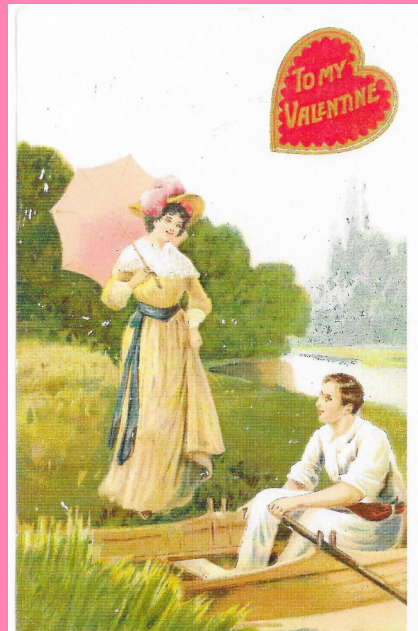
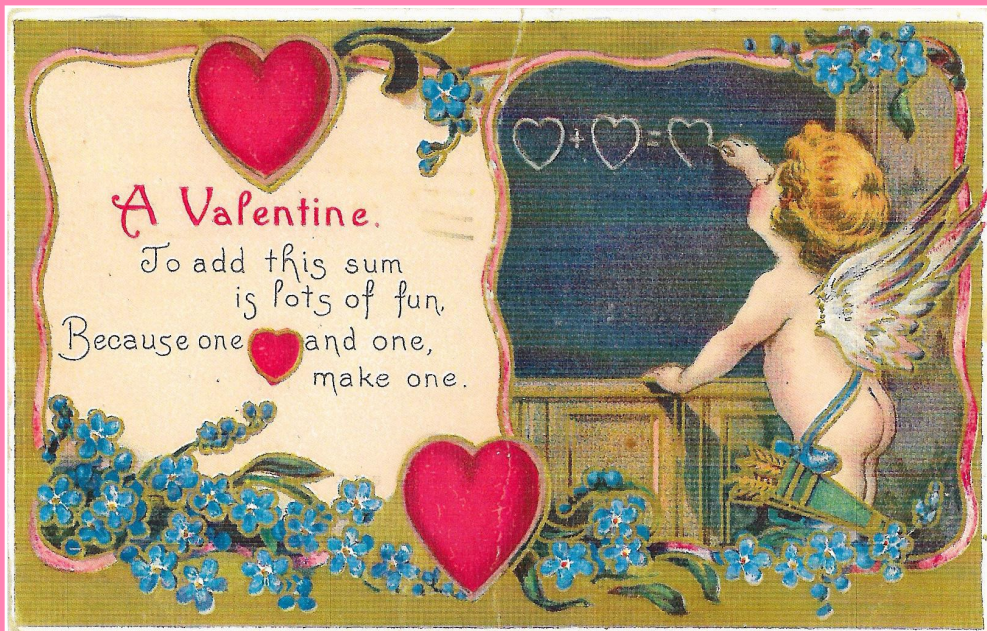


Baden Outlook



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VOLUME 23, ISSUE



How timely to share these vintage Valentine Cards - courtesy of Betty Forler.

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Barry, Pat, & Katie Fisher

Check out what's happening in the paper this month:

- Barry meets up with Eric Sprague, the local wood carver.
- Coldest Night of the Year is back! See details on how to get involved.
- Check out the March Break programs available at the library.
- Get an update from Citizens for Safe Ground Water on the Hallman Pit trial.
- Fraser Gibson explains about how magnificent birds' feet are.
- Try your hand at our Reduce to Produce game.
- Indulge yourself this Valentine's Day. Chocolate isn't all bad for our health— Mercedes explains.
- Get a blast from the past with Castle Kilbride archives looking back at Baden 100, 75, and 50 years ago.

The Baden Outlook is a grassroots family business serving the community of Baden and Wilmot Township since 2000

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of The Baden Outlook.

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Greetings from Headquarters ~

Happy February! Love month, heart awareness month, and also the bleakest month for weather in southwestern Ontario. In February, we are in the midst of hibernation. Between the snow, the lack of outdoor events that spring and summer offer... we really are in the thick of winter.



I remember when I was a kid, how I loved winter for the sheer fact of potential snow days from school. As a younger child, I was excited when they would cancel buses but keep the schools open. My class at Baden Public School would sometimes have about 5 or 6 kids show up and those days were the BEST! We would do fun art things, watch movies, and felt like we owned the school. As an older kid taking the bus, the excitement was staying home completely. We had computers in class but we didn't have Google Classroom or any virtual learning, so a day off meant a day off!

After school as a kid, I would make massive forts in the snow. Living besides Egli's Meat Market, we had a huge parking lot that would be plowed making hills as high as 12 feet. We would make tunnels, dig out forts instead of build up forts, and move in. My neighbourhood friends and I would be out there after school until dinner every single day and on weekends for hours. Being out in the snow forts with my friends distracted me from feeling cold, and giving me a reason to love winter!



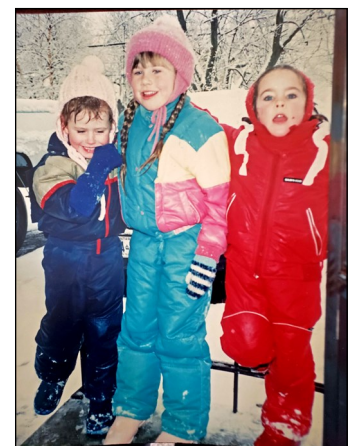
Now as an adult, winter doesn't have the same excitement. I don't have a reason to be out in it like I did as a kid. Instead, I sometimes even fear it when the roads start getting thick. No doubt that adult responsibility seems to put a damper on winter. Shoveling, putting salt down, getting back and forth without car accidents, this is the representation of winter to an adult. But it doesn't have to be that way. I am making it my mission to see snow in the eyes of a child at least once a week. I am putting on my snow pants, even if I just lie in the snow for ten minutes. Bring back the fun!



February brings on Groundhog Day. Should we pay much attention to this brilliant rodent that predicts the weather?! Well, when Warton Willy appeared and did not see his shadow, we can now be hopeful that indeed we will have an early spring.

I giggle when I read Katie's message as I never dreamed she would ever out-grow her love of winter. I had to drag her in with the fear of frost-bitten cheeks, soaking wet mitts, and socks. It surely was the love of her young neighbourhood best friends that kept the fun of winter alive!

Despite the dreary days of winter, there is still lots of activity going on. Check out the fun options on Family Day and other events happening with the Wilmot Family Resource Centre and the local libraries. There is lots of good reading in this issue and I am most intrigued with Fraser's birding article this month... ohhh the little toes of birds! Barry had an interesting visit with a local woodcarver and tells his story. Once again, we enjoy the memories from the archives that Sherri shares with us, and I'm sure it means even more to the local seniors. Katie and Barry have been having fun creating more puzzles and mind benders to make sure your brain doesn't also go into hibernation. I hope you enjoy this issue.



Over 30 years later ...
Jessica, Katie and Victoria
are still best pals!

Talking with Ed

~ Fun with Flags



When I hear the words *Fun with Flags*, I automatically think of the *Big Bang Theory* episodes where Sheldon Cooper and Amy Farrah Fowler are trying to create video blogs, focussing on how much fun flags are. It's kind of silly but the more I researched the subject I found that there are some interesting histories and facts that go with flags. Allow me to share what I have found. *Big Bang show highlights and quotes are also included!*

The study of flags is called Vexillology, which is the scientific study of flags and related emblems. The word "flag" itself finds its origin with the Saxon word "flaken", which describes something flying, floating, or flapping in the wind. There are 195 countries in the world so you can imagine the variety of flags. *The Valentines episode of Fun with Flags, Sheldon adds Amy's name as Amy Farah Fowler on the credits with Doctor Cooper in the production.*

Denmark has the oldest flag in the world. It was used for the first time in 1625, and is still used today. The flag has a red background with a single white stripe running through the middle of it horizontally. Many people believe that it was actually created in 1219. Mauritania has the newest flag as of August 15, 2017. According to the Guinness Book of Records the largest flag in the world that was ever made, was a Romanian flag that was 349 x 227 metres (1,145 x 744 feet) about three times the size of a football field. It weighed 5 tonnes and took 200 people to unfurl it. *"Well, you know, here is something that might cheer you up. The flag of the Isle of Man is nothing but three legs sharing a weird pair of underpants, so ... you think you got problems"* Doctor Sheldon Cooper

