

Kruisin' With the King: Elvis Still Tops in Linwood!

Wellesley Is...

September 2009

WELLESLEYIS.CA

SERVING: Bamberg
Crosshill
Dorking
Hawkesville
Heidelberg
Kingwood
Linwood
Macton
St. Clements
Wallenstein
Wellesley

Murray Schlueter—Working Hard To Bring Our Bluebirds Back

**New Bridge on
Weimar Line Now
Open for Traffic**

**8th Annual
Grand River
Baroque Festival Was
A True Extravaganza**

**Fishing & Soapbox Derbies
Attract Huge Labour Day Crowds**

**Eighty Attend
Township Office
Grand Opening**

**Are You
'Well Aware'?**

Meet Wellesley's "Elvis"

**Wellesley Board of Trade
Launches Passport Program**

TABLE OF CONTENTS



Free Family Fun Day At the Library

Saturday, September 12

9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.



Linwood Branch Library
5279 Ament Line, Linwood



Drop in! It's free!

Music with Brian at 10:30 a.m.

Gift bags, family reading corner,
new mural, and local displays

Page

- 4 New Weimar Bridge Opens
- 5 Art Round the Pond a Showering Success
- 5 Heritage/Historical Society Surveys Township
- 6 Editorial: Hey, This Might Be Fun...
- 7 Hoola Hoops: A Therapist's Point of View
- 8 Letters
- 9 Passport to Wellesley? ...Since When!
- 10 *Book of Negroes* Author Visits Area
- 11 Wellesley Locals Want Splash Pad
- 11 Wondering Where *Wellesley Is...* is Going?
- 14 *Well Aware* Program Checks Wells
- 18 Wellesley Has it's Own 'Elvis'
- 19 Record Fish Caught at Lions' Derby
- 22 Horticultural Society Tour Beautiful
- 23 Wind Topples Old Oak into Nith
- 28 Township's Offices Grand Opening A Splendid Event
- 33 'Island' Wedding in Wellesley Pond Had Only One Hitch! Yeah!
- 34 Back Cover Photo

The beauty of the bluebird extends to the eggs themselves. Thanks to Murray Schlueter's efforts there are now many more eggs being laid in our area, and surviving. Watch for a bluebird near you.



Elvis in Linwood? Well not quite. Most call them impersonators but they prefer the term Tribute Artist. They have come a long way and some are rather good.



Soap Box Racers: They catch the imagination and prove to be a lot of fun too. While kids of all ages love them, don't forget it's the volunteers that provide the power that make them go!

There's music, there's good music and then there's baroque music. But it's entertainment that makes the Grand River Baroque Festival fly. The new artistic co-directors are in a class by themselves, in talent, imagination and energy. WOW!



Wellesley Is... is HYPERLINKED!

We use **hyperlinks** to help you navigate. If we've done our job, every headline on the cover and in the Table of Contents, will be hyperlinked to the story to which it refers. That means that if you click on the story with your cursor, you go directly to that story. Inside the magazine, we have highlighted hyperlinks in blue italics. Some will connect you to a web site, let you send an e-mail or move to another page in the magazine. Click on the *pink* (HOME) arrow in the left margin to come to this page, The Table of Contents.



ABOUT THE COVER

Murray Schlueter has been attracted to bluebirds since his youth. His teachers took exception to his arriving late at school because he would stop to watch bluebirds. Then bluebirds started to disappear, which didn't make Murray happy. He started his own campaign to help bluebirds in Wellesley recover. He is to be recognized for his efforts October 03, by the Grand River Conservation Authority.

Township's Public Works Department Carried the Project New Weimar Line Bridge Opened for Back to School

Wellesley's Director of Public Works & Environment, Will McLaughlin, says he is proud of the hard work, enthusiasm and the quality of the work produced by the seven members of his department in starting and completing the construction of the new replacement bridge installed on Weimar Line, during July and August.

The previous bridge, a single-lane, solid concrete structure built in 1941, was due for repair or replacement. Rehabilitation of the old structure would have cost in excess of a quarter million dollars, but would have left the roadway with only a single lane.

It was decided to replace the concrete bridge with a galvanized steel structure known as a *multiplate* bridge

which would be less expensive than a new concrete structure and could be completed in one-quarter of the time.

The steel structure which has a design life of 70 years, the same as a concrete structure, could be installed with much less equipment than a concrete design and at a cost saving estimated at \$40,000, when the final costs are totaled. Much of these savings will come from *contracting in* for the main project and then tendering sub-parts of the project to local vendors, where possible.

The project also had to meet conditions set by the Grand River Conservation Authority, particularly not disturbing the stream bed and not starting until after June 30, to avoid disruption to wildlife in the stream.

In 2006, water table tests showed that water would not be an issue during the construction period, but re-testing in 2008 showed that the water table was five feet above the footings of the bridge, so steps had to be taken to control the water table during construction.

The bridge is not a simple structure in spite of its appearance, requiring more than 1000 bolts to assemble.

It was designed by Armtec of Guelph. Public Works' capabilities were supplemented by BBGun Concrete for the footings and Steve Beggs Excavating. Project managers were Gamsly & Manerrow of Listowel.

The construction area has received its first layer of asphalt and was open by the start of the school year. ❖



Will McLaughlin stands beside the new Weimar Line multiplate two-lane bridge that was operational by the time children returned to class, September 08. The

bridge design was chosen because of its cost-saving design and the brief construction period required compared to a typical concrete structure.



Art Round the Pond A Showering Success!

Saturday June 20, 2009 marked the fourth annual Art Round the Pond event in the heart of Wellesley.

Although it rained, the rain did not dampen artist or visitors' spirits; over

three quarters of the art vendors set up tents to protect and display their work. More than 500 visitors attended.

The Wellesley Service Centre garage served as the rain venue for the silent auction, musical performances and our new mural wall. The location worked well. It sheltered our fabulous musicians and helped the silent auction achieve its most successful year to date.

More than 40 artists responded with submissions to the juried art show which made jurors Victoria Shannon's and Bruce Homer's task of selecting winners a difficult one. The juried art show winners are:

Adult Category

- First Place:** *Echologic Peace Spike* — Ed Schleimer
Second Place: *Mbuti Girl* — Lloyd Cooke
Third Place: *Working the Prairie Line* — Bill Corning
Honorable Mention: *After Thought* — Gloria Kagawa
Honorable Mention: *Countryside* — Kam Ying Chan

Student Category

- First Place:** *Deliverance* — Melissa Glauser
Second Place: *Untitled* — Emma Schmidt
Third Place: *Infertile Soil* — Rebekah Wikkerink
Honorable Mention: *Just for Kicks* — Erin Way
Honorable Mention: *Orris* — Sheri Fleischauer

The Art Round the Pond organizing committee would like to thank local businesses, groups and volunteers for their donations, assistance and overall support. Without them, Art Round the Pond would not be nearly as successful as it has been

Although Art Round the Pond 2009 has come to an end, our committee is in the early stages of planning Art Round the Pond's 5th Anniversary Event which will take place Saturday June 19th, 2010. If you are interested in helping with next year's event or if you are an artist interested in participating, send us an e-mail at arroundthepond@gmail.com. You can view a complete list of sponsors and get more information about Art Round the Pond, if you visit our web site at www.arroundthepond.ca.

The Wellesley Township Heritage/Historical Society is on the Move!

The Wellesley Township Heritage/Historical Society (WTH/HS) is moving into the twenty-first century in terms of collection management. Two museum professionals have been contracted to catalogue and create an inventory of the WTH/HS collection after council approved the hire based on a recommendation the Society put forth on July 29, 2008.

The end product will be a computerized inventory and catalogue that will give the WTH/HS an idea of exactly how many items they have, and what condition they are in. Citizens of Wellesley Township, and others who are interested in area history, will be able to access items more easily. Some items will benefit from cleaning and improved storage.

The condition of the collection will be more stable when, for example, photographs are stored in special acid-free envelopes. The collection is housed in the upstairs WTH/HS room in the Old School in Wellesley. The project has been made possible due to a bequest by Mr. Jack Koehler.

The current project is led by Derek Cooke, a collections resource expert who has worked in the field of heritage presentation and preservation for the past thirty-three years. He has experience in working with historical objects from the 18th century at the Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site to 20th century historical objects at *HMCS Haida* National Historic Site. His wife and partner, Lian Goodall, is a historian and author of four books. She has worked at various museums including Woodside National Historic Site in Kitchener. The couple lives in Belwood with their one-year-old son, Amzie.

Cooke and Goodall were eager to get to work after meeting on August 1st with Susan Duke, Wellesley Township's Chief Administrative Officer-Clerk and Director of Planning; Mayor Ross Kelterborn, and Ron Hackett, Chairman of the WTH/HS.

"It's exciting," Cooke enthused,

Continued on Page 33...



Wellesley Is...

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LETTERS

Letters to the Editor are welcome and must contain the writer's complete name, signature, address and telephone number. E-mail submissions should also include the writer's full name, address and telephone number. Address and phone numbers are used for verification purposes only and will not be published. Writer's name will not be withheld. Wellesley Is... reserves the right to edit, condense or reject letters for matters of good taste or legal issues.

Hey, This Might Be Fun Some Day!

There were moments when I doubted that this edition would ever get completed. So many summer activities to deal with — either personal or for the magazine — and good stories were coming faster than I could cover or produce them.



Larry Kryski

Take the two music stories for instance: The *Kruisin' with the King* in Linwood and the *Grand River Baroque Festival*, which I had an obligation to cover, having now been their official photographer for three years. Both events came on the same weekend and I wanted stories on both. That's when my son James came to the rescue.

I asked him if he would cover the Linwood event for me and he agreed, but with a little trepidation. He was just in the area temporarily, had never visited Linwood before, had never used my digital camera before and had never done any reporting or interviewing. I gave him an outline of what I felt we needed and dropped him in the Linwood Community Centre parking lot, just as it was beginning to rain on an outdoor event.

