13-3 record.

The team thanked its coaches, parents, volunteers, sponsors and the Shakespeare Community Athletic Association, led by Deb Bell and Paul Bender, along with the entire Shakespeare community for supporting the team throughout the season.

As the coaching staff said, "Championships are never won by a team alone. They are built through countless hours of dedication, encouragement, sacrifice and belief from everyone involved."

"They say it takes a village to raise champions, and in 2026, Shakespeare proved exactly that."

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Danendale Holsteins tops Tavistock standing hay competition

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

High-quality forage is essential to livestock operations, and this year's Tavistock Agricultural Society Standing Hay Competition once again showcased the region's top hay producers.

The annual competition recognizes area farmers for producing quality forage crops that support dairy, beef, sheep, goat and horse operations.

Judging took place May 20 after producers entered the competition earlier this spring. This year's judge was Kevin

Crispin of the Palmerston area, who works with C&M Seeds and previously worked with Speare Seeds. Crispin has extensive experience with forage crops and is also a farmer.

Following the judging, Crispin praised the quality of this year's entries.

"All 13 entries had excellent hay crops and very little difference from top to bottom," he said.

Competition convener Bill Brown accompanied Crispin as he evaluated entries across Perth and Oxford counties.

Fields were judged on several criteria, including the appearance of the entry

point, overall field condition, uniformity of the stand, freedom from weeds, diseases and insect damage, plant colour, stand thickness and yield potential.

Entries could consist of pure alfalfa, pure grass or mixed stands.

Brown said 13 farms participated in this year's competition.

The 2026 winners are:

1. Rob and Andrew Danen, Danendale Holsteins, Line 29 west of Sebastopol.
2. Tom Kiestra and family, south of Tavistock on the 13th Line.
3. Steveleigh Farm, Steve and Karen

Witmer and family, east of Hickson.

4. Nathan and Amy Yantzi and family, east of Sebastopol on Line 29.

5. Daneholm Farms, Janice, Nick, Mitch and Adrianna Danen, on Line 33 (Pork Street), southwest of Shakespeare.

Brown encourages area farmers who grow hay to consider entering the competition next year.

Anyone interested in participating in the 2027 Standing Hay Competition can contact Brown at 519-462-2211 for more information.



Rob and Andrew Danen of Danendale Holsteins, west of Sebastopol, were named the 2026 champions in the Tavistock Agricultural Society's annual Standing Hay Competition. Judge Kevin Crispin said all 13 entries featured excellent-quality hay, with very little separating the competitors.



(GARY WEST PHOTOS)

Favourable growing conditions have helped produce an excellent hay crop across the region this year. Local farmers harvest their forage in large round, large square and small square bales to feed a variety of livestock throughout the year.

Excellent wheat harvest keeps Perth County farmers busy

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

Winter wheat harvest is in full swing across Perth County, with farmers reporting excellent yields and near-ideal harvesting conditions.

Motorists travelling through the Shakespeare, Tavistock and New Hamburg

areas over the past week have likely noticed combines working steadily in fields as growers take advantage of the favourable weather.

Producers say winter wheat yields are averaging between 130 and 160 bushels per acre, making this one of the stronger crops in recent years.

With very little lodging reported, combines have been able to move efficiently through the fields. While some areas received weekend rainfall, many neighbouring fields remained dry enough for harvesting to continue uninterrupted.

Once the grain is harvested, farmers are quickly baling and removing straw from

the fields, with both large square and large round bales being made for livestock bedding and other uses.

Growers also report this year's crop has been exceptionally clean, with modern crop-management practices helping to minimize disease pressure and keep weeds under control.



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

After completing the wheat harvest for the Dwayne Dietrich family on Pork Street in South Easthope, Dan and Ben Bell moved on to baling straw, which will be used as bedding for the Dietrich family's broiler chicken operation. Shortly after the bales were removed from the field, heavy rain moved through the area.