When discussing the appearance of country flags of the world, it can be difficult to find the words to convey exactly what we see. There are so many differences and meanings with flags and a lot of thought has to go into how a flag best represents a country. Countries focus on colour, content, and the shape of their flags to create pride in their country. *Amy dresses up as a pretzel in the Bavarian issue of Flags with Fun. Katie declined a picture to show the similarity.*

Shape and Design - There are only three flags in the world where the front differs from the back, which are Moldova, Paraguay, and Saudi Arabia. There is only one country, Nepal, that has a flag that is not a rectangle. Their flag is shaped like two stacked triangles. Only two flags are square in shape which include Switzerland and Vatican City. There are some that are practically the same, such as the flags of Romania and Chad - and others that are incredibly similar. Only the shade of blue differentiates the country flags of the Netherlands and Luxembourg, while the Indonesian flag is the Polish flag in reverse and vice versa. *Penny is a guest in the Monster Isolation episode with Sheldon describing the flag of Nebraska.*

Content - Most symbols on flags have very specific meanings and most of them include the following: sun, moon, stars, cross, triangles, and squares. Japan as an example is the land of the rising sun, so their flag has a circle in the middle

of it. Some countries use animals, birds, or fictional creatures on their flags. Wales as an example has a dragon on it and Albania features a double-headed eagle. Turkey, Algeria, Pakistan, and Israel's flags all have religious symbols on them. Many will have items such as axes, arrows, cannons, swords, daggers, shields, spears, etc. in their emblems or crests, but only 4 have firearms. They are Mozambique (adopted in 1983), Guatemala (1871), Haiti (1986), and Bolivia (1851). *What fills my heart and makes my eyes moist, sending a flag up a pole on a hoist. Oh, can you see fun with flags!*



Colour - Most flags use the basic primary colours which are red, blue, and yellow. Many flags represent historical references of that country. Red would be used as a symbol of blood or bravery, whereas blue might represent the sky, an ocean, peace and freedom. Yellow sometimes is used to represent wealth or energy. Green is used to represent agriculture and can also symbolize hope and youthfulness. Black is used infrequently and there are only two countries in the world, Nicaragua and Dominica, that use purple on their flag. The flag of Belize has the most colours in the world (12). The Flag of Ireland is green, white and orange. Green represents the Catholics, orange Protestants and white peace and unity. *Sheldon dresses up as George Washington Carver for Black History month.*

The original American flag which was born in 1777 had 13 stars and 13 stripes representing the American colonies. There have been 27 versions of the American flag which currently sits at 50 stars and 13 stripes. Each time there was a state added to the union a star was added. Six American flags were placed on the surface of the moon which is pretty amazing. *Amy and Sheldon introduce Ferdinand T. Flag.*

Back here in Canada, the maple leaf has been a symbol of Canada since the 18th century. The Canadian Red Ensign was the former Canadian flag used by the federal government before the official maple-leaf design was introduced. Red and white were named Canada's official colours in the proclamation of the Royal Arms of Canada in 1921 by King George V. In 1964, Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson formed a committee in order to decide on the official design of the Canadian flag. Dr. George Stanley, a professor at the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario, came up with the red and maple leaf design. There were 5,000 flag designs submitted and examined before Stanley's design was chosen.

The Coat of Arms for Ontario was authorized on May 26, 1868 by Queen Victoria. The arms of Ontario consisted of a shield divided into two sections. The bottom half showed a green background with three golden maple leaves on a single stem, a symbol long associated with the province and the country. At the top was the red Cross of St. George on a white background. Here in Wilmot our arms of Wilmot were inscribed on September 2, 1994 according to the Public Register of Arms and Badges Ontario.

Well, I hope I have done Sheldon proud as there are many facts and history about flags. Until next month...Ed.

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ALL THINGS SCRAMBLED

Within each category the words are jumbled up.
Can you unscramble them? Answers on page 32

Chocolate Bars

ROSK _____
WITX _____
LOOR _____
RM GIB _____
TUBNOY _____
HURNCC _____
TEA ROME _____
CHURNIEC _____
TRIMSASE _____
CRAMKAIL _____

Condiments

YOMA _____
LOAI _____
ALSAS _____
STOPE _____
SHILRE _____
RATERT _____
BASAWI _____
STAMURD _____
CHETPUK _____
CABATOS _____

"Keeping the Community
Connected"





KEEPING FAMILY DAY FREE FOR THE COMMUNITY

Monday, February 20th, 2023 at the Wilmot Recreation Centre

Free skating available from 10 am - 12 pm noon.

Free swimming from 1:05 pm - 2:30 pm and 2:35 pm - 4 pm.



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Sales Representative

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Director of Operations

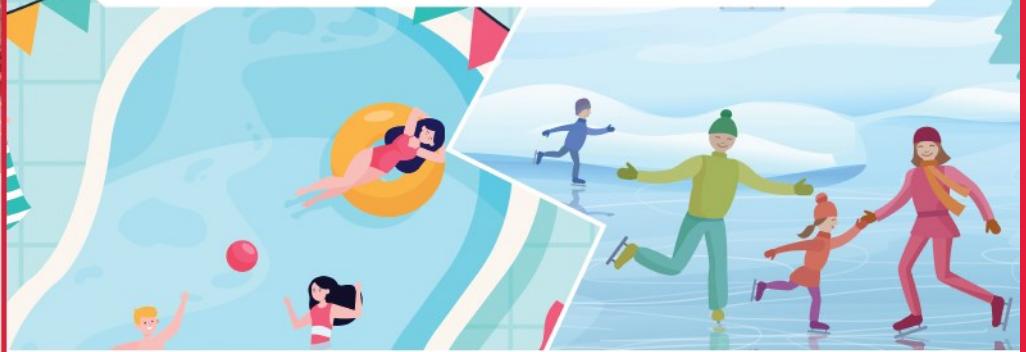
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Scan the QR code to see our 2023 community events calendar!



Join us for Family Day
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Wilmot Recreation Complex

Monday, February 20th 11 a.m.-3p.m.

We will be upstairs (skate side) with a
variety of snacks and drinks. We also
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Checking out the Baden Library



It has been great catching up with everyone again at the library, and we have been meeting many new people too. Do you need a library card? Borrow books, e-books, download music and so much more! Membership cards are free - bring your identification and we will get you started.



Catch the remaining programs in RWL's winter session, and get excited for March Break!

For kids:

- Out of this World Storytime – Tuesday, February 21, 10:30-11:15 a.m. – Baden Branch
- Discovery Time:
 - ⇒ Wednesdays until February 22, 9:30-10:00 a.m. – Wellesley Branch
 - ⇒ Wednesdays until February 22, 9:30-10:15 a.m. – New Dundee Branch

For teens/tweens:

- Parent & Tween CraftEve: Rock Photo Holders – Wednesday, February 15, 7:00-8:00 p.m. – New Hamburg Branch
- STEAM Team – Thursday, February 16 at 4:15-5:00 p.m. – Wellesley Branch
- STEAM Team – Tuesday, February 21 at 4:00-4:45 p.m. – Baden Branch
- Escape the Library: Trapped in a Snowstorm – Monday, February 27, 6:30-7:30 p.m. – Wellesley Branch

Teen Subscription Boxes

Designed for ages 13-17.

Enjoy a specially curated box of goodies from local artisans, library swag, and a few special titles geared towards your interests and selected by our expert Library staff.

Self-directed Programs

Blind Date with a Book – Monday, February 13 – Saturday, February 18 – New Hamburg & Wellesley Branches

Scan to see our full Events Calendar, and to register for our programs.
Questions? Contact
rwlprograms@regionofwaterloo.ca



For adults:

- Book Talk – Wednesdays, March 8, 3-3:30 p.m. – New Hamburg Branch
- Drop-in Yarn Craft Club – Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 p.m. – New Hamburg Branch
- Celebrating Black/Indigenous OURstory of Agriculture in Southwestern Ontario with Nicola Thomas
 - ⇒ Land Acknowledgments and Meaningful Connections – Wednesday, February 15, 7:00-8:00 p.m. – via Zoom
 - ⇒ Agriculture, History and Food – Wednesday, March 15, 7:00-8:00 p.m. – via Zoom
- Adult Book Club – February 15 & March 22 – 2:00-3:00 p.m. – Wellesley Branch
- Coping with the Winter Blues – partnership event with the Woolwich Counselling Centre – Monday, February 27, 7:00-8:00 p.m. – via Zoom
- Adult Craft Nights – Last Thursday of the month from 7:00-8:00 p.m.
 - ⇒ Fox Cup Cozy – Thursday, February 28 – via Zoom

March Break @ RWL

Something for everyone! Be sure to register for March Break starting Friday, February 10.