I wasn't sure if anything would come of this effort; he was awfully nervous as he got out of my car, but I had to speed off to Ayr at "baroque-neck" speeds [my apologies for that one] to get pictures of my events.

When I picked him up later, he was quite excited about his efforts: he had interviewed and photographed the majority of the Elvis tribute artists. Two days later, he had the graphics prepared that you see on pages 16 & 17, the photos selected and his story written. Oh, did I mention that he is only 19 years old? Great job, James. Thanks.

• • •

The focus of our cover story, Murray Schlueter, is a pleasure to deal with. I first met Murray when I joined the Board of Trade two years ago, shortly after I moved here. I took the pictures of Murray installing the bluebird boxes a year before *Wellesley Is...* was conceived. Murray has a wonderful modesty and I always sense a great respect for his fellow human beings. He is amazingly active in this community and is a tremendous asset, so it is not surprising that the bluebirds should end up having him as a champion. One cannot be this active without support from one's better-half. Murray's wife, Beth, who is equally active in her own right, certainly deserves recognition for her *Best Supporting* role.

• • •

I have learned a lot from this issue, which should speed up my production of future issues. The goal is to get Wellesley Is... out monthly, so future issues will be more modest in size and will begin to contain paid advertising so that I can continue to do this. I have received stories from a number of local and regional groups for this issue. These are welcome and are best initiated by contacting me by phone or e-mail. The web site wellesleyis.ca [or .com] will be expanded and polished and will eventually contain guidelines for contributing to the magazine. Until next time... enjoy! ♦

e-mail: larry@spellboundpublishing.com

Hula Hoops

by Mavis Kerr

In my counselling work with clients, I spend a lot of time helping folks wrestle with the concept of boundaries. Growing up on a farm, I remember hearing the expression: *Good fences make good neighbours*. How true in relationships of all sorts. Some of these *fences* involve the restraint needed to not say and do things that are not useful; some of these *fences* protect us from the bullying of others.



The exploration of boundaries as a psychological concept prompts these questions: Where do I stop and the other person begin? What can I control and what can I not? Am I trying to control myself or others? What exactly am I responsible for and what am I not? To make this easier to visualize I use a couple of hula hoops—refugees from my lithe and flexible teenage years. I invite my client to choose the pink or green hoop and stand within it on the floor. “This represents you.” I say.

“Everything inside this circle is you: your thoughts, feelings, beliefs, longings. The only things that leave your hula hoop are your actions: what you say and do. This is the only way anyone outside of yourself has any idea what is inside your hula hoop. You are in control of (or at least responsible for) what leaves the hoop: the facial expressions, the words that leave your mouth, what you do with your body, even your *body language*.”

Some people have a high level of self-awareness and know clearly what is inside their hoop and what behaviours they are bestowing on the rest of us. Others have no awareness of this distinction at all and tend to blunder through life wondering how they got themselves into their predicaments. Often they blame their spouse, parents, the weather, fate, and the temperature of their tea.

Whether someone comes to me to explore what to do about dear ol’ Dad (who won’t move out of his house into that nice retirement home) or they are at my office for ideas about dealing with their rebellious pimple-faced pot-smoking teen, I am thinking about it from the point of view of BOUNDARIES. I am a pretty practical person and the first question I address is what is possible? I usually begin by working on the goal setting stage of the process. *What do you want different in your life? Come back next week with your list of goals.* Often, that return list is made up mostly of things only someone else can change. “I want Dad to stop being so stubborn, cooperate (read “obey me”) and go to the nursing home” “I want young Josh to care about school, stop risking his neck skateboarding and come home by curfew.” Thus I begin the first lesson in boundaries — I get out the hula hoops.

Once, I worked with a paediatrician who would tell parents, “Accept it! You cannot make another person eat, sleep, pee, or pooh!” The only person we can control (short of torture) is ourselves. We control what leaves our hula hoop and is presented to the world as “Me”. I have never seen scientific evidence to support this, but

I believe that the less in control of *self* an individual is, the more they try to control others. If I fear that I am going to lose my temper and do something I will regret, then I need to try to keep others from doing that thing that would trigger a dangerous loss of control of my behaviour. (*I wouldn't have hit her if she hadn't burned the toast.*)

I like to introduce the concept of *influence* instead of *control*, especially when dealing with teens (or people who still act like teens). By the time a person is in their teens, it is really not possible to *control* them. You can no longer stuff them into snowsuits like you did when they were toddlers. You cannot make a person who refuses to get out of bed do so (especially if six feet tall and in a morning grump). Influence seems to work best when you come right out and acknowledge that you do not have control. You might say, “I know perfectly well that I cannot make you go to school, not use alcohol, not smoke, etc.” This acknowledges your powerlessness, makes you less threatening and releases the teen from that strong urge to rebel — which is part of the developmental drive of the age. You continue... “I would really like a chance to give you the information I wish I had when I was your age.”

Choosing what to say and how to say it—to be most effective—is a lifelong learning process. Over twenty years ago, I was given a *formula* which I teach to my clients and use myself because it works. I will expand on this in a later column but in brief it starts with figuring out what is going on inside ME before I open my mouth. First, *determine* the facts about this situation—not an *interpretation* of the facts. Ask: *What do I think about the situation* (my interpretation)? *What do I feel* (my emotions)? *What do I want* (perhaps a request for change)? Learn to stick with the “I” messages. Avoid, “You never do your share in the kitchen”

Instead, try to make it look like this:

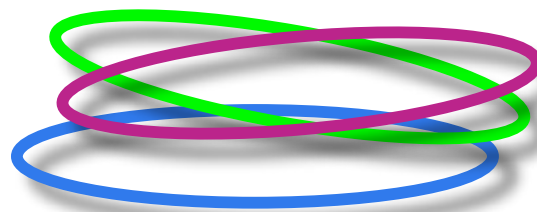
I come home and find many dirty dishes. (Fact)

I believe it is your turn to do the dishes. (I think)

I feel annoyed and used when I have to do dishes that are not mine. (I feel)

I am asking you to do them by suppertime. (My request)

This approach involves no name calling or voice raising and is transferable to a huge number of situations. It is assertive... but more about that next issue.



Good luck

in choosing what leaves your hula hoop and, as my father used to say, “Don’t do anything you don’t want to read in the papers in the morning”

Next time, I will address more specifically, the issue of protecting your boundaries from others. ❖

Mavis Kerr is a Registered Marriage and Family Therapist in private practice at Southern Ontario Counselling Centre — <http://www.socounselling.com> — in St. Agatha, Ontario. She has lived in the rural countryside just outside Wellesley (close enough to hear the church bells) for 23 years.

Letters

Good Morning, Larry! What a pleasant surprise to wake up to... thank you so much for an awesome job on this great new publication! —**Denise Bender**

Congratulations. Well done. We used your suggestion. Re our statement for the administration building. Thanks for your suggestion. —**Ross Kelterborn**

Congratulations on your first issue. Very enjoyable and a good read. Already looking forward to the next. Best of luck in the future.—**Joe Nowak**

Congratulation Larry on your first publication. If this is any indication of what is to come I believe you will have a winner. You have caught the essence of our Township and as you get to know it and it's uniqueness "Wellesley Is" will become an important and informative part of our communities. I hope you find the council meetings interesting. Continued success. —**Councillor Jim Olender**
Ward Three Township of Wellesley

Hi Larry! Thought I'd let you know that I enjoyed your first edition of "Wellesley Is" magazine; I can see that the magazine has great promise! Thank you for making us aware of this wonderful endeavour at this year's Home & Garden show. Keep up the great work! Best regards, —**Kelly Martin**

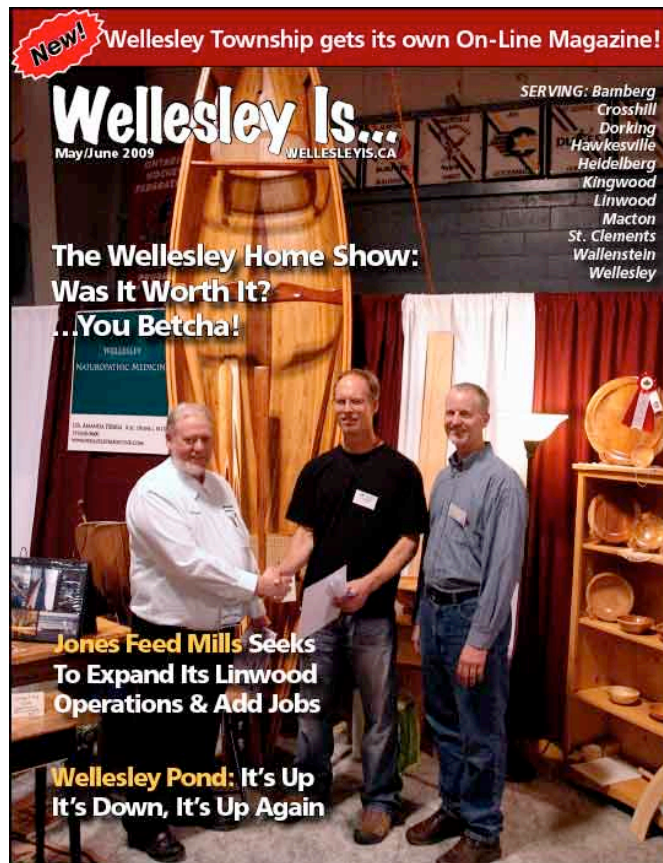
Hello Larry. Congratulations on this fabulous publication! It looks fantastic: great layout, gorgeous photography, and I can't help but "feel" the vibrant pulse of the community through it. Great work!... Thanks, —**Karen Dymond**