(BEN BELL PHOTO)

Dan and Ben Bell were combining wheat on Pork Street in South Easthope when a hot-air balloon landed nearby, giving its passengers a close-up view of the harvest.



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Rob Danen of Danendale Farms harvests a strong winter wheat crop near Shakespeare while his son, Andrew, follows alongside with the grain buggy to unload the combine on the go before transporting the grain to the family's nearby elevator.

Lichti family celebrates generations of milestones at North Easthope reunion

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

The Lichti family gathered Sunday at the family's historic North Easthope Township farm to celebrate a remarkable collection of family milestones spanning generations.

The reunion was held at the family homestead on Lot 15, Concession 2, where Laverne and Nelda (Schwartzentruber) Lichti began farming in 1946. Together, they raised six children on the farm, which is now owned by the third generation of the Lichti family.

Family members, relatives, friends and neighbours gathered to celebrate not one, but six major milestones.

John Lichti, the eldest of the six siblings, celebrated his 80th birthday, while brother Dan marked his

75th birthday. Twins Ruth Steinman and Ruby Barrengoa celebrated their 70th birthdays, and youngest sister Diane Lichti celebrated her 65th birthday.

The reunion also recognized two significant wedding anniversaries, with John and Norma Lichti celebrating 60 years of marriage and Roy and Mardy Lichti, who continue to live on the family farm, marking their 50th wedding anniversary.

Adding to the celebration was the return of Ruby Barrengoa and her family from Argentina for a three-week visit.

As the reunion unfolded, family members also gathered in the farm's renovated barn loft to watch the championship soccer match between Argentina and Spain on two large-screen televisions, one broadcasting

in English and the other in Spanish.

One family member remarked that a reunion of this size "surely doesn't happen every year," as relatives of all ages pitched in to help prepare for the event.

Perfect summer weather allowed everyone to enjoy the outdoor celebration throughout the day.

The championship soccer match added another layer of excitement, with dozens of younger family members cheering on Argentina before Spain claimed a 1-0 victory in extra time.

The reunion celebrated not only birthdays and anniversaries, but also the enduring legacy of a farm family whose roots in North Easthope Township now extend through multiple generations.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Laverne and Nelda Lichti built a lasting family legacy after settling on the North Easthope Township farm in 1946. Their six children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren gathered Sunday to celebrate the family's many milestones.

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(GARY WEST PHOTO)

The six children of Laverne and Nelda Lichti gathered for a family reunion at the home farm. From left are Diane Lichti, Ruth Steinman, Ruby Barrengoa, John Lichti, Dan Lichti and Roy Lichti. Ruby travelled from Argentina for the occasion, while the remaining siblings continue to live in the area.



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Members of the extended Lichti family gathered at the North Easthope Township home farm Sunday to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries and the family's agricultural heritage. Several family members proudly wore the blue and white colours of Argentina during the day's festivities.



(GARY WEST PHOTO)

Family members filled the barn loft to watch the championship soccer match between Argentina and Spain. The game remained scoreless through regulation before Spain claimed a 1-0 victory in extra time.

Gazette Puzzles

PAR FOR THE COURSE

J	X	K	R	L	K	T	M	A	Q	S	K	C	P	G	V	L	V	S	H
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Though she is quite social, Avery prefers affection on her own terms and appreciates having her boundaries respected. Because of this, she is looking for a home with adults or older, cat-savvy children who can understand cat body language and communication.

If you're looking for a sweet companion (and a friend to watch the game with), Avery is ready to fill your home with purrs! Avery is in foster care in Kitchener, but you can learn more about her on our website: kwsphumane.ca/adopt/cats

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Astounding apricots

HEAPS OF HEALTHY TIPS

By Mercedes Kay Gold



Eating healthy is always in season. Yes, watermelon is wow and strawberries sensational, but apricots are all-stars! They may be small but the bright yellow-orange stone fruits are a sensational superfood. The pint-sized powerhouse resembles a peach, but the taste is a tad tart.

Apricots are nutrient dense. They are low in calories, carbohydrates and fiber filled. Leave the skin on for extra belly boosting benefits.