Take Home Kits – register by March 8 to pick up your kit for the week of March Break (March 13-17).

- Cookie Cutter Bird Seed Feeders
- Fabric Scrap Paper Dolls

Programs

- Popcorn Theatre Movie Day – “Lightyear” - Tuesday, March 14, 1:30-3pm – Baden Branch
- Natures Ninjas with Little Ray's Reptiles – Tuesday, March 14, 6:30-7:30 p.m. – New Dundee Branch
- DIY Marble Run – Wednesday, March 15, 10:00-11:00 a.m. – Wellesley Branch
- Frankentoy – Wednesday, March 15, 2:00-3:00 p.m. – New Hamburg Branch
- It's Your Lucky Day! Kindermusik Musical Playdate – Thursday, March 16, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Baden Branch
- Leprechaun Trap – Friday, March 17, 10:00-11:00 a.m. – Wellesley Branch

Looking Back at Baden 100, 75, and 50 Years Ago

By Sherri Gropp, Castle Kilbride Curator



100 Years Ago ~ February 1923

The 29th annual meeting of Livingston Presbyterian Church was held at the Office of the Dominion Linseed Oil Co. on Monday evening of Jan 28th at 7.30 o'clock.

The following members and Adherents were present: Mrs. J. P. Livingston, Mr. Geo. Fowler, Mr. J. P. Livingston, Mr. Alex. Livingston, Mr. G. F. Holwell, Mr. Russell, Mr. Wilson, Miss Laura Louise B. Livingston, Mr. Ritchie, A. C. Holwell



Photo on the right: Homemaking Short Course offered at Livingston Presbyterian Church in 1920s.

75 Years Ago ~ February 1948



Maple Leaf Inn, Baden Township of Wilmot Archives

A testimonial dinner was held at the Maple Leaf Baden last Thursday evening in honour of two of New Hamburg's retiring officials, Treasurer L. Hostetter and Chief of Police E.F Scherer both of whom have given 25 years of valued service to the town. The pair were presented with smoking jackets.

Castle Kilbride Collection -Silver cross presented to Mrs. Toman of New Dundee in memory of her son Pte. Burkle Toman killed in World War II. Mrs. Stiefelmeyer would have received a similar one.



Mrs. E.D. Stiefelmeyer attended a potluck supper at the Legion Hall in Kitchener. It was the second anniversary meeting of the Silver Cross Women of Canada. Silver crosses were given to mothers whose children were killed in World War II.



EJ's Baden Hotel is now open Mondays 1 p.m. -9 p.m..

New to EJ's—we have Whiteclaw Mango!

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50 Years Ago - February 1973

Council passed a by-law to appoint Armand Weiler of the Baden volunteer Fire Department, as Chief of all Wilmot Township Fire Departments.

Council was told the appointment of an area Fire Chief was necessary because the Ontario Fire Marshal's office does not recognize more than one fire chief from a community.

Baden leads the school loop- Baden remained atop the standings in the junior school hockey league last week on the strength of four wins and no losses. North Wilmot was in second place with two wins and two losses while New Dundee and Wellesley are tied for last spot with 1 win and three losses.

A total of \$2,200 was raised by 27 snowmobile drivers for the Baden and district 50 Snow-mo-fest. The route took the snowmobilers east and north of Baden past St. Agatha and St. Clements to Heidelberg and back. Robert Hostetter of Baden brought in the largest amount \$325 on pledges \$6.51 per mile. Next highest was Robert Miller of Baden who brought in \$270 at \$5.40 per mile.



Opening of the Baden Fire Hall 1972. Mayor Ernie Ritz, Don Owens (Fire Marshall's Office) and Fire Chief Armand "Mike" Weiler. Courtesy of Blain Bechthold

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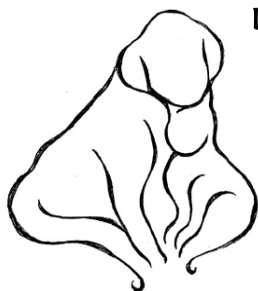
Answers on page 32

Write the five-letter answer to clue #1 in the first box. Drop one letter and rearrange the remaining letters to answer clue #2. Put the dropped letter into column A. Drop another letter and rearrange the remaining letters to answer clue three. Put the dropped letter into column B. Follow the pattern for each row into the diagram. When completed, the letters in column A and column B, reading down, will spell words or a phrase. Have fun!

	↓ A		↓ B	
1		2		3
4		5		6
7		8		9
10		11		12
13		14		15

1. A nut for a pie
2. The back of a person's neck
3. A writing instrument
4. Lemons and limes are in this group
5. A crack or a split
6. In good health
7. Having an edge or point
8. Lack of consideration
9. Fire residue
10. Mexican goodbye
11. A soft drink in the USA
12. Not happy
13. More spacious
14. Electrical conduits
15. Angry state.

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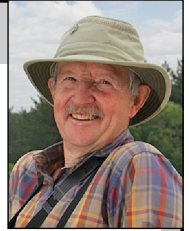
Harold Rudy sent us two pictures showing damage done to an electrical power pole next to the Nith River on Christner Road. Appears that a Pileated Woodpecker was hard at work looking for its lunch. The power company has been notified and will be repairing or replacing the pole soon. Thanks Harold for the submission!



If you have a submission, we would love to hear from you. Either message us on Facebook or email badenoutlook@hotmail.com

Baden Birding ~ Cold Feet

By Fraser Gibson



Have you ever wondered why a sleeping bird doesn't fall off its perch or how a Canada Goose can stand in frigid water without freezing to death? The simple fact is

that the feet of birds have adapted in amazing ways to help them survive in their chosen environments.

The backward pointing bird "knee" is actually its ankle, so birds don't really walk on their feet, but on their toes. What we normally think of as the bird's foot is really just its toes.

Most birds have one digit pointing to the back, functioning a little like a human thumb, and three toes pointing forward.

When a bird alights on a branch, two tendons tighten automatically locking all four toes securely around the perch. The toes remain firmly wrapped the whole time the bird rests. No energy is expended in maintaining a grip nor in active concentration to maintain the grip. The bird can sleep soundly without a worry of falling off the branch. When the bird initiates flight the ankle flexes upward releasing the tireless grip on the perch.

The feet of birds are mostly tendons and bones with very few nerves, muscles, or blood vessels. This is a real advantage, especially to waterfowl who spend so much time standing on frozen lakes or rivers. As a result, birds do not feel the cold as intensely as a human would standing barefoot on ice. Regardless, the blood circulating in these icy toes will be cool when it returns toward the body. A continuous flow of cool blood back into the bird's body will eventually cool the body temperature posing a threat to survival. To prevent this cooling effect, the veins and arteries in a bird's legs are positioned immediately adjacent to one another. When warm arterial blood, flowing from the heart, reaches the leg it flows side by side with the cooler blood returning from the toes. Some of the heat in the warm blood is transferred to the cool blood before it re-enters the bird's body. This process prevents heat from leaving the body at the same time as the pre-warmed, cool blood re-enters the body's core. This heat exchange is a lifesaving

process! (*Ducks Unlimited Canada- Getting Cold Feet?*) To conserve even more heat, waterfowl often tuck one foot up into their feathers and easily balance on one foot.

We usually give little thought to the webbed feet of ducks and geese. Three skinny front toes would do little to propel a swimming bird. Place a web between those toes and the surface area increases significantly. With each push the webbing spreads wide and, as the leg moves forward in the water the toes spontaneously fold together reducing drag. This webbing also provides birds with additional "floatation" to prevent them from being mired in mud.

The Ruffed Grouse gains additional floatation by growing, each fall, many small protrusions along the length of each front toe. This added surface behaves like a pair of snowshoes in soft fluffy snow.

Woodpeckers have a different toe arrangement with only two toes facing forward but two facing back. The two forward-facing toes cling tightly to tree trunks while the backward-facing toes provide additional stability and support on vertical surfaces.

Most raptors, (hawks, falcons, and owls) have three front toes and one back toe. Interestingly, owls have the ability to rotate the outside toe, from front-facing to the back-facing. These two and two arrangements gives the owl a broader gripping span to extract its prey from tangled grass or snow. The osprey also has a rotatable outer toe providing for a better grip on the slippery fish it targets below the water's surface

The variations in the feet of birds are as numerous as their adopted functions. Some northern birds have feathered toes. The kingfisher has two toes fused as one and the ostrich has only two toes! Each small tweak to the structure, functionality and manoeuvability of a bird's foot presumably gives the bird a better chance of surviving in a challenging environment.