Hi, Larry. Thanks for this first issue. It's very well done! We first met, I think, at the community centre gate during the Fall Fair, collecting entry fees. I remember that you had your camera with you. It appears that you are a *Nikonian* – in the meantime, I appear to have been *Canonized*. Your pictures are first rate. I hope you have great success in this new venture. —**Dave Underwood**

Hi Larry, I can't say that I've read it "cover to cover" (any more than one listens to vinyl) but Wellesley Is... is really good! Great pictures, sentiment and I love the guest column by a certain family and marriage therapist. And, with her message in mind I say, "Congratulations and well done!" —**Andrea Leis**

Hi, Larry. Lovely photos of GRBF [Grand River Baroque Festival] and the magazine looks great! Congratulations..... —**Boyd McDonald**

Larry, I just peeked thru your Wellesley Is – very nice! Great photos and content. Good job. —**Karen Cummings**



Wellesley Is... First Edition Cover, May/June 2009





Do I Need A Passport If I Live in and Around Wellesley?

by

Karen Pettinger

Wellesley Board of Trade

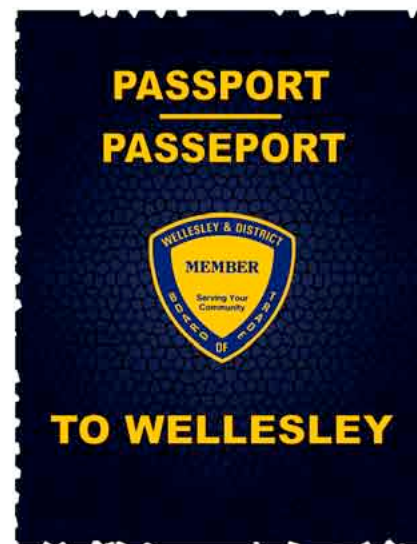
If you would like the chance to win \$500.00 Wellesley Dollars, then YES, you will need a special Wellesley Passport! The Wellesley and District Board of Trade has organized an exciting business promotion program and we are inviting every adult in Wellesley to participate.

The concept is simple — you visit the 12 participating businesses and check out what services and products they offer—no purchase is required. That’s the purpose of the Passport program — to encourage local residents to visit local shops and be exposed to the products and services that the businesses of our village have to

offer. Passport participants who visit participating businesses will receive a stamp on their Passport document.

Once a person fills up their Passport with the necessary stamps, they can enter it into a random draw for a chance to win the grand prize of \$500.00 or two second prizes of \$250.00 Wellesley dollars which can be spent at the winner’s choice of the 12 participating businesses.

This innovative “let’s get excited about the riches in Wellesley program” will run from the September 15 kick-off until October 30, 2009. Details and the Passports were available at the Fall Fair and also at participating businesses. There will even be a Passport for children who can enter the Passport they have colored for a children’s prize. Community sup-



Wellesley Passports will be distributed at the NEH Fall Fair.

port is essential for the Passport program to be a success so the Board of Trade hopes you will tell neighbours, friends and co-workers. Let’s all work together to keep Wellesley vibrant! ❖



Jake Malolepszy shows off the rock bass he caught during the Lions Club Labour Day Fishing Derby.

Wellesley Businesses Participating In the Board of Trade 2009 Passport Promotion

1. **Bio-Ag Consultants & Distributors**
2. **Erb Financial Services**
3. **Hometown Video**
4. **Leis Feed & Supply Ltd.**
5. **Pfeiffer Gallery**
6. **Pym’s Village Market**
7. **Vibrant Life & Spa**
8. **Village Flowers & Gifts**
9. **Village Market Food Outlet & We Grill-n-U Chill Drive In**
10. **Wellesley Brand Apple Products**
11. **Wellesley Home Centre**
12. **Wellesley Service Centre Ltd.**



The Book of Negroes Author Visits Wellesley Township With Readers to Explore Local Black History

One Book, One Community

by

Katherine A. Seredynska
Manager, Public Services
Region of Waterloo Library

On Saturday, June 27, a memorable event was held to celebrate One Book, One Community. *The Book Of Negroes*, by Lawrence Hill, tells the story of one woman's struggle through slavery to dignity and hope, and is the OBOC 2009 selection for all of Waterloo Region to read.

A bus full of enthusiastic readers headed into Wellesley Township and area to discover local black history. They visited an historic cemetery to honour early black settlers, and learned about their history.

They travelled on to Nithburg to sample West African food, see beautiful carved masks and drum with Nii Addico, who is originally from Ghana. There author Lawrence Hill read from his book and answered questions about the writing of *The Book of Negroes*.

The author returned to the Region September 15-17 for a series of free readings. For an update on One Book, One Community events see: www.oboc.ca.

History as memoir, fiction as truth. *The Book of Negroes* is the powerful tale of a young woman's struggle to free herself from slavery. Her epic journey is a quest for respect, independence, and hope.

Local bookstores have sold over 800 copies of the book, public libraries in Waterloo Region have loaned the book more than 780 times and more than three thousand people have accessed the new OBOC web site since its launch in April 2009.

OBOC recognizes that each yearly selection should be available to as many readers as possible in Waterloo Region. OBOC is pleased that the title is also available as a DAISY audio book for visually impaired persons. Four copies are available for loan at the Kitchener Public Library. It is available as a podcast, as well. The OBOC web site links to readings of the book from CBC's Canada Reads that are in the podcast format.

One Book, One Community celebrates reading, and encourages adults across Waterloo Region to read the same book, discuss it and participate in events. ❖



Katherine Seredynska, Manager, Public Services at Region of Waterloo Library and Sheryl Tilley, Library Supervisor at Region of Waterloo Library stop for a picture with author Lawrence Hill. Carol Glyn-Williams Photo



Nii Addico performs a libation [a drink poured out as an offering] ceremony for black ancestors at a cemetery in Wellesley Township. Seredynska Photo

Citizens Group Seeks A Community Splash Park

A Wellesley & District Lions Club Project

by Melissa Flynn

I'm sure many residents of Wellesley and the surrounding township have heard the buzz about what one local citizen's group with a lot of help from the Wellesley & District Lions Club is attempting to make a reality for their families and fellow residents.

A splash park in Wellesley will be a recreational addition to the township which will result in more physical activity and leisure time amongst families who wish to spend time outdoors in our own community.

All money for this project will be raised through grant applications and community fund raising. We got off to a strong start on June 15th 2009 when we held our first fund-raising event for the splash park.

Our 1st Annual Ice Cream Social held at the *Grill & Chill Drive-In* where the owners-operators — The Tuckers and Heipels — graciously donated their location, time and supplies to our cause. We raised nearly \$1000 for the splash park.

From balloons for the kids donated by *Village Flowers & Gifts*, to the hundreds of face-painting designs done by our volunteers, the evening was a huge success! We were truly overwhelmed by the support from the local community participation; it is evident that many residents share the same desires for their families as we do.

Look for us at our next fund raising event, *The Apple Butter & Cheese Festival* where we will host a bouncy castle and face-painting for the kids!

For further information on this project, to share ideas or advice and to learn about upcoming citizen group meetings, contact Melissa Flynn at 519.656.9798 or

Jen Sommer at 519.656.2340 or via e-mail at wellesleysplashpark@yahoo.ca.

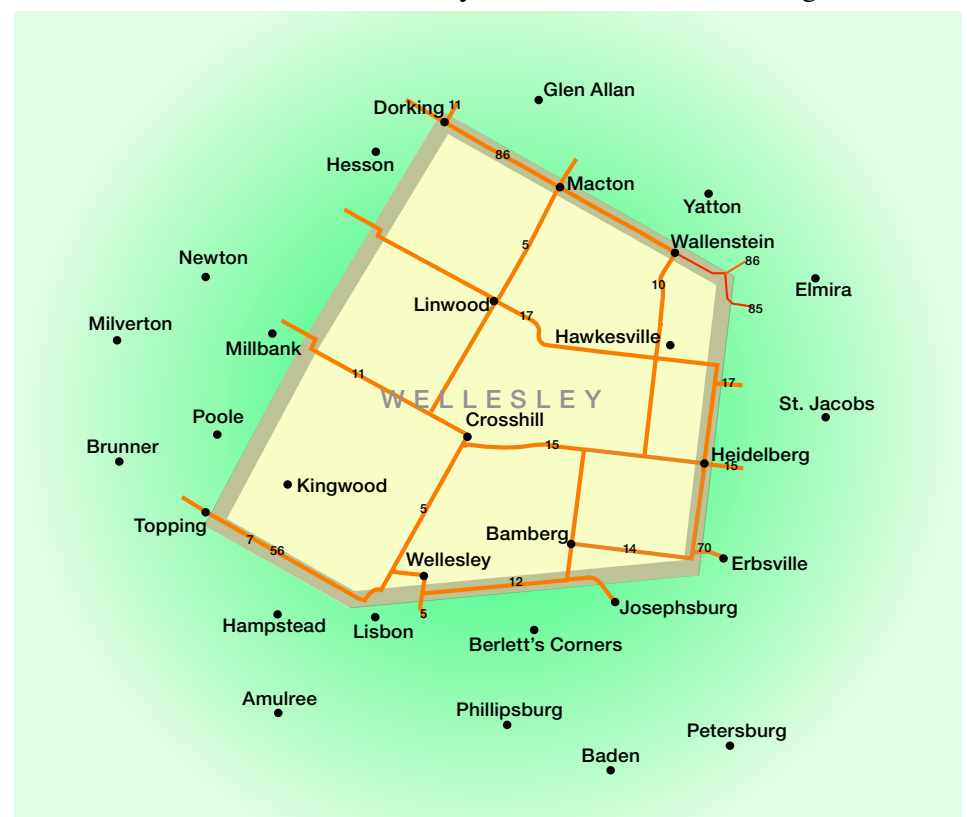
Personal donations can also be made directly to the Township of Wellesley where a tax receipt will be issued. ❖



Emma Sommer, Kate Sommer, Jen Sommer, Daniel Sommer and Ros Kays enjoy their day at the 'Chill & Grill' during the first splash park fund raising effort.

