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COMMUNITY

Multitalented singer to perform at Uncorked on Main Friday

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A Saskatchewan artist has been performing songs from his new album all across the country, and he has a stop in Georgetown.

The artist, Jeffery Straker, has been travelling across Canada promoting his new album, *Dirt Road Confessional*, since May, and Georgetown came recommended to him.

"(Uncorked on Main) said they'd be happy to have me for an evening, so here I come."

Straker classifies himself as a singer/songwriter/pianist, and he has been following his dream of being a musician for the last ten years.

"There was a threshold I had to cross to decide and if it was possible to make music a full-time career," he

said. "Everyone says it's impossible, but I always figured there must be a way to carve out a decent living of this at an independent level, and it's certainly worked out that way."

Straker describes his music as roots, folk and pop all mixed into one. He has been compared to Chris Christopherson, Harry Chapin and Billy Joel, and even early Elton John. His music is often featured on CBC Radio.

"I'm a guy singing and playing the piano, so it's a reasonable comparison," Straker explained.

According to Straker, *Dirt Road Confessional* is the most folk-sounding music he's created.

"The songs on it are what spawned the title," he explained. "One of the things on the record is this idea that if you're a musi-

cian and you're choosing to write your songs, really the only way to really get them out there and connect with people is you have to go perform live."

Straker also said his album features the human connection and how life on the road can be difficult on family and friend relationships.

"When I'm out there on the road on my own ... I have an awful lot of time to think about this stuff," he said. "You have a lot of chats with yourself, hence the title."

Straker is looking forward to the intimate atmosphere at *Uncorked*, and invites people of all ages to come out and listen to him perform.

Straker will be at *Uncorked on Main* this Friday, Nov. 3, with music starting at 9 p.m.

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To arrange a meeting, please call the Wellington-Halton Hills Provincial Riding Office at 1-800-265-2366.



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