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You Must Be Joking!!



Two Minute Management Course

Lesson One: An eagle was sitting in a tree resting. A small rabbit saw the eagle and asked him, "Can I also sit like you and do nothing?"

The eagle answered: "Sure, why not."

So, the rabbit sat on the ground below the eagle and rested. All of a sudden, a fox appeared, jumped on the rabbit and ate it.

Management Lesson - To be sitting and doing nothing you must be very, very high up!

Lesson Two: A little bird was flying south for the winter. It was so cold that the bird froze and fell to the ground into a large field. While he was lying there, a cow came by and plopped some poop on him. As the frozen bird lay there in this pile of cow dung, he began to realize how warm he'd become. The poop was actually thawing him out! He lay there all warm and happy and began to sing for joy.

A passing cat heard the bird singing and discovered the bird under the pile of cow poop and promptly dug him out and ate him.

Management Lesson:

- 1) Not everyone who craps on you is your enemy.
- 2) Not everyone who gets you out of crap is your friend.
- 3) And when you're deep in crap, it's best to keep your mouth shut!

Thus ends your two minute management course.



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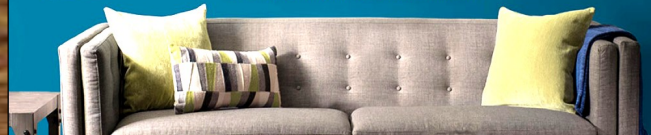
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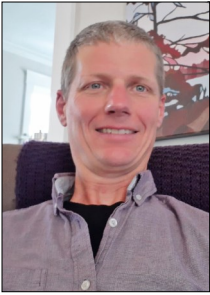
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Goodbye New Years Resolutions

By Chip Bender, Registered Psychotherapist (Qualifying)



If you made a New Year's resolution at the end of last year, chances are good your resolution has already been broken. For those of you for whom this is not the case, I jealously admire your determination and discipline, and you do not need to keep reading. The only New Year's resolution I have made in the past several years is not to make any. The reason I have stopped making them is not because I have reached a state of perfection, far from it, just ask my spouse. Rather, the reason is, I believe they are not overly effective in creating the change I had hoped for when I made the resolution.

The resolutions we make are difficult to keep often because we base them on fixing one of our faults/flaws (e.g. I eat too much, spend too much, don't exercise enough, etc.). We set the expectation too high, and they are often a pass or fail challenge that is accomplished or, more than likely, it is not. Then, when we do not manage to live up to our expectation it can lead to berating ourselves and wallowing in our failure

until the next December rolls around and we do it all over again.

Don't get me wrong, I think it can be a good thing to set goals to offer some direction for making change. However, New Year's resolutions seem to be flawed because they are often not specific enough and they usually focus on our faults.

Instead of making New Year's resolutions I have begun a practice introduced to me by some friends with whom I gather to celebrate New Year's, in which each person chooses a word to guide them in the coming year. The words are broad enough in meaning to offer countless options for how it might be manifested in one's life. Some examples of words I have chosen recently include connected, engaged, open, and this year's word, "now", which I plan to expand upon in a future article. The word only sets a direction without dictating a specific outcome or a particular path.

I have discovered it is important to be reminded of my chosen word on a regular basis to keep it front of mind. It can be written on a Post-It Note on your bathroom mirror or your computer screen. My word has a prominent place on a drawer of my dresser, which is visible as I prepare for the day. It serves as a quick reminder of a way of being without being prescriptive of things I ought to be doing.

If you have not yet chosen a word, you need not wait until December to do so because it is fitting to pick one any time of year. If you discover your chosen word is not working then change it because the purpose of it is not to limit you, but to experience life more fully. What word describes your desire moving forward?



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APHORISM (*ăf'ə-rīz'əm*): A SHORT, POINTED SENTENCE EXPRESSING A WISE OR CLEVER OBSERVATION OR A GENERAL TRUTH

1. The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow.
2. Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make him wag his tail.
3. If you don't have a sense of humour, you probably don't have any sense.
4. Seat belts are not as confining as wheelchairs.
5. A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water.
6. How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?
7. Business conventions are important because they demonstrate how many people a company can operate without.
8. Scratch a cat and you will have a permanent job.
9. No one has more driving ambition than the boy who wants to buy a car.
10. There are no new sins: the old ones just get more publicity.
11. There are worse things than getting a call for a wrong number at 4 AM. It could be a right number.
12. No one ever says "It's only a game" when their team is winning.
13. Be careful reading the fine print. There's no way you're going to like it.
14. The trouble with bucket seats is that not everybody has the same size bucket.
15. Always be yourself because the people that matter don't mind, and the ones who mind, don't matter.



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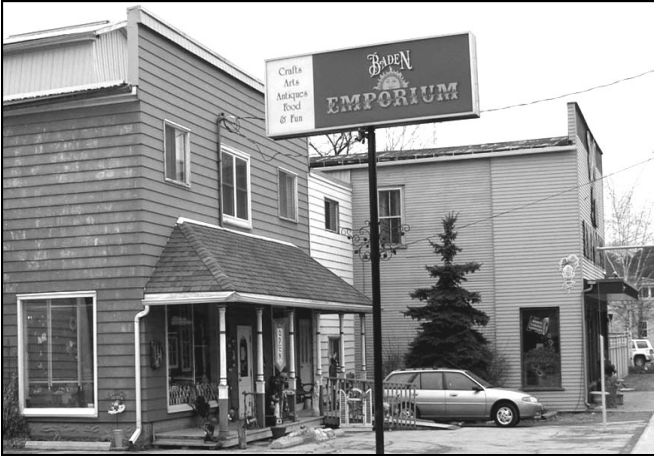
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For those new to Baden they may not know how very popular this spot was on Snyder's Road East. It was great for lunch, giftware, and a destination place for visitors. The property has an amazing history — Today it is a vacant parking lot.

A Baden landmark is set to close its doors by April. The Baden Emporium which opened for business on November 17, 1995, will close forever.

The Store, which has an area of 8,000 square feet, provided retail space to 183 vendors of consignment crafted goods. The Emporium also featured a selection of store - owned merchandise from 83 suppliers as well as a café on the premises. Larry and Rose Stevenson, who have resided above the business and have had their studio behind the Emporium, will be moving out. Baden Creek Pottery had already moved out at the end of December and the Olde Tin Shoppe hopes to continue on with their business. There have been several calls regarding the sale of the buildings.

Greg and Adrienne Shinnie, owners of the store, are partners in PAB Holdings, which are interested in selling the five buildings that comprise the historic area. They are not interested in selling the business. The Emporium building has housed a car dealership, gas station, funeral home, furniture store and confectionary store over the years. They are anticipating the store will be closed by the end of March and we'll wait to see what becomes the future of this site.



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- Check toilet flappers for leaks at least twice a year. (Add a few drops of food colouring to tank. Wait 15 minutes. Coloured water in bowl confirms a leak.)
- Shorten showers, turn off water when applying soap and shampoo, replace showerhead with a more efficient model.
- Turn off tap when brushing your teeth.
- Only use dishwasher when it has a full load.
- Collect water in sink or bowl when washing vegetables or dishes by hand. Don't let tap run.
- Change your water softener so it only softens hot water. You will use less water and salt.
- Apply for a free home water review if your current water use is over 150 litres per person per day (4.5m³ per person per month)

For details check out <https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/living-here/reducing-water-at-home.aspx#Toilet-leaks>

Join us on **Tuesday, March 21st** for our next free educational webinar entitled: **Electric Vehicles – Do you have a question? Ask the owners!!** The emphasis in this webinar will be on giving participants lots of time to direct questions to a panel of Hybrid, Plug-In, and Battery electric vehicle owners. For more details and to register, go to: <https://nvecoboosters.com>

Our next NVEB general monthly meeting will be held at **7:00PM on Wednesday, February 22nd**. Please contact us via e-mail: nvecoboosters@gmail.com or call **519-662-9372** if you would like to participate in this "Zoom" meeting.
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Interesting Person – Meet Eric Sprague, Wilmot’s Wood Carver

Twelve years ago, while in the bush, Eric Sprague thought he might try making a shape out of a block of wood with his chainsaw. He didn’t realize it at the time, but it became an interesting hobby for the Wilmot Centre man. “My Grandfather from New Brunswick was a wood carver; however, his art was more with the use of a chisel and knife,” he stated.