Apricot's sunny colour, a reminder of their beta-carotene content, converts into the immune boosting and eye-health supporting vitamin A.

Apricots contain piles of polyphenols referred to as

flavonoids, heaps of holistic heart health. Chlorogenic acids, catechins and quercetin combat free radicals, preventing oxidative stress.

Apricots are all-around versatile fruit. They're standalone and portable perfection or they can take centre stage in any meal. Morning mealtime magic sliced into yogurt, cottage cheese or added to any cereal whether hot or cold. Swap strawberries for apricots in summer goat cheese spinach salads, blend for refreshing yogurt smoothies and even grill for goodness gads. Apricots are paired well with brown sugar glazed pork ribs.

Don't forget dessert. Pass on peaches, adding apricots

to cobbler, lemon poppy seed loaves and cookies. For all my home chefs, apricot jam is a touch of leftover sunshine on toasted sourdough once we trade flip flops for winter boots. Perfect preserves add a golden ray of cellular love to the classic thumbprint cookie. Dehydrating apricots at home eliminates sulfites and added sugar. Dried apricots add a tangy twist to homemade granola and trail mix.

Step out of the summer; simply switch your favourite fruit, berry bonanza perhaps, and make it all about the apricot.

Apricot loaf

Ingredients:

- 1 overripe banana
- ¾ cup canned coconut milk
- 1 cup diced fresh apricots
- 1 egg room temperature
- ½ tsp sea salt
- ¼ cup coconut oil
- 3 cups of oat flour
- ½ cup raw macadamia nuts chopped**
- 1 tsp Ceylon cinnamon
- 2 tbsps shredded

unsweetened coconut*

Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F.
2. Line a loaf pan with parchment paper.
3. Mash the banana until smooth.
4. Wash and remove the pits from the apricots.
5. Dice the apricots and pat dry.
6. Beat the egg with a fork.
7. Melt and add the coconut oil if not soft
8. Stir in the flour, cinnamon and baking powder.
9. Chop the raw nuts.
10. Add along with the apricots to the batter.
11. Stir.
12. Pour into the lined loaf pan.
13. Sprinkle with shredded coconut.
14. Bake approximately 50 minutes in the center of the oven until the loaf bounces back.
15. Cool and enjoy.

*I chose unsweetened coconut as overripe bananas are sweet



(MERCEDES KAY GOLD PHOTOS)

This apricot loaf is a sweet summer treat with heaps of health benefits.

enough.

**optional or any nut of choice

Happy summertime funtimes. Have an idea for a story? Find me on socials @mercedeskaygoldfitness.

Canada Post and the shuttering of community newspapers

PAUL DEEGAN

Submitted to the Gazette

The shuttering of Winnipeg's Community Review means 200,000 households will no longer get the benefit of a free community newspaper delivered to their door. It also means that more than 800 people who deliver the paper and their families will be affected.

This is an unforced error that never should have happened. How did we get here? The answer is complex.

First, there is a high degree of concentration in the flyer printing market in Canada. Montreal-based TC Transcontinental enjoys the dominant position in the marketplace thanks, in part, to a 2012 Competition Bureau-approved asset swap.

Second, municipal and provincial politicians have passed environmental regulations. However well-intentioned, they have unintended consequences. Former Montreal Mayor Valérie Plante passed a municipal bylaw that led to the end of distribution of Publisac (a plastic bag with flyers and a community newspaper). Several provinces, including Manitoba, have imposed extended producer responsibility levies on printed newspapers. Ontario's

Premier Doug Ford made the wise decision to exempt newspapers from this kind of stealthy journalism job-killing tax in his province.

Third, Canada Post is the biggest culprit. TC Transcontinental, which had distributed Publisac door to door in Quebec, formed a strategic partnership with Canada Post, which as a Crown corporation was not beholden to municipal bylaws. They bypassed Mayor Plante's new regulation by distributing a curated bundle of flyers called Raddar through the national postal service. Unlike Publisac, Raddar did not include a community newspaper. On the sidelines of this saga, news publisher Métro Média and its more than 30 hyperlocal publications – including 17 print newspapers – shut down.