Wondering Where Wellesley Is... is Going?

Wellesley Is... is aimed at Wellesley Township, in yellow below. The green area covers adjacent townships that interact closely with Wellesley communities and will also be covered by our stories and advertising.



Melissa Flynn helps with face painting during their fund-raising event to raise money for a Wellesley splash park.



Bluebirds Get Loving Support from Wellesley Resident, Murray Schlueter

Photos & Story by
Larry Kryski

From the age of eleven, Murray Schlueter would often arrive late for school once Spring arrived. He had discovered two bluebird nests — one in a cavity in an old apple tree,

Murray Schlueter will receive a Grand River Conservation Authority Watershed Award on Oct. 03, 2009.

Murray was nominated for the award because of his personal efforts in re-establishing the bluebird population in the Wellesley area.

the other in a hollow fence post. This frequent practice of being late because of his fascination with the bluebirds kept him in “hot water” with his teachers who had trouble understanding, the young boy’s endless passion for ‘his’ bluebirds

nesting in the field that he had to cross on his way to school.

Murray loved their rich blue and rusty-red beauty and enjoyed the unique songs of the bluebird parents when they twitter back and forth flitting through branches, keeping a close eye on this unbidden visitor.

Murray no longer worries about his teachers... that’s all in his past, but time has not diminished his interest in bluebirds.

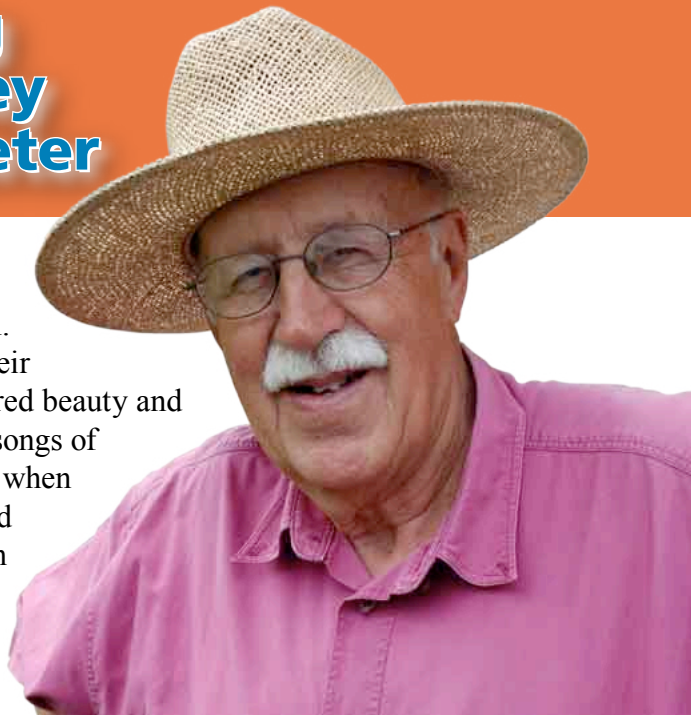
Murray chuckles as he tells his teacher story, but he doesn’t laugh when he expresses his concern for the bluebird, which has been dramatically reduced in numbers. There came a day when he realized that he was seeing fewer bluebirds each spring... then came many

years when he might not see any.

Being a great admirer of bluebirds for more than 60 years, Murray took steps to learn more and began building and installing bluebird boxes.

Murray says that starlings and perhaps DDT have had the greatest impact on the bluebirds survival, as have the English Sparrow (aka Weaver

[Continued on page 32...](#)



Murray (above) scans for possible bluebird box installation locations. Once he finds a good location he uses a post driver (centre) to drive a steel post to which he will attach his blue bird house (right). When he installs his boxes, he always installs a pair at the same time.





Murray builds his boxes at home and provides all the resources: wood, nails, wire, posts, and diatomaceous earth. Here, he is trowelling diatomaceous earth into the bottom of the nesting box to prevent ants and blow-flies from invading the nest, harassing and perhaps killing the young nestlings.



Next, he puts in some starter material —grass, in this case—for the bluebirds to begin their nest.



After he has completed the installation, Murray closes the front and inserts a small nail to prevent the cover from coming open.



Once an installation is complete, Murray begins his maintenance rounds, checking to see who has moved in... swallows or bluebirds. Here, he finds a well-built nest with eggs. The eggs are a beautiful blue, different from a robin's egg, a bit shorter and wider.



It's the smile of satisfaction that tells the worth of this project as another group of nestlings is born—still too young to hold their heads up for long. More than 60 years of bluebirds has not faded Murray's joy of watching and participating in the successful re-introduction of this beautiful bird.



Well Aware Program Offers Free Well Checkups

by
Cheryl Evans

Water Services Outreach Coordinator

Well Aware is a program of Green Communities Canada, delivered in Waterloo Region by the Residential Energy Efficiency Project (REEP) in partnership with the Region of Waterloo Public Health and the Grand River Conservation Authority.

Well Aware, now in its third year, has helped hundreds of Waterloo Region residential well owners protect their wells, their drinking water and common groundwater. Highlighted below are just two of Well Aware's many educational initiatives offered this year to help make the public *Well Aware*.

100 Free Well Check-ups

Well Aware provides up to 100 free well check-ups from spring until the snow flies. One satisfied customer explained:

Brendan was knowledgeable and helpful in educating us about our well and issues there were with it. I hope more people take advantage of this program. They will learn a lot about water.

—Mike Jones, Well Check-up recipient, 2008.

Free well check-ups are completely confidential, non-regulatory and voluntary. During the 90-minute session, a certified water guide will show you how to give your well an annual check-



Well Aware water expert, Brendan Schaeffer, right, interviews client, Albert Reinhard to collect well data.



When the interview portion is over, Brendan and Albert check out the well and its surroundings.



up, maintain your well and septic system, protect your community's groundwater, save water in your home, take care of an abandoned well and have your water tested.

By participating you will receive a free *Well Aware* information kit, a personalized report, and have the opportunity to ask questions you may have about your well, water and/or septic system.

The free check-ups go quickly, but



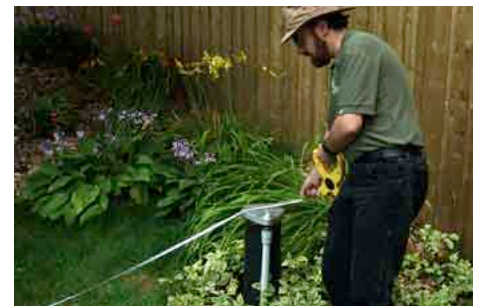
Brendan is informed that the house is 40 years old and that the current well is 320 feet deep, drilled in 2002.



Brendan shows Albert how to remove the well cover, to check the condition of inside of the pipe.



Brendan notes the well's pipe is clean and in good order but identifies that waterproof connectors were not used for the pump's electrical connection.



Part of the check includes measuring the distance to the septic bed and other ground water sources.

while available, run until the end of November. To book one, contact REEP at (519) 744-9799.

Community Well Water Forum

Join us for our Community Well Water Forum on Thursday, October 1st from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the New Dundee Community Centre. This fun and informative event features a wide variety of community booths and expert speakers dedicated to making the public aware of how to protect the quality and quantity of their drinking water.

The *Well Aware* Forum will feature Susan Bryant of the *Well Aware* program talking about the free well checkups, community presentation services and well information kits.

Ron Ormson a geo-scientist with the City of Waterloo will explain the water cycle and how we can prevent groundwater contamination and Bernadette Moussa, with the Region of Waterloo's Public health department, will speak about the *how* and *why* of water testing.

Anne Loeffler of the GRCA will speak about grants available for well maintenance and tell some well water protection stories from around the Region.

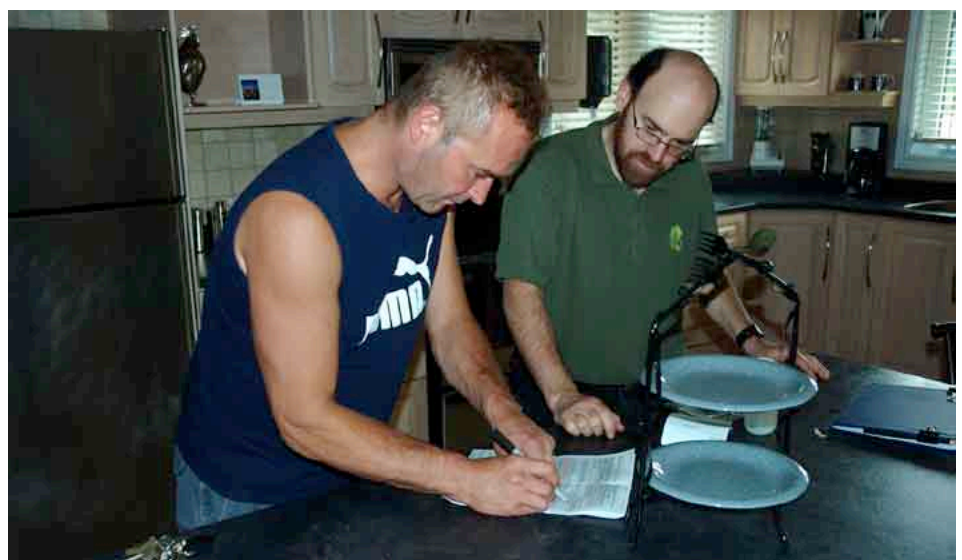
For more information about the wide variety of educational options provided by the *Well Aware* program please go to www.reep.waterlooregion.ca. Your participation will help you to become 'Well Aware.' ❖



Brendan explains that it is best to remove the aerator cap from the tap and sterilize the tap (above, using an open flame in this instance) before drawing a water sample for testing. Water should be run (right) for 5-10 minutes to clear the pipes.