Eric thinks he might have completed about 150 projects so far that include trees, gnomes, owls, eagles, and mushrooms. “Trees and mushrooms are the most popular,” explained Eric. He is not that eager to create commission work as he feels he is not an artist – but enjoys doing what he knows. He has created some different pieces for himself to test his workmanship. “Quite often I might start creating a mushroom and due to a split in the wood or an error he might end up with an owl or perhaps firewood,” Eric joked.



Eric enjoys his time outside by his wood shed, chain saw and tools at hand, as he creates amazing wood sculptures.



Chunks of wood are “cut-offs” from Lavery Log Homes in Baden, which he brings back to his property on Bleams Road. Next, a good-sized chain saw is used to make the basic shape of the project followed by a smaller saw with a dime tip chain to enhance the shape of the sculpture. Once the shape is more refined, he uses an angle grinder, followed by a die grinder to create the

fine detail. The whole process might take many hours. He finds that using a chisel is a very labour-intensive process, but is sometimes required, especially on a face.

Eric fashions most of his works of art out of pine, but he has done some work with maple. He does most of his carving outside by his wood shed and gets asked regularly by motorists if he would create something for them. This December he purchased a battery-operated chainsaw, which he loves, and that allows him to work in a cordoned off area of his shed in the winter.



When asked “What is the most unusual project that you have created he responded, “The mask up in the corner and the totem pole that is still a work in progress”.

“Customers enjoy using the projects at the entrances of their homes or on their patios which make interesting conversation pieces,” he stated.

Chainsaw carving began in the U.S. in the 1950s. Ben Murphy and Ken Kaiser pioneered the craft and began distributing their pieces. Interest in chainsaw carving grew slowly until the 1980s. Then the craft jumped in popularity thanks to the publication of a handful of books about chainsaw carving and the creation of several chainsaw carving festivals and competitions. According to the United Chainsaw Carving Guild (UCCG), there are now chainsaw sculptors in more than 80 countries worldwide.

Hope, British Columbia, is known as Canada’s Chainsaw Capital of Canada. It all started when the late Pete Ryan, a master carver, moved to Hope and raised the interest in Chainsaw Carving. There are many of his works of art around town including a full-sized grizzly bear, and an eagle.

Pete created the Hope World Class Chain Saw Carving Competition which happens every second year. The competition attracts 2000 people to town including many local and international carvers. The competition occurs the last four days of August and will be held this year. Some of the creations are auctioned off, while the others are displayed throughout the town during the nicer months. Currently there are 80 works of art in town - walking tours are popular to visitors.

You Must Be Joking!!



A chicken walks into a library and up to the desk. "Buk," says the chicken. So the librarian gives him a book. The chicken leaves with the book and returns five minutes later. "Buk," he says. So the librarian gives him another book. This goes on about eight more times until finally the librarian leaves the library and goes outside on break in the back where there's a pond. The chicken is standing on the edge of the pond tossing the books to a frog on a lily pad. The chicken says "Buk, buk" and the frog says "reddit, reddit."



I had a friend who was a bit depressed. I was told if I shared a pun-a-day for 10 straight days, that it would miraculously cure him. But, I found that no pun in ten did.

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Yummy Chocolate... and It Can Be Healthy!



February is synonymous with love for ourselves and others. It's officially heart month and cupid's magical day. Delving into chocolate is the definition

of a dreamy Valentine's Day. Chocolate has a rich history beginning in Mesoamerica. Fermented chocolate beverages date back to at least 1900 BC to 1500 BC. Chocolate was mixed with spices or corn puree, and today the "chilate" is still considered an aphrodisiac. After its arrival in Europe, royalty gifted chocolate to lovers. All paths point to desire, romance, and tales of love courtesy of the decadent love drug. The cocoa tree or Theobroma cocoa in Greek translates to 'Food of the gods'. Chocolate is more than a culinary superstar: cocoa is a stellar super food today!

Cocoa powder and chocolate are chocked full of flavonoids, overflowing in the form of epicatechin. There's just one catch. The essential minerals are found in dark chocolate, not your typical candy bar. The percentage is the key. Think of school exams where 60% is getting by but 90% is top-notch. The higher the percentage, the bigger the bounty of brain boosting goodness connected to learning and memory. Mother Nature's power food promotes positivity, explaining why chocolate is a common craving in trying times. Chocolate is more than window dressing on cupid's special day; chocolate supports the vascular system and blood flow to the brain. Magnesium is essential for more than 300 enzymatic processes in the body. Cocoa contains 65 mg in a 1-ounce or 28-gram serving of this marvelous mineral. Selenium and zinc are two trace minerals lost in modern farming but can be found in cacao.

Chocolate is not disastrous to diet and health goals when the cacao is as close to the way Mother Nature intended. High fructose corn syrup, glucose, modified palm oil, artificial flavors and colors, vegetable, cotton seed and soy oil plus wheat powder are all ingredients to keep an eye out for. Pass on the products containing PGPR, carnauba wax, acacia gum, lactic and citric acid as well as anything you can't pronounce or spell. High quality chocolate is clean and a wealth of health. Go chocolate crazy and top yogurt and oatmeal with pure cacao nibs or add to handmade granola. Start a holiday tradition with a fancy fondue, drizzle chocolate on popcorn or find holistic happiness in a cup of cocoa.

Happy Holistic 'Rice Krispie' Bars will satisfy any sweet tooth!

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seeds. It has a nutty flavor and this awesome alternative is more economical. Buy a big tub and replace nut butters in recipes and substitute for oil in salad dressings.



Ingredients:

1. 3 cups of brown 'Rice Krispie' cereal
2. 1 ½ cups or the whole bag of *Enjoy Life chocolate chips
3. 1 cup runny tahini
4. ½ cup maple syrup
5. ¼ cup extra virgin cold-pressed coconut oil
6. Optional add-in: ¼ cup plus 1 tbsp unsweetened and sulphite-free shredded coconut

*These are certified free in all common allergens

Directions:

1. Line an 8x8 pan with parchment paper.
2. Add the cereal to a bowl and set aside.
3. Place chocolate chips and coconut oil in a microwave safe bowl and heat in 30 second increments. Stir well in-between. This should take about 3-4 rounds of 30 seconds.
4. Stir in the maple syrup, runny tahini and shredded coconut.
5. Pour over the rice cereal and mix well.
6. Pour into the parchment lined pan.
7. Spread evenly and pat down with a spatula.
8. Top with the remaining tablespoon of shredded coconut.
9. Refrigerate approximately an hour or until firm.
10. Remove, cut into bars and store at room temperature.



Mercedes Kay Gold is a Certified Holistic Nutritionist, Certified Personal Trainer, and a published writer who loves helping others live their best life when not spending time with her children and grandson Theodore.



HERITAGE WILMOT
Heritage Day
2023

February 22
Wilmot Recreation Complex
 1291 Nafziger Road, Baden

Free Event

6-7 p.m. Heritage Displays
 Enjoy local heritage displays representing many topics and themes.

7-8 p.m. Lecture by Gary Warrick
 Join Gary Warrick (Professor Emeritus, Department of Archaeology and Heritage Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University) and Tanya Hill-Montour (Archaeology Supervisor of the Six Nations of the Grand River) as they explore and explain the rich archaeological history of Wilmot Township with a focus on Indigenous and Cultural Heritage Landscapes.

8-9 p.m. Refreshments and Displays
 End the evening with questions for the lecturer, enjoy light refreshments and visit the heritage displays.

heritagewilmot.ca 



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Heritage Week is celebrated in Canada from February 20-26th. It is a wonderful time to reflect on our past. It is fascinating to look back at all the historical information within our region. This year, Heritage Wilmot is looking back at Indigenous and Cultural Heritage Landscapes. For more information, check out the Wilmot Township website and click on the Heritage Wilmot tab.

<https://www.wilmot.ca/en/things-to-do/Heritage-Wilmot.aspx>



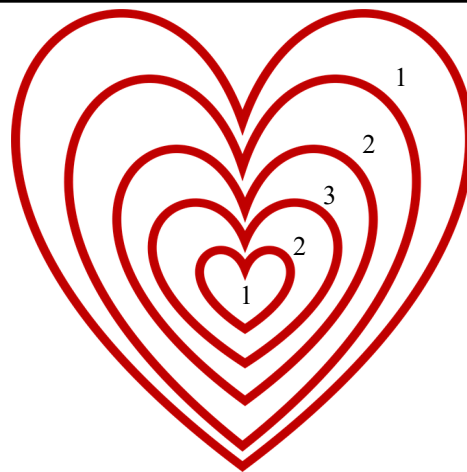
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Find these Family Day words in the wordsearch below.