In partnership with Canada Post, TC Transcontinental recently expanded its Raddar offering across Canada. It is understood that Canada Post – which has a mandate to “charge postage rates that are fair and reasonable” – is offering TC Transcontinental rates below what it is offering to community newspapers. To its own benefit, the Crown corporation has effectively shut community newspapers – their private sector rivals – out of flyer

distribution, lessening competition substantially in that market.

This is not the first time community newspaper publishers have felt the squeeze of Canada Post in the flyer distribution market. As of January 2024, community newspapers with commercial inserts were no longer exempt from Canada Post's Consumers' Choice program, which allows Canadians to opt out of receiving junk mail. Canada Post made that decision without stakeholder consultation or economic/social impact analysis and failed to recognize that community newspapers – with or without an insert – are not junk mail; they are a social good.

The juxtaposition of the shuttering of Winnipeg's Community Review at the same time as the revelation of \$30.8 million in bonuses at Canada Post has not been lost on community newspaper publishers across Canada.

What should Ottawa do about it?

First, Joël Lightbound, the minister responsible for Canada Post, should ensure the Crown corporation is treating community newspapers fairly and offering them comparable pricing to what it offers to TC Transcontinental.

Second, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Canadian

Heritage should conduct hearings into the role Canada Post can play in the sustainability of community newspapers – ensuring the relationship is one of partnership, rather than predatory and parasitic.

When a community loses a newspaper, like Winnipeg's Community Review or Métro Média's publications in Quebec, the information vacuum can lead to people getting their news from less than reliable sources – like AI and social media – which can create division that drives people apart. Without a check on local government, corruption, mismanagement and wasteful spending often flourish, which can result in higher municipal taxes and borrowing costs.

It was not foreign Big Tech monopolists like Google and Meta that caused Manitoba's largest community newspaper to shutter. It was Canada Post.

And it's not like we weren't warned.

Thirty years ago, in his review of Canada Post's mandate, George Radwanski recommended the postal service get out of delivering unaddressed junk mail (i.e., flyers), concluding that the Crown corporation engaged in inappropriate practices that created unfair competition for



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Paul Deegan, president and chief executive officer of News Media Canada

private businesses like community newspapers.

As a former Toronto Star editor-in-chief, Radwanski knew the news business. He noted that Canada Post was actively siphoning advertising revenue away from the news industry and adroitly cautioned that the state-granted mail delivery monopoly should not be in the business of crippling the financial health of newspapers.

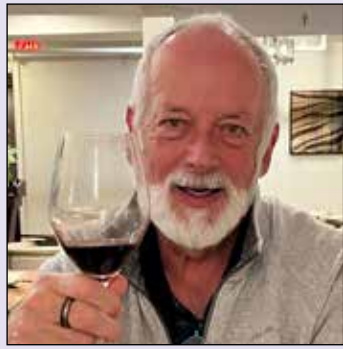
A healthy democracy demands a healthy community news media ecosystem. Let's level the playing field and restore competition in the flyer distribution market before more community newspapers shutter.

Paul Deegan is president and chief executive officer of News Media Canada.

A brilliant destination right next door

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO

By Paul Knowles



There was a talented young violinist busking in front of the Avon Theatre. As I dropped a loonie into her case, I couldn't help but notice that the coin nestled into a large collection of American bills.

And that reminded me of a cliché – one that is nonetheless true. We almost never visit wonderful destinations that are too close to home. A good number of Niagara Region residents don't go to see the Falls. Lots of Ottawa folks never visit the National Gallery. Many Winnipeg people have not darkened the door of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

And while Americans and Canadians from farther away pour into Stratford by the score to see some of the best theatre in the world, we locals often give it a miss.

After seeing our first two Stratford productions this season, I have to say we locals are making a big mistake.