Albert collects the water sample (left) in a sterile plastic bottle that Brendan provides, and seals it immediately. The bottle is filled to the line on the bottle. Brendan suggests that Albert shouldn't put the cap down during the filling, because it could get contaminated. Brendan (right) seals the water sample bottle in a plastic bag and will deliver the sample for testing, on Albert's behalf. [Each township has a different location to deliver the water samples for testing.](#) Brendan advises Albert of his drop-off point.



Albert wants to know what's in his water and signs up to receive his results by mail. Testing for bacteria in well water is a free service and should be performed at least three times a year. Tests to determine the content of other solutes in the water must be paid for by the home owner.



KRUISIN' WITH THE KING *Linwood*
PRESENTS
SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH, 2009
CLASSIC CAR SHOW 1:00 PM
ELVIS TRIBUTE ARTISTS 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM
FREE ADMISSION

Johnny Carson once said “If life was fair, Elvis would be alive and all the impersonators would be dead.” As great as it would be for The King to still be alive, these very talented “impersonators”, or tribute artists as they prefer to be called, would definitely give Elvis a run for his money, with huge gatherings worldwide even reaching our rural community. The 2nd annual classic car and Elvis show, *Kruisin’ with the King*, (hosted by the Linwood Fire Department, Linwood Rod & Gun Club and Linwood Lions) is a great example of how these tribute artists can draw crowds and create fun from memories of a man who is still larger than life.

Held at the Linwood Recreation centre on Saturday June 20th to promote and raise money for community organizations (listed above), *Kruisin’ with the King* provided a chance for car enthusiasts and Elvis fans to come together for a fun weekend enjoying vintage rides and sounds of the past. Originally scheduled to be outdoors at the centre, rain forced the performance inside and kept a few of the expected cars at home, but that didn’t stop the fun for the 300- 400 audience members who came out to participate despite the weather. The car show awards still took place (a 1960 Plymouth Fury took the People’s Choice Award) and all the performers were able to stay dry until their time to sweat it out on stage, where each was allotted two 20 minute sets; each performer and set focusing on a different era of Elvis’ career.





(Left to Right) Doug McKenzie works for the audience in traditional 50's Elvis attire; McKenzie and Hoffmann pose pre-show, Jamie Hoffmann croons the audience, opening his set with G.I. Blues.

There were many different styles displayed while performing the sets. Some of the artists chose to sing shorter renditions of popular songs to allow more songs in the 20-minute time window, while others sang longer songs and paced through the audience to interact at select moments. In between sets the host MC and some organization members did draws for more than 35 summer sausages which were handed out to the owners of the drawn ballots. Also in attendance was Wellesley Township mayor Ross Kelterborn, who briefly addressed the crowd.

The Elvis tribute artists may have been the main attraction to the event, but there were other tribute artists as well, covering such singers as Roy Orbison and Barbara Streisand. One scheduled performer was the world's oldest Elvis tributary, David Starr, who hails from New Hamburg and has been performing for 25 years. He even holds a world-record for the most Elvis artists singing the same song together. There were altogether nine tribute artists who performed throughout the evening, including local township coun-

cilor Herb Neher (see following article). When asked how much he enjoys the performing, Doug McKenzie (see photos, above), who has been performing for 7 ½ years, said that he “wouldn’t trade it for anything” and the enthusiasm seems to be the same with all the artists.

In his second year performing the local show and now in his 10th year singing in total, tributary Jamie Hoffmann (see photos, above) says he really enjoys the organization at the Linwood event, and finds the global Elvis community to be a fun close knit group of individuals.

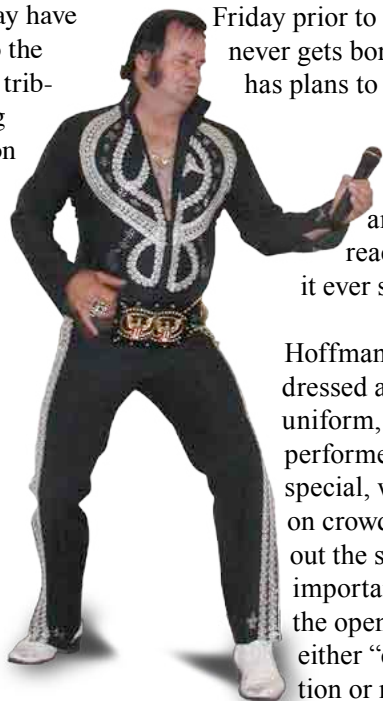
Having performed on the Thursday and Friday prior to this show, he says he never gets bored doing events, and has plans to travel to Las Vegas in January. He got a start singing after entering a contest and receiving a positive reaction, and has enjoyed it ever since.

Hoffmann opened his 1st set dressed as Elvis in military uniform, and for his 2nd set performed Elvis’ ’68 comeback special, with a particular focus on crowd involvement throughout the show. He says “the most important thing in any set is the opening song,” where you either “catch the crowd’s attention or not.” He wanders the

room before each performance to read the audience so he knows how to get their attention. G.I. Elvis enters on stage wearing an army uniform accompanied by the hit song *G.I. Blues*, his chosen song to lure in the audience for the remainder of his time.

Despite having to move indoors to avoid the unpredictable weather, the entire event seemed to go nearly flawlessly. Coordinators predict it will keep growing each year. This achievement, organizers said, comes from better publicity and more sponsors than its debut year and they hope it will keep getting better. As for the performers, the planners couldn’t ask for much more. So, by criticizing the “impersonators”, Johnny Carson forgets that these men basically walk in Elvis’ shoes. The King once said, “Don’t criticize what you don’t understand... you never walked in that man’s shoes”. They may not be blue suede, but these performers have walked in his shoes... and very well too. ❖

[Click to See Wellesley’s Elvis...](#)



Linwood’s
Kruisin’ with the King
Raised \$4000
(in spite of the rain)

*Elvis Comes Alive
In The Hearts
& Embodiments Of
Tribute Artists*

Story & Photos
by
Larry Kryski

Wellesley's Ward One Councillor, Herb Neher, has a passion for Wellesley, a passion for his Cross Hill hobby farm, a passion for his animals and especially a passion for Elvis.

His home has many of the earmarks that show that passion: his car license plate says "Elvis Is" and as you walk up the unpaved lane way



to his house, you'll pass the boldly displayed Elvis Presley Blvd. sign. Inside his home, he has a room for Elvis memorabilia.

But, the final bit of the passion comes in the form of Herb himself. Herb is an Elvis Tribute Artist, a euphemism, he prefers over the less generous, more commonly heard phrase "Elvis

Impersonator."

"We're not trying to impersonate Elvis," he says, "only pay tribute to him."

There seems to be no end to the

[Continued on page 31...](#)



Herb enjoys the comfort of his recently acquired carriage while his two pooches, Parker and Presley hang around just being friendly. They are exceptionally well-behaved both toward people as well as the many other animals Herb has.



Record Fish Caught at Wellesley Lions Club 6th Annual Labour Day Fishing Derby



The largest fish recorded during the annual Wellesley & District Lions Club fishing derby was caught September 07, 2009 by Wynne [pronounced Winnie] Ross of the village of Wellesley. The fish weighed 6.16 pounds, "...the largest we have recorded so far," says derby organizer, Peter van der Maas.

In the under sixteen division, Ethan Egli of Wellesley, was first with a 4.14 pound fish. Denver Harold had a 1.16 lb. catch for second. Cole Gowing, of Wellesley, was third (0.94 lb.), Blair Gowing fourth (0.56), and Joel Heise (0.30) fifth.

The smallest fish was caught by Evan Goertz (0.01 lb.) Two hundred thirty-one anglers registered, but no one caught the tagged fish worth a cash prize.

The derby takes place at the Albert Erb Conservation area at the Wellesley Pond. Catch and release is practised at the derby.



Photos: (From top-left) Peter van der Maas updates the board recording the largest catches; Ethan Egli's winning fish gets weighed; Greg Gedcke and his son, Matthew, age 6, attend the derby for their first time. Matthew caught a .13-pound chub and a .06 pound perch; Visitors to the derby relax by the pond side; Gifts for the post-derby raffle were on display.



Winners of the fishing derby are: Wynne Ross, standing with Peter van der Maas, was 1st over all; Ethan Egli in blue, age 3, was first in the under-16 category; Denver Harold, in orange, was second; Cole Gowing, bright green, was third; Blair Gowing was fourth; Joel Heise, in stripes, was fifth. Evan Goertz, in red, won for catching the smallest fish.



5th Annual Wellesley & District Board of Trade Event Labour Day Soap Box Derby is a Tale Within a Tale



Organizers for the 5th annual Labour Day Soap Box Derby were enthusiastic with the turn out, suggesting that this was the largest crowd ever, for their exciting annual event.

But this story has a story within a story, because this event relies so heavily on a large number of volunteers to make it happen.

The Wellesley event was conceived by Terry Dennerly (top

right hand photo, p. 21). He had heard of soap box derbies, but had never seen one, so he organized the first one and here it is, five years later, still running—bigger & better than ever.

The success of this type of endeavour in a small community like Wellesley is determined by the volunteers who come forth each year.

Many members of this com-

[Continued on page 21...](#)

Race Photos (CW from bottom):

- Crowds line the roadway (upper) and racer disembarks from his car;
- Racers hunker down in their cockpits to reduce the effects of drag;
- Final race was between the two sleekest cars entered in 2009;

- The intensity of the competition can be felt in the driver's absolute and determined focus;
- Driver enthusiastically climbs into his car to get ready for his race;
- Drivers await the starting sequence and the gates to drop.





...Continued from page 20

munity dig deep; you see them at event after event, but it wears on them. For quality events to continue happening, it is important for more community members to come out and bolster today's volunteers.