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H	A	N	S	I
G	R	I	I	W
E	T	A	K	S

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 SWIM SING
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Family Day Fact:
 Family Day was first celebrated in Alberta in 1990. It took Ontario until 2008 to call Family Day a holiday!

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Who would you invite:

What food would you eat:

What would you like to play:



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- Charles Seebach - \$50 Gift Certificate to Meme's Cafe
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Suggested income levels:

Family Size	Total Family Income
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2 persons	\$45,000
3 persons	\$47,500
4 persons	\$50,000
5 persons	\$52,500
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- * Deceased individuals
- * Foreign income

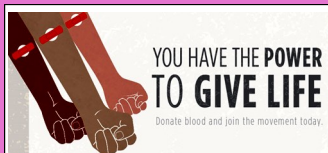
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Fri. Feb. 24th, Roast Beef Dinner \$22 6 p.m.

Sat. March 11th, Music by Unleashed 2-5 p.m.



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➤ Past event have included healthy living, craft activities, gardening, and internet safety.

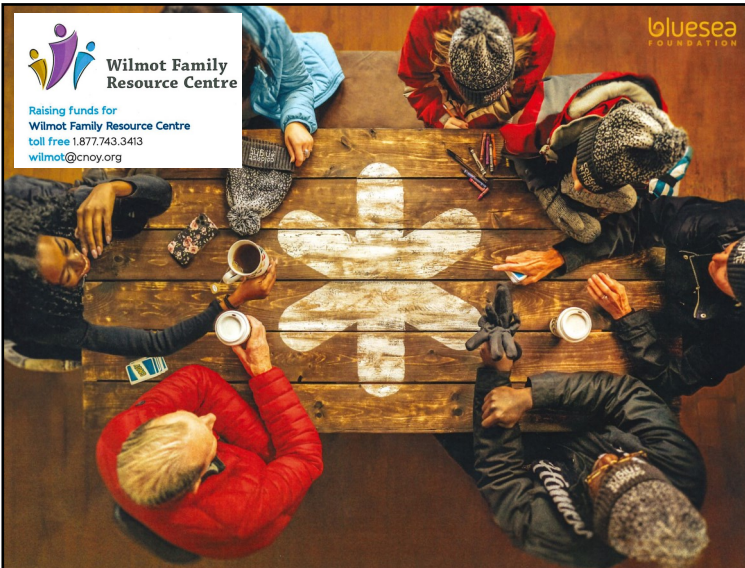
➤ Please join us at our next event! Visit our website for upcoming events or contact us for more information.



Our Contact:

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- ✉ info@wilmotfamilyresourcecentre.ca
- 🌐 <https://sites.google.com/view/coffeehousetalks/home>

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from 2:00-4:00pm
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SPEECHES BY:
ROD NORTHEY FROM GOWLING LAW
MIKE BALKWILL FROM REFORM GRAVEL MINING COALITION

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Reduce to Produce Answers on page 32

Eliminate words from the clues below. The remaining words will create the answer to this riddle.

(Read remaining clues left to right, top to bottom)

Why did the baker stop making donuts?

A	B	C	D
BACK	SWEET	LESS	THEY
GOT	PAPER	RED	TO
GLOSS	OVEN	TIRED	SPINE
PINK	OF	PEN	BE
THE	BLUE	MEAT	HOLE
LAMP	MESS	THING	BEAT

1. Remove all words you can plug in
2. Remove all words containing "SS"
3. Remove all body parts
4. Remove all 2-lettered words in column D
5. Remove all stationary supplies
6. Remove all words that are colours
7. Remove all words that rhyme with "treat"

Write leftover words here:



The Baden Outlook

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 badenoutlook@hotmail.com
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You'll find us around the
 15th of each month in
 over 75 places within
 Wilmot Township.

You Must Be Joking!!



Three elderly women are talking about their troubles.

"Sixty is the worst age to be," said Ruth, the 60-year-old, "You always feel like you have to pee. And most the time nothing happens."

"Ah, that's nothing," says the 70-year-old, Maxine.

"When you're 70, you don't have a bowel movement anymore. You take laxatives, eat bran, you sit on the toilet all day and nothing happens."

"Actually," said Gilda, the 80-year-old, "Eighty is the worst age of all."

"Do you have trouble peeing too?" asked Ruth. "No, I pee every morning at 6 a.m. I pee like a racehorse; no problem at all."

"Do you have trouble with your bowel movements?" Maxine questioned.

"No, I have one every morning at 6:30 a.m.," Gilda responded.

Puzzled with this, Ruth said, "Let's get this straight. You pee every morning at 6 a.m. and poop every morning at 6:30 a.m., so what's tough about being 80?"

"I don't wake up until 7."

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ARE YOU IN THE MOOD FOR A VALENTINE'S DAY WORDSEARCH?

Get in the mood for some fun with this 'love'ly puzzle. You know the rules... find the words in the grid - across, diagonally, horizontally, vertically, and backwards. Good luck!

- BE MINE
- BIRTHDAY
- CANDY
- CARD
- CHOCOLATE
- CUPID
- DINNER
- FEBRUARY
- FLOWERS
- FOURTEEN
- HEART
- HUGS
- LOVE
- RED
- ROSES
- SWEETS
- TREATS
- VALENTINE
- WHITE



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

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It's Time to say Thanks!!

The Wilmot Lions / Lioness Club wish to thank our community for their incredible support of our recent events!



To begin, our Twelve Days of Christmas was an incredible success with tickets sold out, and all of the prize money awarded as hoped, by the 12th of December. This was a great fundraiser for our group and was so well supported by our community. Thank you!

Next - we truly believe that we had the best Tree of Light ceremony ever, on December 2, 2022!!

Our thanks to our new Mayor, Natasha Salonen, who welcomed our guests to the 39th Tree of Light ceremony. Our newly designed "Tree" was manufactured by Cress Ridge Machine, and we thank them for all their hard work and design efforts. Kevin Cressman - You're the best!!

More thanks to The Wilmot Fire department and their team who were on site with lights and their truck as always! The Waterloo Oxford Appassionata Choir who sang beautifully and to the New Hamburg Concert Band who played Christmas songs for our sing-a-long! Rob Edwards for reciting the 12 days of Christmas story, Lindsay Neubauer who pushed the button to light our new tree, and Rob Esposito for his sound system. Erb Transport as always, provided their trailer, for a well needed windbreak for the stage, and to McFarlane Trailer Sales for the stage trailer. Another big thank you to Bill and Jill at Sobeys, for their very generous support again this year, and to Dave Mackay at No Frills for their support this year!

Equally important, a huge thank you, to all of the businesses, and people, who donated funds to our campaign, and to the hundreds of guests who joined us for helping to light the Tree of Light, and for supporting our community as always!!

And finally - just two weeks into January, you all came together again, to enjoy a fabulous and fun Spaghetti Dinner at the New Hamburg Legion! Once again, a great fundraiser for our group and a wonderful way to begin the New Year and to meet friends and neighbours for a enjoyable evening. Thanks go to Gail McMullen, of the Legion, Bill and Jill Fleming at Sobey's again, for their support and to our Lions and Lioness team of helpers who, prepared, cooked, and served the dinner that evening.

As always, the funds raised at all of these events support many of our important community groups in Wilmot Township.

Our very best wishes for a safe and prosperous New Year.

**Thank
You**

The entire Wilmot Lions / Lioness team, The Twelve Days of Christmas Chair - Susan Hammer, and our Tree of Light Co-Chairs, Marjorie Heimpel & Reta Klassen

A photograph of a man and a woman sitting at a desk, looking at a laptop screen. The man is on the left, wearing a light blue shirt, and the woman is on the right, wearing an orange top. They appear to be in a professional setting, possibly a meeting or consultation.

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www.smchurch.ca

Zion Philipsburg Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
www.philipsburglutheranchurch.ca

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
www.petersburgchurch.org

Shantz Mennonite Church

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
www.shantzmc.ca

St. James Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
www.stjamesinbaden.org

Wilmot Mennonite Church

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

St Agatha Mennonite Church

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
All are welcome. 519-634-8212



February - a month filled with love, anticipation, and usually a bit of snow! We've been spoiled this winter as far as snow and cold goes. Outside of our winter storm that graced us with its presence over Christmas, we have had mild weather for December and January.