I often hear people comment on the cost, sometimes comparing it to other regional theatres. Well, yes, Stratford is more expensive than the others. But frankly, as good as the regional theatres can be, Stratford is consistently several steps higher on the ladder of excellence.

We've just seen *Guys and Dolls* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. The acting, singing, dancing, sets – in fact, everything – is simply the best, by far, that you will find anywhere in this area. The productions, I venture to say, are as good as anything theatregoers will find anywhere!

And another note about the cost – we locals are often offered bargain basement prices. Last week, I received social media notifications of ticket prices at the Festival as low as \$29, and ranging upward, but never getting near the usual price.

It also occurs to me that, even at full price, tickets to see amazing theatre are still less expensive than good seats at a Blue Jays' game, and way less than tickets to see the Leafs lose. I say this as a lifelong Leafs fan, by the way.

Enough about economics. Stratford is a destination that locals are foolish to ignore. Not just the theatre, but also the restaurants, the concerts (often outdoors and free), the shops and the beautiful parks

and gardens.

But most of all, the theatre.

The two plays I've seen were both enormous fun. Difference genres, but both full of laughter, extremely talented performances and very clever sets.

Let's start with *Guys and Dolls*. In my mind, the star of the show never appears on stage; she is Donna Feore, a Stratford resident who is a wildly talented choreographer and director. She performed both duties for *Guys and Dolls*, and the dance sequences are more than worth the price of admission on their own.

The cast is terrific – Mark Uhre as Nathan Detroit, Olivia Sinclair-Brisbane as Sarah Brown, Jennifer Rider-Shaw as Miss Adelaide. But I admit I am biased; I have enjoyed the work of Dan Chameroy every time I have seen him on stage, and I did so again. And the show-stealing song, "Sit Down, You're Rocking The Boat," is performed magnificently by Steve Ross as Nicely-Nicely Johnson. Full disclosure, Steve is a much-treasured acquaintance of mine, and to see him nail the performance was a highlight of the afternoon for me.

The entire play is performed with great energy, and yet, minute attention detail. If you like musicals with happy endings, you will love *Guys and Dolls*. If you don't like musicals with happy endings, I don't think I can help you.

If song and dance is the signa-

ture of *Guys and Dolls*, words are the focus of *The Importance of Being Earnest*. This clever, funny, satirical piece is the work of Oscar Wilde, and it is jam-packed with his wit. But it's also silly in a brilliant way.

Again, the cast was excellent; Carter Gulseth as Algernon Moncrieff, Allison Lynch as Gwendolen Fairfax, Marissa Orjalo as Cecily Cardew and Joe Perry as John Worthing were in the lead roles, and were terrific. But the play holds a special treat. Two giants of Canadian stage and screen were featured in this production; Fiona Reid as the unstoppable Lady Bracknell and Lucy Peacock as Miss Prism, a prim spinstress with a deeply guarded secret.

A secret which is, of course, revealed, along with many other misunderstandings, misconceptions and downright lies that form the basis for the hilariously unfolding plot.

I am guessing that most of the audience had seen a performance, or the movie, of *Earnest* prior to taking their seats in the Avon Theatre – including me. It says everything about the excellence of Stratford theatre that prior knowledge did not detract one bit from the sheer enjoyment of the performance. Even the big reveal by Miss Prism was received with shouts of laughter – not because folks were surprised, but because Lucy Peacock was so good at her job.

Stratford: a destination that attracts visitors from all across North American and beyond, and where the doors are wide open to the Festival's neighbours all season long. Enjoy!

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 PHOTO)

The busker at the Avon Theatre attracted a lot of American patrons.



(PAUL KNOWLES PHOTO)

A sign that means "some of the best theatre in the world."



(DARIANE SANCHE PHOTO)

From left: Mark Uhre as Nathan Detroit, Jennifer Rider-Shaw as Miss Adelaide, Dan Chameroy as Sky Masterson and Olivia Sinclair-Brisbane as Sarah Brown, *Guys and Dolls*. Stratford Festival 2026.