This year, the Youth Advisory Committee provided support on derby day, which is highly appreciated by the Soap

Box Derby Committee.

Wendy Sauder, head of this year's Board of Trade's Soap Box Derby Committee. She says it is nerve-racking the last week before Labour Day, trying to find volunteers to handle the work that must be done.

So if you like to see our kids have fun, come join the fun yourself next Labour Day. To volunteer, contact: [Wendy Sauder](#) ❖



See the derby stats

- Volunteer Photos:** (CW from top left):
- The long arm of the law helps out as an OPP officer measures the actual speed of the racers;
 - Terry Dennerly shouts out "Drivers are you ready?" as he holds his starting pistol in the air;
 - Yes, there is even a volunteer to reload the starting pistol!
 - Terry Dennerly implemented the first soap box derby in Wellesley;
 - Reg Weber moves a car from the race track for return to the starting area;

- Reg Weber, Jonathan Sauder & Brian Sauder fasten cars to the trailer that will return them to the starting line for the next race;
- Disassembling and lifting the starting ramp at the end of the day;
- Racing trophies presented to the winners;
- Joe Nowak (left) timed the 'mill-side lane' drivers, (centre) bystander Teresa Huegle [new Liberal Candidate for Kitchener-Conestoga] and Andy Dennerly records the race results.





Wellesley & District Horticultural Society Makes Midsummer Tour



Members of the Wellesley & District Horticultural Society made a three-garden tour in July, to see some spectacular horticultural successes. The first visit was at the Haid property (illustrated here) on Berlett's Road.

This property, the home of Carl and Sandra Haid, has a lovely elevation that goes from road level, down about 15 feet to the main garden where 2000 gladioluses have been planted. The yard is decorated with garden benches and rustic ornaments (like the perpetually flowing pump below) and attracts birds of all kinds.

Members were served beverages on the patio (bottom right photo) under the shade of a grape vine pergola, surrounded by hanging baskets, adjacent to a cascading water fall that feeds a small fish-filled pond with a resident frog. The front porch of the house features six rocking chairs, inviting hours of enjoyment watching the humming birds.

Below the patio is a rock garden of roses (see photo above, left).

Two other exquisite properties were visited during the outing: City Limit Farms on Erb St., east of St. Agatha, owned by Laurie & Norb Dietrich; and the property of Joanne & Warren Wintermeyer on Wilmot Line.

Barb Detzler, who led the event, called the Wintermeyer property "paradise at home". Not because it has a lot of flowers, she says, but because of its general layout and care.

The City Limits property had a

unique "painted" tree, lots of rustic ornamentation and an original stone house. There is also a fish pond, a beautiful vegetable garden and lovely planters on the front porch.

"These are three of the nicest properties I have ever seen!" she says.

The 135-strong Horticultural Society next meets 7:30 p.m. October 19 at the Wellesley Community Centre. The guest speaker will be Betty Fretz from just outside of Moorfield. ❖



Heavy Wind Finally Topples Old Oak Into the Nith After Surviving Many A Wind Storm, Ice Battering and Flood



A large but silent landmark disappeared this summer from along the side of Hutchison Rd, where it enters Wellesley Township from Perth County. The photo above, was shot July 29, shortly after a heavy windstorm knocked this giant into the Nith River.

taken March 27, 2004 shortly after the spring flood. The inset photo shows a large gaping hole caused through the years, by ice colliding with the tree as the Nith often flooded six to eight or more feet above its normal levels. In the last 19 months, the tree survived three different flood events when even the highway was covered with more than a foot of water—See the late December, 2008 photo, below.

What was particularly remarkable about this particular oak tree, is that it has withstood decades of adverse weather, ice and flood damage from spring and mid-winter thaws.

This year, a large limb had been removed from the tree on the highway side, but it's effect on the tree is unknown. ❖

The picture, top left, was



One of the more pleasant sights around Wellesley this summer were the flowers that decorate the village. Even the gas pumps received their share, The choices were made by Marg. Runstedler, a member of the Wellesley Horticultural Society. ❖





Nadina Mackie Jackson
Artistic Director

The Genius of Going for Baroque

Masquerade Gala A Masterful Success



Guy Few
Artistic Director

Story & Photography
by
Larry Kryski
Official Photographer
for The Grand River
Baroque Festival

The *Grand River Baroque Festival's* eighth annual weekend of performances turned out to be a delightful smorgasbord of music, humour, amusement and entertainment, as much a treat to the eye as the ear and the mind, which is exactly what the festival's two new artistic co-directors were seeking to achieve.

In the past, *Nadina Mackie Jackson* and *Guy Few* have created a sensation when they performed at the Festival, under the artistic direction of *Kevin Mallon* (2006-2008), and their debut as artistic directors was no less sensational.

The festival, which scheduled four major musical events over three days (June 19-21) hit the ground running on the Friday evening with a dramatic musical program called *Masquerade Gala*, performed by the Grand River Baroque Soloists.

More than forty performers and audience members wore baroque-inspired masks and/or period costumes.

Baroque music developed over a 150 year period, that began in the 1600's. The music of the period is broadly studied and performed and includes works from such admired composers as Bach, Vivaldi and Handel.

The Grand River Baroque Festival is one of four major baroque festivals in Canada, the others being in Victoria, Montreal and on Lameque Island in New Brunswick.

The annual event which takes place at the Beuhlow Barn in Ayr, was performed in orchestral, concerto and chamber settings with some of the finest musicians from international and regional stages. As usual, Nadina's bassoon and Guy's trumpet and French horn worked their magic on the audience.

There was, of course, an occasional hiccup for the new artistic directors working as joint Master's of Ceremony—like Guy discovering that he couldn't read his program

notes because his mask didn't allow him to wear his glasses.

Perhaps the sleeper for the weekend was the *Flanders Recorder Quartet*.

Some audience members may have wondered at some point, "should I have brought one pillow or two?" before the recorder program began... but they would have left in awe after the jaw-dropping performance by this brilliant and humorous Belgian group. No boring school recorder group, this. They received

[Continued on page 30...](#)



Guy Few and Nadina Mackie Jackson, pose with their baroque-style masks after the Friday evening performance. The masks were custom made for the event.





In this photographic time exposure, you can *feel* the physical energy of baroque violinist Aisslinn Nosky, centre, as she plays a section of Vivaldi's *Le Stagione* (The Four Seasons). Linda Melsted, left, and Christina Zacharias play violins I & II respectively.



Nadina Mackie Jackson, far left, plays baroque bassoon in *Concerto in B flat major for violin and bassoon*, by Giuseppe Brescianello (1690-1758). Linda Melsted, left, and Christina Zacharias, right are on violin. Guy Few, near left, on the *corno da caccia* (hunting horn), played *Concertino in E flat major, Opus 43, for corno and bassoon*.



The *Flanders Recorder Quartet*, far left, of Belgium completely wowed the audience with their performance and received two standing ovations, near left photo. They played on recorders that ranged in size from piccolos to an almost eight-foot high instrument that dwarfed the musician (it weighs 25 lbs.). The group has been performing around the world for 23 years. *Click on their photo to hear a sample of their work.*



CW from above: Some of the many masks and costumes at the *Gala Masquerade*. Even children enjoyed the occasion; Patron Paul Bosch of Waterloo, made his own costume out of paper; [Mickaël Bouffard](#), a Ph.D. student in art history at the University of Montreal, demonstrates a masked baroque dance; Jen Georgopoulos, one of Canada's top acrobats, is a full-time aerial acrobat with [Zero Gravity Circus](#) in Toronto. She performed two aerial routines, one on the hoop and one on silks, with smoke; [Gordana Pusara](#) is a mask designer working out of Toronto. She designed and fabricated the two sets of masks that Guy Few and Nadina Mackie Jackson wore during the Festival's Masquerade Gala. Her masks are hand-made.





CW from above: *The Chocolate Road* performed in the Paris Presbyterian Church, Paris; Mickaël Bouffard teaches a baroque *line dance* to costumed guests; Peter Hafemann of Wellesley and his son Philip share a bit of foolery during the Festival picnic. Peter plays trumpet and *flugelhorn* and is a member of the Kitchener Musical Society Band. There were at least seven from Wellesley at the Festival; Patrons, some in baroque costume, enjoying a humorous moment between pieces; Picnicking in style on the lovely grounds of the Beuhlow farm; Buffet table, part of the gala masquerade, complete with golden fruit.



Wellesley Township's Grand Opening & Dedication Of New Municipal Offices Was a Flawless Exercise



Councillor, Shelley Wagner, left, unveils the commemorative plaque during opening ceremonies.



Councillors, Paul Hergott, left, & Herb Neher enjoy the applause during the corner stone unveiling.

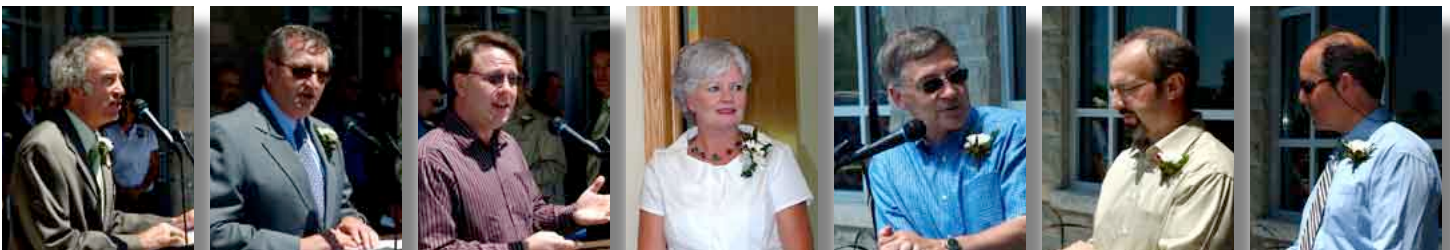


Mayor Ross Kelterborn explains *his* back up lighting system if the Township office's backup generators don't start during an emergency.