I don't know about you but I have always had a love-hate relationship with the winter months. I LOVE the first snow fall when everything looks so peaceful and clean, and a winter walk in the brisk fresh cold air is an activity to which I look forward to. Hot chocolate with friends on a cold evening or movie night with the kids! On the other hand, the cold snowy weather can make our daily routines more challenging, and our days seem longer. I am certainly not a fan of shoveling the driveway before leaving for work or driving on slippery roads and with days being shorter and darker, it does affect my mood and energy levels.

If you are not a fan of winter activities, you might use these colder months like I do and dive into some deep cleaning! When it's cold and stormy outside, I like to crank up the heat, put on some good music, and really clean out cupboards, closets, and the little "storage" space that seem to store everything that "I'll get to later."

As a person who likes to be organized, I like to do a few things before I just dive in. I like to start with a box marked "Things to donate to New Hamburg Thrift" and a pile "to be tossed". This helps to keep things flowing and makes for quick and easy clean up. I find for me, it's also a good idea to put the thrift store boxes right into my car, so they aren't now sitting in the garage taking up space. This also prevents me from digging through them again just in case I change my mind on a shirt I haven't worn in three years but just might want to wear this summer, ha-ha-ha.

New Hamburg Thrift Centre will accept donations of almost all kinds. Gently used housewares are always welcomed, so go ahead and clean out those kitchen cupboards where you've stored things you just don't use. We love books for all ages, so take your time and clean off bookshelves, but please ensure your books are in good shape and there is no writing inside the pages. Have your kids outgrown their dolls, toy trucks, puzzles, and baby toys? We would love to have them! Along with gently used clothing we also accept boots, shoes, and jackets you have pushed to the back of the mudroom closet for another day. It's painful to have to get rid of the things we feel haven't lived up to their potential, but the reality of it is if you haven't used it or worn it in over a year, you probably never will. Donating

that item to New Hamburg Thrift will give it the second life it deserves.

Did you know we also love furniture donations? Not only do we love furniture donations, but New Hamburg Thrift will happily pick up your gently used furniture for you! That's right, our wonderful volunteers come right to your house to pick up your gently used, quality furniture. It must be in good condition and sadly we do reserve the right to refuse your item if the piece was not properly represented.

This is a very popular service and since we only offer pickups Tuesdays and Thursdays, you need to schedule your pickup at least 2-3 weeks ahead of time. All furniture must be outside of the home at the time of pickup: porch, driveway, open garage, hallway, or lobby. During inclement weather, please ensure furniture is protected. **We will NOT, under any circumstances, enter your home/apartment or condo.**

We do have restrictions based on our current customer base:

- Nothing with excessive pet hair
- Nothing from a smoker's home
- Nothing damaged or needing repair
- Nothing ripped or stained

No large wall units (5ft or more), large desks, pianos, organs, treadmills, large exercise units, or heavy filing cabinets.

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Please call us at 519-662-2867, email nhthrift@mcco.ca, or speak with one of our staff members at your next visit if you are interested in arranging a furniture pick-up.

Donating your gently used clothing, housewares, or furniture to New Hamburg Thrift helps MCC to do all of the great mission work to which they are dedicated. With your generous donations of unwanted, gently used items, you are helping MCC focus on their missions of Relief, Development and Peace – here in Ontario and around the world!

To find out more about MCC and New Hamburg Thrift Centre or to inquire about volunteering please visit us!

In person:
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New Hamburg, ON

Monday –Wednesday 10am–5pm
Thursday & Fridays 10am – 8pm
Saturday 10am – 5pm

www.newhamburgthrift.com

Everyone has personal values - ideologies that they hold dear. We form our values in a variety of ways: through experience, our belief systems, our education, and by interacting with people.

These values in turn influence the myriad of decisions, big and small, we make every day. However, considering how much our personal values influence us, many people forget to match their financial plans with their values.

Yes, there are a few people that ask for socially responsible funds to reduce their carbon footprint or avoid a negative social impact, but it is rare to have a client come in and examine if their financial plan really takes into consideration the things that they hold dear.

Let's look at a few examples of values that should be considered when creating a financial plan:

Family – If family is a key value to you: What does family mean to you? What goals do you have when it comes to family? Perhaps that means getting your child(ren) through school. Or, it means having the ability to spend quality time with those you love.

Adventure – If adventure is a key value to you: What do you mean by 'adventure'? Maybe you have a hobby you

wish to maintain. Or perhaps, you love to travel. Many adventures require money and therefore you will need a plan.

Stability – If stability is a key value to you: You are likely averse to anything uncertain or unforeseen. You thrive in the known. How can this be built into your plan? Or how can a backup plan be built for when the unexpected happens.

Values are as varied as people - Growth, friendship, creativity, kindness, spirituality, success, and health are more examples of elements that should be considered when developing your financial plan. You want to ensure that your plan fits you and assists you to accomplish your goals.

Tricia Giffith, President and CEO of The Progressive Corporation, said, "With the right people, culture, and values, you can accomplish great things." So, don't be afraid to sit down with your financial advisor and dig into what matters to you. Build a plan that ensures that your plan reflects and supports what you truly want in life.

To learn more on how to align your investments with your values contact us at KLT Wealth Management. Courtney Beach, QAFP



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'Tis the season of visions of seed catalogs, orders, and garden plans dancing in gardeners' heads. Winter sowing has been completed for the native plant and perennial seeds that need a cold period. With the high cost of food, you may consider growing you own food so perusing through seed stands at local shops is a good start. Easy things to grow are spinach, lettuce, carrots, and peas which can be started in April. Herbs and veggies can become a feature in any type of garden as long it is in a sunnyspot. Containers are another option.

Your yard is your domain and what is it purpose? Is it your refuge? A place you want beauty and colour? All of these and a food source? Do you see your garden as part of larger ecosystem? Your yard is your domain but it is connected to the rest of the region. If you want to help with endangered monarch butterfly, you plant milkweed for their offspring (swamp and butterfly milkweed behave) and they will come as well as other pollinators. So you have beauty and help our native wildlife. Think of planting native shrubs and trees as they support offspring of many insects which in turn feed our birds and other critters. For example, oak trees support almost 500 species such as moths, butterflies, and beetles. Their babies, the caterpillars, are feed for baby birds as they need soft food, not seeds. When a chickadee has a clutch of babies, they need four to five hundred caterpillars a day to feed the hatchlings. What busy parents! When doing your research, look up keystone native species of trees, shrubs, and plants. Keystone species are essential to support many of our species. Some non-native trees like ginkgo support none and boxwood supports only two or three.



The American National Garden Bureau annually selects plants of the year in various categories. They are broccoli (veggie), amarylis (bulb), Rudbeckia (native perennial), Celosia (annual), spirea (shrub), and orchid (houseplant).



Rudbeckia is lovely! Think of black eyed susans. These North American perennials will brighten up your yard and are easy to grow, tough, and heat tolerant. Blooms are long lasting, nice for cutflowers and loved by pollinators. They come in mostly golden hues with some rust varieties with brown centers and a species with green centers. They symbolize justice, resilience, and encouragement. I need no encouragement to have them shine in my garden. You can easily start them from seed or buy plants. They like full sun and evenly moist, well-drained soil. Bloom time is mostly mid-summer into the fall. Leave seedheads over the winter as snacks for birds.

For 2023 events, garden stories, and info go to our Facebook pages and website.

Email: wilmothortsociety@gmail.com
Website: wilmothortsociety.ca

Let's Tree Wilmot

Email: letstreewilmot@gmail.com
FB: facebook.com/letstreewilmot
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Consider joining our team of volunteers. Opportunities to garden, organize events and tours, and much more are available.

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Beyond the Wine and Cheese - Fighting to Protect our Water, Air, and Established Community

The proposed Hallman Pit would excavate the very sand and gravel that filters into one of the largest underground water sources in Ontario - the Waterloo Moraine.

Shingletown wells K50 and K51 provide high-quality water that is used by residents throughout Waterloo Region. These wells provide low-salt content water that can be mixed with well water from urban wells to reduce salt levels and aftertaste in the regional water system. Significant agricultural operations rely on this groundwater to feed their livestock and crops. Residents rely on safe drinking water that is sourced from their private wells.

Across the Province, a growing number of Ontarians are fighting for their community's well-being and environment. Seventeen Municipal Governments have called for a temporary pause on all new aggregate licences until a third party reviews the province's management of aggregate and maps a better way forward. Locally, Cambridge, North Dumfries, Wilmot, and Woolwich passed motions in support of this pause.

