



RAFFLE CHEQUE: The recent Rockwood Firefighters Association Yuk Yuk's comedy fundraiser at Rockmosa helped raise money for firefighter activities and Victim Services Wellington. Firefighters Jeff Ross (left) and Ryan McTaggart presented Victim Services executive director Elizabeth Kent with a share of Air Canada raffle ticket sales. – Submitted photo

Wellington O.P.P. Report

Successful Seatbelt Campaign

During the 11-day campaign that wrapped up April 23, Wellington OPP officers checked 47,102 vehicles, and a total of 101 people were charged with seatbelt violations. This total includes 89 drivers and 12 passengers.

A check of 239 child safety seats found no violations – a 100 per cent compliance rate. Parents looking for help for your child safety seats, should refer to the seats manufacturer's manual or could visit www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/safety/cars.

Last year on OPP patrolled roads, 89 people

died in collisions in which lack of seatbelt use was a causal factor, and 4,200 people were injured for the same reason.

These numbers certainly indicate the public's awareness that "Seatbelts do Save Lives, and that wearing a seatbelt is the single most effective way to reduce vehicle related injuries and fatalities. The fine for not wearing a seatbelt is \$240, and two demerit points.

Wellington OPP officers will continue efforts throughout daily patrols to ensure everyone gets this message.

Local statistics of officers checks

TOTAL NUMBER OF VEHICLES CHECKED...	47,102
Number Checked EXCLUDING Child Seats.....	51,534
Number Checked - CHILD SEATS ONLY.....	239
Charges - Driver Offences (EXCLUDING CHILD SEATS)...	
Charges - Passenger Offences.....	12
Charges - CHILD SEAT ONLY.....	0

Township Digest

Tree Giveaway

Rain or shine, 3,500 seedlings will be given away on May 7 at Rockmosa, and another 1,500 hundred at the Marden Works Garage as part of Wellington County's Green Legacy program, which has planted over one million trees in the past four years.

The 5,000 trees allocated to Guelph-Eramosa Township include 23 species – from White Spruce, Black Walnut, Oak and Evergreen – and come with tree planting instructions.

Donations to the Rockwood and East Wellington Community Food Bank would be gratefully accepted by organizers of the free tree distribution who suggest be there for the 9 a.m. start, as there are limited numbers of some trees.

Tax Adjustments

Almost half of the 24 property tax adjustment applications granted by Guelph/Eramosa Township Council were approved because the taxed property had been razed by fire or demolished.

The \$59,390 in adjustments also includes four properties with tax-calculating errors, five tax rate changes, and three properties, which became tax exempt, like a church or youth centre.

How much is enough?

Concerned it could get hit with paying a multi-

million law suit, Guelph/Eramosa Township Council refused to drop its minimum third party liability insurance requirement to \$2-million, from the current \$5-million.

The request came from organizers of the Food Cycle Ride, which will use some Township roads for a Centre Wellington Food Bank fundraiser on May 29. They argued that since just a small portion of Township roads would be used during the event, only \$2-million in insurance should be required.

Staff said the \$5-million requirement has been in place since 2009, and cited a case of an injury decision which awarded \$2.6-million for a quadriplegic injury to a biker on a maintained trail. Staff reported that the increased premium for \$5-million in insurance would cost \$1,000 – \$600 more than for \$2-million in insurance.

Councillor David Wolk suggested as good as the intentions are, maybe that bicycle rides might not be a good way to raise charity dollars. Mayor Chris White said absolute security could mean a \$10-million insurance policy and asked if they want to "become a paralyzer" and "insurance us out of existence, leading councillors to ask the issue be debated during an upcoming policy review.

Triathlon planning

Subject to a number of conditions, Guelph/Eramosa Township gave approval to organizers of the Guelph Lake 2 Triathlon to use Township roads for its June 18 and 19 event. Organizers must supply \$5-million in liability insurance naming the Township as an additional insured party, provide affected local churches with information in advance, provide road signage, and liaise with the OPP.

The event includes a 375-metre swim, a 10-kilometre bike ride and a 2.5-kilometre run and will use Township roads including Jones Baseline, centred at the Guelph Lake Conservation Area.

Do you, or someone you care about, suffer from depression?

Do you struggle with what to do to best manage your symptoms? The East Wellington Family Health Team presents a panel presentation on depression:

More Than Just the Blues

We will discuss:

- what depressive symptoms look like
- what's going on in the brain of someone who is depressed
- what the current treatment options are, with both conventional medicine and alternative therapies
- how to offer support to someone who has depression

When: Wednesday, May 4th, 7:00-9:00pm

Where: Centre 2000, 14 Boland Drive, Erin; Community Room, off the main lobby

RSVP: Space is limited so please RSVP by either calling (519) 833-7576 ext. 341 or go to www.ewfht.ca and register under "Workshops"

Panelists include:

Dr. Wendy Davis B.Kin., N.D. - A Naturopathic doctor who will discuss complementary and alternative remedies for depression

Amy Cousineau, is an Anglican Priest. She was the minister at All Saints Anglican Church in Erin until 2007 when she was overcome by depression and anxiety and will be sharing her story.

Fred Cousineau is Amy's husband of 40 years, who will discuss his experience supporting Amy through her depression.

Dr. Alejandra Marin, MD is a Family Physician with the East Wellington Family Health Team; she will give an overview of the current medical interventions for depression

Kim Bell is a Mental Health Worker at the East Wellington Family Health Team with a 23yr history working in mental health, supporting individuals experiencing a variety of mental health issues.