Cutting the ribbon brought an end to a flawless ceremony to officially open the Township Offices. From the left: David Drew, Harold Albrecht's Parliamentary Assistant; Ken Seiling, Region of Waterloo chair; Mayor Ross Kelterborn; Rene Gaten, CEO, Waterloo North Hydro; and Steve Farkas, XDG Construction Manager.

The sunlight was intense but the temperature was a perfect crowd pleaser for the June 26 ceremony. More than 80 guests, staff and dignitaries attended the ceremony and tours.



Speakers and representatives: (from the left): Councillor Jim Olender was the Master of Ceremonies; Rene Gaten, CEO, Waterloo North Hydro; David Drew, Harold Albrecht's Parliamentary Assistant; Diane McCrohan represented Leanna Pendergast's office; Ken Seiling, Region of Waterloo Chair; David Wilkinson, AECOM Structural Engineering and Architectural; Steve Farkas, XDG Construction Manager.



Township Offices and Equipment Were Open and on Display



Guests were treated to hamburgers, hors d'oeuvres, fruit and a variety of beverages after the dedication ceremony and before the tours began.



A few children attended with a parent. Chelsea Holmes (5) and her brother Owen (2 1/2) were having a lot of fun climbing on the machinery in the heavy equipment garage. Chelsea obviously enjoys her little brother, but the photographer? :-)



Guests Hilda Koch, left, Wib Wagner and Ron Futher take a moment to enjoy the refreshments.



Guests on the tour had the opportunity to visit all the offices. Here we see the office of Susan Duke, Wellesley's Clerk.



One of the big improvements over the old building is the storage in the basement. There is a copious 3000 square feet available.



Some of the equipment on display during the day included the Fire/Rescue vehicle, above, the new road grader, left and the new truck.



Notes On News

From **Leeanna Pendergast**
MPP Kitchener-Conestoga

Pendergast Receives New Portfolio

Leeanna Pendergast, MPP for Kitchener-Conestoga has been given a new role as Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Education.

"I am honoured to have been chosen for this important role," said Pendergast. "As a passionate educator for over 20 years, I am excited to take on this new role towards investing in the youth of Ontario. I look forward to working with Minister Wynne to ensure our schools continue to be safe and our students achieve their potential."

Leeanna has worked with the Safe Schools Action Team of the Ministry of Education. As an educator, Leeanna has taken on numerous leadership roles representing Education on the Crime Prevention

Council of Waterloo Region, and the Internal Task Force Partnerships with the Waterloo Regional Police Service. She has also worked with the Student Success Initiative through character building programs for youth.

Parliamentary Assistants work with Ministers on key priorities and projects within their portfolios.

Ontario Simplifies Tax-Free Savings Accounts

Holders of Tax-Free Savings Accounts (TFSA) can now designate beneficiaries for their accounts. Ottawa introduced TFSAs in 2008 as registered savings accounts that let taxpayers earn investment income tax-free. Canadian residents age 18 or older can contribute up to \$5,000 annually to a TFSA.

Designating a beneficiary allows a TFSA owner's funds to flow more directly to loved ones at the time of death. With this measure, a beneficiary will receive funds outside of a will.

Rent Increase Guidelines 2.1 percent

Ontario's rent increase guideline for the year 2010 will be 2.1 percent. The rent

increase guideline is the maximum amount by which a landlord can increase the rent of an existing tenant without seeking the approval of the Landlord and Tenant Board.

The 2010 guideline applies to rent increases that occur between January 1 and December 31, 2010. The calculation is based on the Ontario Consumer Price Index, a reliable and objective measure of inflation that is calculated by Statistics Canada.

Enhanced Rebates & Transitional Rules

Government will enhance the rebate for new houses after the implementation of the single sales tax on July 1, 2010:

- *Enhanced new housing rebate* – The province would enhance the new housing rebate so that new homes across all price ranges would receive a 75 percent rebate of the provincial portion of the single sales tax on the first \$400,000. For new homes under \$400,000, this would mean, on average, no additional tax amount compared to the current system.

- *New rental housing rebate* – Similar to the enhanced new housing rebate, the

[Continued on page 31...](#)

GRBF ...Continued from page 24

two unanimous standing ovations and the audience was reluctant to leave after the show ended.

It has been a past practice for the Festival to bring its music to other communities and this year was no exception. The Kitchener-Waterloo group *Folia* performed a program called *The Chocolate Road* at the Paris Presbyterian Church in Paris, one of those architecturally interesting buildings with great acoustics. *The Chocolate Road* musically followed the arrival of chocolate in baroque Europe. Click on the Folia link and choose a piece to enjoy.

Vivaldi's *Le Stagione (The Four Seasons)* as performed by the Grand River Baroque Soloists was inspiring. It is amazing that Aisslinn Nosky's violin didn't burst into flame, there was so much energy in her performance. [See top photo, p. 25].

Boyd McDonald, Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Music, Wilfrid Laurier University said, "With Aisslinn's performance... it seemed as though I was hearing the work fresh for [the] first time. Her playing was

electrifying and I'm sure the period instruments had much to do with it."

So with their first success as artistic co-directors, Guy and Nadina have set the bar high, not just as a venue for baroque music, but as a venue for high-end entertainment that has baroque at the core.

• • •

So what's in their plans for next year? ...In a post show interview, Nadina talked about some ideas being considered for the future.

Under Kevin Mallon's efforts a Trillium Grant was received that could be put toward some aspect of musical education.

There is some thought that Guy could give Master Classes or some form of musical seminar, in which the audience might participate.

This could apply to more than just locals, since we are in an artistically dense section, with interest as far away as Montreal.

It is important to provide high quality performances on both baroque and modern instruments, which sound quite different because of the different tunings: Baroque instruments are tuned to 415 Hz while modern instru-

ments are tuned to 440 hz. The French used a 392 hz tuning. With the higher pitch tuning, the music has a modern, perhaps zippier sound. It is important to hear both, as was demonstrated during the Festival, she says.

So as ideas form, Nadina says next year there might be chamber music in Paris; or there could be big band baroque; or maybe Guy will sing. The Festival can become a resource on which to build.

Next year they may spice things up with another masquerade gala, perhaps fireworks; perhaps a fencer or maybe a baroque opera.

You can be sure that with their flair for the theatrical, that baroque entertainment will never be the same again. ❖

• • •

Nadina is currently on faculty at Wilfrid Laurier University, University of Toronto and the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music.

Guy is a gold medal graduate of Wilfrid Laurier University where he is now a sessional lecturer. He conducts the Wilfrid Laurier Brass Ensemble and teaches trumpet and duo piano.



Pendergast ...Continued from page 30
province is proposing a rebate for new residential rental properties. This proposed rebate would support affordable rental housing across Ontario.

• *Transitional rules* – The province is also proposing transitional rules for new housing. Generally, as part of the transitional rules, sales of new homes under written agreements of purchase and sale entered into on or before June 18, 2009 would not be subject to the provincial portion of the single sales tax, even if both ownership and possession are transferred on or after July 1, 2010. The tax would also not apply to sales of new homes under written agreements of purchase and sale entered into after June 18, 2009 where ownership or possession is transferred before July 1, 2010.

Rural Internet Projects Get Green Light

In June, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, announced that a third wave of high-speed Internet projects will ensure the digital highway runs through more rural Ontario communities.

In total, the government will provide \$10.1 million to assist 14 municipalities as they proceed with high-speed Internet projects, as part of the Rural Connections Broadband Program. The goal of the program is to help bring broadband Internet access to rural and remote areas currently under served in southern Ontario.

Township Receives RINC Funds

Wellesley Township will receive funds under the Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RINC) Program. Funding for the Townships of Wilmot, Wellesley, Woolwich, the City of Kitchener along with the Elmira Lions Club and KW YMCA will be used to assist with various recreational projects throughout the region.

Wellesley's portion: \$294,566 for the St. Clements Arena and \$289,900 for the Wellesley Recreation Complex.

Making Schools More Accessible

Ontario will improve services for people with disabilities in publicly funded schools. The province and the Ontario Education Services Corporation will create online training, policies, procedures and tip sheets.

These tools will help staff and teachers in schools learn how to interact with people who have a variety of disabilities, including those who: Use assistive devices, such as canes or wheelchairs; Have a non-visible disability, such as a learning or mental health disability; and/or are accompanied by a support person, such as a sign language interpreter.

Adoption Records Now Open

In June, adoption records in Ontario

were opened for this first time since 1927. Now, adopted adults and birth parents can get more information about their past.

Ontario is making it easier for Ontarians to look for information about their birth relatives. The Access to Adoption Records Act, 2008 gives adopted adults and birth parents access to information that is currently sealed in their adoption records. Adopted adults and birth parents can also protect their privacy by filing a disclosure veto or no contact notice.

Individuals should contact [ServiceOntario](#) to apply for information from their birth and adoption records. This service is free.

Local Foods to be Promoted

To promote the sale of local foods that fuel the people, communities and economies of rural Ontario, the province is investing in 11 new projects through the Ontario Market Investment Fund, including: Developing an 'Ontario Natural' brand of foods.

The program helps develop economic opportunities through trade events, marketing campaigns and industry research initiatives that promote Ontario foods. The program is part of Ontario's enhanced investment in 'buy local' initiatives.

Ontario Child Benefit Increase Coming

Low-income families will receive more

money through the Ontario Child Benefit to help with the cost of raising their children.

The benefit will reach 1.3 million kids and almost doubles, to a maximum of \$1,100 per child this year, up from a maximum of \$600 last year. Parents don't need to apply for the Ontario Child Benefit — to be eligible they must: File their income taxes; Register for the Canada Child Tax Benefit; Have a child under age 18; and Live in Ontario.