(DAVID HOU PHOTO)

Fiona Reid.



(DAVID HOU PHOTO)

Steve Ross as Nicely-Nicely Johnson with members of the company, *Guys and Dolls*. Stratford Festival 2026.

Trees are cool

ROOTING TREES

By Chrystina McNeil
Let's Tree Wilmot

This summer has been hot, and climate change scientists predict much hotter summers ahead. What can you do? Plant trees.

Lots of trees.

How do trees keep us cool? First, they provide shade, protecting us from direct sunlight. But there's more to it than that. Tree leaves don't get hot the way roofs, sidewalks, roads, or parking lots do. Unshaded pavement can reach temperatures 11°C to 25°C hotter than the surrounding air. Even after the sun sets, these surfaces continue to release their stored heat, keeping the surrounding air warmer well into the evening.

So where does the sun's energy go when it hits a tree?

Instead of heating up, trees (and other

green plants) use much of that energy to power photosynthesis. That's how they produce the food they need to grow and store energy for the future (we get that energy back when we burn wood).

Trees also cool the air through a process called transpiration. As they release water vapour from their leaves – hundreds of litres on a hot day – they create a natural cooling effect, much like sweat cools our

bodies. A single large tree can release up to 380 litres of water each day.

The result? Streets lined with mature trees are several degrees cooler than those without them. A shaded sidewalk can feel up to 8°C cooler than one in full sun.

Every tree planted today helps create a cooler, healthier community tomorrow. Trees don't just survive the heat, they help us beat it!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: 5 Corner Summer Sips event successful

The Tavistock Agricultural Society on June 27 hosted the 5 Corner Summer Sips event.

The winner of the 50/50 draw was Vikki Telfer and she won \$936. The Agricultural Society thank the community for supporting the event.

The Agricultural Society has selected organizations as recipients of the proceeds where the funds allocated to them

would benefit local, rural, urban and community. The organizations are 4H agricultural, Junior Farmers and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Chris Wiffen,

Tavistock Agricultural Society

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Wild grapevines are taking over our trees

It seems to me in recent summers that wild grapevines are more rampant along our rural roads, highways and forest edges.

I frequently see trees and shrubs that are partially, or even totally, covered by grapevines. While wild grapevines are part of Ontario's ecosystem, they can be quite aggressive and kill trees through the weight of the vines, breaking branches, and by blocking sunlight and photosynthesis.

During this time of climate change, we need to nurture and save every tree possible for the shade, oxygen and their processing of CO₂. The recommended way

to deal with aggressive grapevines is to cut the stem at the base and allow the vine to die naturally (not pulling off the vine). Periodic cutting of the stems close to the base will keep grapevines under control.

I hope that rural landowners and farmers can find the time to help with this problem on their respective properties. Let's save our trees and the important ecosystem services they provide.

Kathy Mostardi,

New Hamburg



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR - JULY/AUGUST 2026

THURSDAY, JULY 23

Pic-nic In the Park
Lunch : 12:00 to 1 pm from Tavi Chill
Music & Dancing : 1.30 to 3.30 pm
Entertainment : Dianne & Gary The Cavaliers, with Steve Todd. Bring lawn chairs. For tickets and more information, call Don Junker (519) 535-7052
Queens Park Pavilion, 1 Adam St, Tavistock, ON

All Things Green Youth Trivia Night 6-9 p.m.
Hosted by the Nith Valley EcoBoosters Youth Advocates. For more information contact nveb.youthadvocates@gmail.com
Wilmot Recreation Complex 1291 Nafziger Rd., Baden

SATURDAY, JULY 25

Saturday Strolls in Sylvan Splendor - Schmidt Woods, NH 1:30 - 3 p.m.
Keep an eye out for the rare rock elm, and look at the tree trunks. Some look like elephant legs, some shaggy, and others like burnt cornflakes. Details and registration: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/o/lets-tree-wilmot-34384003923>
Wilmot Recreation Complex (meet at trail entrance near the Splash Pad) 1291 Nafziger Road, Baden