Given the risk associated with open air industrial aggregate operations, there should be an identified need for the resource. However, there are 7 licensed pits in the immediate area of the proposed Hallman Pit that only operate at 10 percent capacity.

Wilmot Township has showed leadership when it listened to both the community and the experts, unanimously voting against the Hallman Pit zone-change application. But the fight is not over: the proponent has appealed Council's decision to the Ontario Land Tribunal. Wilmot, along with CSGW, must now defend its case in front of the Tribunal. The community has worked tirelessly to raise the money needed to commission expert reports and legal representation. These experts have clearly identified significant issues and risks to the community.



- **Air Quality:** Impacts that exceed standards for public health. There is emerging evidence that open air industrial operations such as this have serious health impacts.
- **Water:** Concerns and recommendations to safeguard drinking water not included in proponents plans.
- **Safety:** Proposed haul route is on a Township Road with limited lines of sight and no shoulders, it is currently used recreationally, by school buses and agricultural equipment.
- **Farmland:** Questions regarding the feasibility and reality of the rehabilitation of the proposed Hallman pit back to the same quality and quantity of prime farmland.
- **Land Use:** Proposed pit is not compatible with current land use.
- **Provincial Law:** Proposed pit does not conform to the current *Provincial Policy Statement*.

The community needs continued support to reach its financial goal and defend our community at the Ontario Land Tribunal. Prehearing: March 1st, 2023; Hearing: October 30, 2023.

To support this worthy cause and learn more, please join us for our wine and cheese tasting fundraiser at Puddicombe House, New Hamburg. www.eventbrite.ca/wine-and-cheese-tickets-483391676517, Sunday February 26th, 2023 from 2-4 p.m. For more information, contact: Samantha Lernout (519) 404-0134 or Rory Farnan (519) 498-0480.

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Pictured above,,,, early 1900s Snyder's Road East home with horse pulling sleigh. Looks like sacks of grain on the sleigh.

Picture to the right... Millpond Home taken current day. The tree has grown, pavement is laid, and the back small building has gone.



NOW AND THEN

'Millpond Home' on Snyder's Road East across from Baden Integrative Health.

Outlook Puzzle Answers

Drop One For Fun

- | | | |
|-----------|----------|---------|
| 1. Pecan | 2. Nape | 3. Pen |
| 4. Fruit | 5. Rift | 6. Fit |
| 7. Sharp | 8. Rash | 9. Ash |
| 10. Adios | 11. Soda | 12. Sad |
| 13. Wider | 14. Wire | 15. Ire |

Creating special words CUPID and ARROW



Reduce to Produce

They got tired of the whole thing.

All Things Scrambled

<u>Chocolate Bars</u>	<u>Types of Condiments</u>
Skor	Mayo
Twix	Aioli
Rolo	Salsa
Mr Big	Pesto
Bounty	Relish
Crunch	Tarter
Eat More	Wasabi
Crunchie	Mustard
Smarties	Ketchup
Caramilk	Tabasco



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TCMH Resident Perspectives ~ Meet Sam Wagler

Being in a rural community, Tri-County Mennonite Homes (TCMH) recognizes the importance of agricultural life, both for our community and for our residents. Many of our Residents themselves grew up on a farm, or owned farms in the area prior to their retirement. And while summer and the growing season may seem far away, there are only a few short months until the real action starts, and all types of farmers are getting ready. It's fitting that February 15th is Canada's Agriculture Day.

We had the opportunity to sit down with Samuel (Sam) Wagler, Nithview Community resident since 2020 and life-long farmer, to ask him some questions about his experience farming. Sam grew up on a farm west of New Hamburg, near the railroad tracks along Hwy 7/8. As an adult he owned a dairy operation, Rose Maple Farm, for 39 years with his wife and family. When Sam was ready to retire, he passed the farm onto his son. But farming is in Sam's blood, and he continued to help out whenever he was needed.

Farming is a rewarding way of life, and as Sam told us, it can be the most satisfying career. For Sam, it was one of the highlights of his life and he still prays for good weather and healthy crops. Over the years, Sam

had many types of animals on his farm, and growing his herds was one of his delights. Baby cows and baby pigs being born made for all sorts of activity. He recalled how a farrow 13 piglets were born safely overnight without any help. Thirteen piglets all at once, Sam assured us, is not a common sight! Nor were the twin calves he woke up to another time, also safely born during the night.

While farming and agricultural life is increasingly technical with new machines to help with the work, Sam thinks the lifestyle should be celebrated. Farmers have a certain work ethic that Sam feels is very valuable. Agricultural life is an every-day-of-the-year kind of job that doesn't wait for anything. Sam thinks it's important to recognize agriculture because the people who dedicate their lives to farming are helping to put food on everyone's tables.

Part of Sam's farming career included crops, both grains and corn. He recalls harvesting his grains in August and his corn shortly thereafter. Harvest being the literal fruits of labour, Sam found harvest-time very rewarding. Harvest is the product of good, hard work. And though Sam may not farm anymore, he still likes the way the countryside looks healthy when the crops are growing. It puts a smile on his face.

Agricultural and rural life are still a part of Sam, and always will be. They are one of the four cornerstones of Sam's life, the others being his faith, his family, and praising God through song. Sam loves to sing and when he wasn't working at the farm, he was very musical participating in choirs and bands. Unfortunately, we didn't ask if Sam ever sang for his animals, but we certainly know farming and agricultural life made his heart sing.



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Global Outlook – Interesting Border Crossings

Canada and the USA share the largest border crossing in the world spanning 8,890 kilometres. This is followed by the Russia/Kazakhstan border being 8,846 km. and the Chile/Argentina border being 5,308 km. The world's shortest land border is between a Spanish enclave, Penon de Velez de la Gomera and Morocco. The border covers 85 metres (242 feet). Here are six other notable border crossings.

India / Pakistan - According to the *Economists* magazine, the India Pakistan border (3,323 km.) is the most dangerous in the world due to a long history of conflict. The entire border is lit up with 150,000 flood lights on 50,000 poles and can be seen from outer space. It has barbed wire fences on either side and more wire in between those fences.

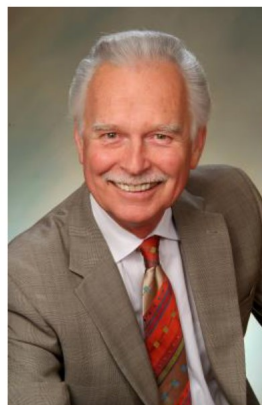
USA / Mexico - The 1969-mile-long border between Mexico and the US has long been a contentious border. It has been a major drug trade corridor plus an area where refugees have gone to find a better way of life. This is the busiest border crossing in the world. In 2019, there were 239,567,746 passenger crossings according to the US Department of Transport.

Netherlands / Belgium - The complete opposite of the USA/ Mexico border is the Netherlands / Belgium border (450km.) People can comfortably walk across the border.

Argentina / Brazil / Paraguay - The borders of these three countries are separated by a "T" shaped- intersection in the Parana and Iguazu Rivers. There are two bridges crossing the rivers which connect the three countries.

North and South Korea - (250km) There is constant tension between the two countries which has a demilitarized zone that is two kilometres wide and runs 240 kilometres long. This was established after the Korean War in 1953.

Haiti / Dominican Republic - (391 km.) Years ago Dominican Republic imposed rules to preserve forests and focus on the tourist industry. Today the impoverished country of Haiti has a scorched look about it and is a very unsafe place to be—quite different than the Dominican Republic. The Dominicans are currently building a 13-foot wall that will span 164 kilometres.



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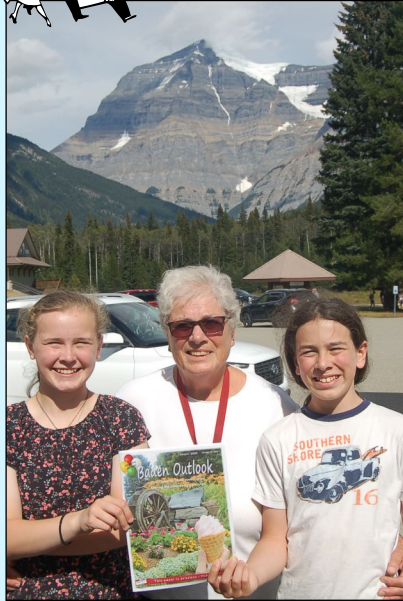
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