Ontario Leading World-Class Research on New Cancer Drugs

Ontario is joining forces with Pfizer Inc. and leading Ontario research institutions to develop a new generation of drugs to fight colorectal cancer. Pfizer Inc., the world's largest pharmaceutical company, is collaborating on a landmark \$6 million oncology research project with the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research and the Ontario Cancer Institute.

Ontario Leading Charge on Electric Cars

Ontario's target is to be a world leader in building and driving electric cars. The government aims to have one out of every 20 vehicles driven in Ontario to be electrically powered by 2020. This would put Ontarians

[Continued on page 32...](#)

Herb Neher ...Continued from page 18

appetites of people to experience the Elvis phenomenon and this is what the tribute artists satisfy, by appearing in costume and trying to present each era's music in *character*. There are so many eras in Elvis' life, that many artists can perform on the same stage without being redundant.

Herb moved from Germany to Canada as a young boy. He grew up here, got into business, became a parent and when he retired, he made Wellesley his permanent home having fallen in love with rural life.

Herb, who has a musical background, has played guitar in a band and sung with a choir. A trip to Collingwood with a friend introduced him to the Elvis tribute artist environment.

Watching the other artists, he kept thinking, 'I could do that.' Soon after, he got a few opportunities to test out his belief and found that he could do it. There was a lot of encouragement. It looked like fun and now that he was retired, he decided he had the time to pursue it. "I always finish what I start," he says, so he invested in an Elvis outfit on e-Bay. He didn't like the belt, so he had someone make one for him.

With the new costume and some firm plans, he started attending and performing at the Collingwood events. Today, he says, he has his own following and has become known and respected among the other artists. He says he started to enjoy entertaining, but that it can take "thousands of hours" of practice to perfect a show.

He has performed in Orillia, Brantford, Collingwood and other regions and is performing at the Wellesley-North Easthope Fall Fair, Tuesday, September 15.

Herb, who has performed in Graceland, conceived the Linwood *Kruisin' with the King* concept when he was watching their *Classic Car Show*. He suggested that expanding the event to include Elvis tribute artists might be a significant draw. The organizers went for his idea and the expanded plan went into action.

He knew artists that might be interested—a lot of them are good friends. They come and perform for free, because the money raised goes to the community.

This year the Linwood tribute artist line up included tributes to Patsy Cline and Barbara Streisand and was a success — \$4000 was raised—even though it rained. ❖

Bluebirds ...Continued from page 12

Finch). These aggressive birds will attempt to enter and destroy the eggs or nestlings of the bluebird which is a significant part of the reason for the decline in the bluebird population. Thus, the bluebird boxes are carefully designed to restrict the entry of raiding competitors and placed away from barns and other habitats where starlings and English sparrows often make their nests.

Even the type of entrance to the box is a topic of some debate. Many builders use a round hole, but Murray prefers the slot, which he believes allows the bluebird to escape if the birdhouse is invaded by an English Sparrow.

Murray now has fifty bluebird boxes in 25 locations. The boxes are installed in pairs, a short distance apart. Tree swallows like to nest in the bluebird boxes, so they will take one of the boxes. However, tree swallows will not tolerate a second tree swallow family to nest nearby, but don't mind bluebirds nesting in the adjacent box. So the bluebirds, a less aggressive species, still get a home.

Installing the bird boxes is just the tip of the iceberg, when it comes to re-establishing the bluebird community. Murray says that he visits each set of boxes every 10 days during the breeding season. He cleans the boxes after each hatch—ridding each box of the nest, scraping the bottom board and then adding a little diatomaceous earth to prevent ant invasions and blow-fly infestations. The ants in this part of the world don't usually injure the nestlings, they simply pester them, but the blow-fly larvae will suck the blood of the defenseless young, weakening and/or killing them.

Murray resorts to a *nest-exchange program* in some circumstances. If he finds a nest infested with blow-flies part way through the nesting cycle, he will remove the infected nest and replace it with one that he has disinfected and transfer the eggs or the young to the replacement. He has observed that the bluebird parents have never rejected the young in spite of this interference.

Murray says that the reward for his efforts is the successful birth of new bluebirds... to enjoy. ❖

Bluebird Web Sites

The Sialis site includes a short video on bluebirds feeding their young and has substantial information on bluebirds.

Good resource site on bluebirds

<http://www.sialis.org/index.html>

North American Bluebird Society Web site

<http://www.nabluebirdsociety.org/>

Plans for a bluebird box

<http://www.sialis.org/plans.htm>

Nest box discussions

<http://www.sialis.org/nestboxproscons.htm>

Less technical opinion column on bluebirds

<http://www.homeenvy.com/db/5/635.html>

Diatomaceous earth

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diatomaceous_earth

Blow-flies

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blow-fly>

Pendergast ...Continued from page 31

into cleaner, more efficient vehicles, and expand the electric vehicle market for manufacturers. Under the government's plan, buyers of plug-in hybrid and battery electric vehicles will receive rebates of \$4,000 to \$10,000 for plug-in hybrid and battery electric vehicles purchased after July 1, 2010. Green vehicle licence plates that would allow drivers to: Use less-congested High Occupancy Vehicle (carpool) lanes, even with one person in the vehicle; and Access to public charging facilities and parking at Ontario government and GO Transit lots.

Ontario will add 500 electric vehicles to the Ontario Public Service fleet.

Improving Access to Gov't Services

Starting this Fall, more Ontarians will be able to make one trip for health card, driver's licence and vehicle registration services.

Over the next several months, ServiceOntario will: Expand access to health card services from the current 27 OHIP offices to all 300 integrated ServiceOntario centres; Make driver and vehicle services available at all 300 centres; and Deliver vehicle registration stickers within five business days when ordered online.

These changes will give people access to more routine government services than ever before, especially in rural and northern communities. Close to 95 percent of all Ontarians will be within 10 kilometres of an integrated ServiceOntario centre. ❖

Soap Box Derby Statistics

The 2009 Wellesley Board of Trade Annual Soapbox Derby Winners are:

Ages 8 to 10

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Brandon Eaton | 25.97 for 2 heats | |
| 2. Rylee Purcell | 26.09 for 2 heats | |
| 3. Kisten Fisher | Racing Against Drugs | 26.13 for 2 heats |

Ages 11-13

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Reece Purcell | 24.93 for 2 heats |
| 2. Tyler Poole | 25.22 for 2 heats |
| 3. Ben Hordyk | 25.63 for 2 heats |

Ages 14-17

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Matthew Poole | 24.88 for 2 heats | |
| 2. Josh Brick | 26.25 for 2 heats | |
| 3. Tyler Cook | Leis Feed and Supply Ltd. | 26.34 for 2 heats |

Ages 18 and Over

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Jonathan Sauder | Leis Pet Distributing | 25.50 for 2 heats |
| 2. Brian Sauder | Wellesley Service Centre | 25.88 for 2 heats |
| 3. John Kuepfer | Wellesley Home Centre | 26.44 for 2 heats |

General Facts: 19 Cars - 37 Drivers - Oldest Driver 46

Fastest times: 38 kph by Purcell and 37 kph by Poole.



HOME

Wellesley Outdoor Wedding Guests Enjoyed Funny Weather on the Pond

Reg Weber & Karen Pettinger picked Wellesley three years ago as a place where they would like to settle. It was close enough to Kitchener-Waterloo where they both worked but had the lovely village flavour which they liked. As Reg put it, "It was pretty, friendly, no Tim Hortons and no stoplights."

So they up and moved to Wellesley, got immersed immediately into the community, joined the Wellesley & District Board of Trade and became volunteers at every level. Reg is the building facilities manager for the Region of Waterloo and Karen is a social worker with Sunnyside Home in Kitchener.

When they reserved the "island" in Wellesley Pond as the place to have their wedding, they never reckoned on the drama that would accompany their choice.

An engineering inspection of the wooden bridge to the island found that the bridge was deteriorating and would have to be removed. The bridge had been provided by the Board of Trade in the 1988-89 season. Some type of replacement had to be chosen and implemented... and in time for the June 27 wedding.

Close co-operation between the Township and the Board of Trade led to the choice and implementation of a causeway. In modern terminology, it was a just-in-time solution, with enough work completed to allow the wedding to proceed in very acceptable settings.

The island/peninsula comfortably held the 70 guests as the weather co-operated, providing beautiful blue skies and warm temperatures.

The reception was held at the Pfeiffer Gallery with dinner at the Schmidtsville Restaurant.

The ceremony was performed by Tim Rieck of All Season Weddings, a company which provides wedding services across Ontario.

For their honeymoon, Reg and Karen flew to San Francisco and toured the coast for 12 days.

See the [back cover](#) for more photo coverage. ❖



Karen and Reg stroll across the causeway as they leave the island having finished that portion of their wedding pictures.



Heritage ...Continued from Page 5

"because there is a really nice history here and a lot of community interest in the history. People realize the importance of preserving and presenting the past." Cooke explained that the Society has a "good archival collection in terms of photographs. I also like the fact that the collection is specific to Wellesley Township. It's not just a collection of old things, but it helps tell the story of the area."

"I can't decide," Goodall commented, "what I like best in the collection. I love the old Wellesley Town Band items as I have played in several bands. But I have to say, the people we have met so far have been so warm and friendly: it's amazing. We

love working here."

Goodall and Cooke would like to meet more area residents at the Apple Butter and Cheese Festival in September. "We are hoping people will come by, talk to us about what we're doing, meet Society members and find out what the Wellesley Township Heritage/Historical Society is all about. Maybe someone will even be able to help identify a photograph!" Cooke urged. They expect that the work will take several months to complete. ❖

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For more information, call [Derek Cooke](#) or [Lian Goodall](#) at (519) 843-2661.



Island Wedding in Wellesley