MONDAY, JULY 27

Food Trucks at Grace United Church Tavistock 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Siggi's, El Milagro, Ish n Chips
Donations to Tavistock Health Clinic (no trucks on August 3, 2026)
Grace United Church 116 Woodstock St. S. Tavistock

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

Optimist Club of Tavistock Friday Night Fries 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Optimist Food Trailer Tavistock Optimist Park

MONDAY, AUGUST 10

Food Trucks at Grace United Church Tavistock 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Born2Eat, Fo'Cheezy, Beavertails
Donations to Grace United Church
Grace United Church 116 Woodstock St. S. Tavistock

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 17

Food Trucks at Grace United Church Tavistock 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Siggi's, Pablas Street of India, SWAT
Donations to Tavistock Agricultural Society
Grace United Church 116 Woodstock St. S. Tavistock

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

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

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

Food Trucks at Grace United Church Tavistock 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Berlin 95, Ish n Chips, El Milagro
Donations to Camp Bimini
Grace United Church 116 Woodstock St. S. Tavistock

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

Wellesley Township Fall Fair 2nd annual Senior Tea 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.
Seniors and almost seniors from Wellesley Township and their surrounding communities are invited to a special afternoon celebrating the people who have helped build and support the rich tradition of the Wellesley Fall Fair. Live entertainment by the "Dynamic Duo". Call Joanne Stewart for details-519-658-0764.
Bill Gies Recreation Centre 1401 Queens Bush Rd, Wellesley

MONDAY, AUGUST 31

Food Trucks at Grace United Church Tavistock 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Born2Eat, Los Rolling Tacos, Fo'Cheezy
Donations to Tavistock Agricultural Society
Grace United Church 116 Woodstock St. S. Tavistock

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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

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

FREE SENIORS ACTIVITIES

Tavistock Seniors Pickleball Monday, Wednesday & Friday 12-4 p.m.
Contact: Don Junker 519-535-7052
Tavistock Memorial Hall, 1 Adam St.
Tavistock Seniors Card Games Monday drop in 1-4 p.m.
Contact: Bob Routly 519-301-2118
Tavistock Memorial Hall, 1 Adam St.

FREE SENIORS ACTIVITIES CONT

VON Senior Exercise Drop-In Standing Class Tuesday and Thursday 9-10 a.m.
To register contact 519-539-1231 ext. 6319
Tavistock Memorial Hall, 1 Adam St.
VON Senior Exercise Drop-In Sitting Class Tuesday and Thursday 10:25-11:25 a.m.
To register contact 519-539-1231 ext. 6319
Village Manner, 98 Woodstock St., Tavistock

TAVISTOCK & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM DISPLAYS

Museum Display: "The Glasgow Warehouse" Can be viewed anytime
Tavistock Home Hardware (Front window), 24 Woodstock Street S., Tavistock
Travelling Museum Display: "Heritage of Hickson's Sports Teams"
Check out the earliest Hickson baseball teams and the display full of vintage equipment. History and photos of the Hickson Baseball teams dating back to the early 1900's complement the display.
Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm runs until the end of September 2026.
EZT Township Administration Building (lobby), 89 Loveys Street, Hickson

PLATTSVILLE & DISTRICT HERITAGE SOCIETY

Plattsville & District Heritage Society exhibit "Holidays & Celebrations That Bring Us Together"
June 6 to September 19 | Saturdays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Donations accepted. Refreshments. Contact plattsvilledistrictheritage@gmail.com or call 519-535-1417.
Archive & Museum at Chesterfield, 816661 Oxford Rd 22, Bright

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

PROMOTE YOUR EVENTS WITH US! HERE'S HOW:

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

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

Quiz Time Answers	
1. Spain	7. Chief Executive
2. World Wrestling Entertainment	Officer
3. Toto	8. Lee Harvey Oswald
4. Cherry Blossom	9. Bats
5. Latin	10. Airbus A380
6. CO	

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