



TOWNSHIP OF
EAST ZORRA-
TAVISTOCK



Seasons Greetings
from the EZT
Staff and Council

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE**

Coyote Control 2
Emergency Kits 2
Photo Contest 2
Dog Tag Sales 2
**Award Received -
Jim Harmer** 2
Mayor's Message 3
**EZT Holiday
Information** 3
**Winter Control
Policies** 3
**Profiling EZT
OPP Officers** 4
**2010 Municipal
Election cont'd** 4

"911" Poem for the Kids

I know a number that is
really hot,
It's only for people in a
hot, hot spot,
If you see a fire, if you see
a crime,
The number is the same
every single time,
This very special number
is never for fun,
This very special number
is 911!

Author Unknown

EaZy Talk



VOLUME 6, ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 2010

2010 Municipal Election

Municipal Election 2010 is now history, with the newly elected Council taking office in December. Council for 2010-2014 will be comprised of 5 incumbents and 2 new Councillors. Mayor Don McKay, Deputy Mayor Maureen Ralph and Ward 2 Councillor Don MacDonald were all acclaimed. Incumbent Ward 1 (Tavistock) Councillor Clive Lawry will be joined by newcomer Linda Fulton, while in Ward 3 (south of Braemar Sideroad) incumbent Jeremy Smith will be joined by newcomer Don Lazenby. Contact information for your Councillors is always conveniently printed on the back page of EaZy Talk, or is available from our website.

As in 2006, this election was not without its drama! After the last batch of ballots was counted, only 2 votes separated Ward 1 candidates Shirley Hanlon and Clive Lawry. According to a recount policy established by Council, that automatically meant a recount, so almost one year to the day that the policy was adopted, the recount was conducted. The final result was the same – Clive Lawry won the seat by 2 votes. To quote Councillor Lawry, after recounts in 2 consecutive elections, voters should begin to understand the importance of every single vote.

Election 2010 introduced the Vote By Mail system to East Zorra-Tavistock electors, and, for the most part, it ran smoothly and successfully. One of our goals was to increase voter turnout by putting the ballots in the homes as opposed to having voters go to a polling station, and in our opinion we accomplished that goal. Although we would love to see an even better turnout, with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and one Council position acclaimed, it is more difficult to achieve that. Following is a chart comparing the 2010 and 2006 elections:

Ward 1	50.6% (2010)	44.7% (2006)
Ward 2	25.3% (2010)	15.0% (2006) * School Board only 2010 and 2006
Ward 3	45.1% (2010)	34.5% (2006)
Overall	42.7%(2010)	35.0%(2006)

Even in Ward 2 where electors voted for school board trustees only in both 2006 and 2010, turnout increased by over 10%. We believe the convenience of being able to mark the ballot at home and pop it in the mail was a big factor; however, the candidates must also be credited for a part of the success. They were provided with a daily update of persons who had voted, so they logged a lot of hours on the telephone encouraging voters to mail or drop off their ballots. In some cases, they assisted in transporting voters, and/or the return envelopes to the office when it was too late to make the mail. When there was some confusion about the process on Election Day, staff encouraged voters to contact their neighbours or a candidate for a ride or pickup, because, as we know, every single vote counts!

Overall, we are pleased with the Vote By Mail process, and now that electors have become familiar with the idea, we expect fewer challenges in 2014. If you have any comments or concerns about the mail in ballot system or the 2010 election in general, we'd be happy to hear them. Comments will be compiled and used as reference as we plan Election 2014.

Cont'd on page 4

Coyote Control

In response to inquiries about the increased presence of coyotes within the County of Oxford, an information package has been developed for all residents. This package is available for pick-up at the Township office or can be viewed on our website.

Although the main focus is towards rural properties, there are also some tips for urban homeowners and how to ensure that your property is not attracting this type of wildlife. Also included is valuable information on behavioral patterns of coyotes as well as the local contact information for the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters and the Ontario Fur Managers Federation. Both of these groups can be very helpful for property owners that will allow hunting and/or trapping on their land.

Emergency Preparedness Kit

Here's a Christmas gift idea....make your own personalized kit.

- ◆ Flashlight
- ◆ Battery operated radio
- ◆ Spare batteries
- ◆ First Aid Kit
- ◆ Candles/matches/lighter
- ◆ Extra cash
- ◆ Copies of important documents/insurance/identification of each family member
- ◆ Non-perishable food and bottled water
- ◆ Toilet paper and other personal hygiene supplies (soap, toothbrush, etc.)
- ◆ Medication/eyewear/other important health aides
- ◆ List of important names/phone numbers
- ◆ Pet food
- ◆ Whistle (in case you need to attract someone's attention)
- ◆ Playing cards/games

Winner of the Photo Contest

Thanks to everyone who entered our photo contest! The winning photo was submitted by Roy Hanenburg who will receive a gift certificate to be used at a business in the Township.

To get the full effect, please visit our website and follow the link to the winner as well as all the other photos that were submitted.



Dog Tag Sales for 2011

2011 Dog Tags will be available January 3, 2011 at a cost of \$20.00 per tag. A tag is required for each dog you own. If you no longer own a dog, please advise the Township Office at 519-462-2697 so we can update our records. Tags will be available at the following locations until March 31, 2011.

- ◆ **Hickson:** Township Office, 90 Loveys St. E.
- ◆ **Innerkip:** Corner Farm Market, 206 Blandford St.
- ◆ **Tavistock:** Yantzi's Feed & Seed, 65 Woodstock St. N.
Zehr's Home Hardware, 24 Woodstock St. S.

The Canine Control program is a 'User Pay' program, funded from dog tag sales, not property taxes. The Township only picks up stray dogs under this program; it does not pick up stray cats and other animals that may be a nuisance. One of the most important reasons for buying a tag and making sure it is on your dog's collar, is to re-unite a dog with its owner.

Jim Harmer - Receives Award

Former Chief Building Official for the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock, Jim Harmer, recently received the "Don Beam Award" at the annual Ontario Building Officials Association Conference.

This award is dedicated in Memory of Donald Beam. It is "awarded to the individual whose devotion to the industry has furthered the aims and objectives of the Association and to the industry as a whole" and "for his untiring dedication and professionalism over twenty plus years as a building official in representing the interests of the construction industry and this Association". This is only the 9th time this award has been presented since 1986. **Congratulations to Jim on this great achievement!**



Jim Harmer receiving his award



Message from the Mayor



The Oxford Hotel in Tavistock is now home to the new Tavistock Library and several apartment units. The restoration of this grand building on the main street has been remarkable to watch and wonder if it could really be done. One quick look as you drive by and you wonder no more. Dave and Kim Piggott have fully captured the historical features of this landmark in Tavistock and brought the building into compliance with today's building and fire regulations. The results are extraordinary! Thank you Dave and Kim. You have given this community not just a building to look at and be proud of, but a building that can be used by all. The new library occupies the main floor. It is bright and spacious, making your visit welcoming and relaxing. You will find a great selection of resources for your recreational reading or your research needs. It has become a regular meeting place for friends and neighbours and a comfortable place to sit and read the current newspaper or reminisce with one from the past. For some it has become a comfortable stop while out for a walk around town. There are many reasons to visit and many resources to

enjoy. Thank you to the many individuals and service clubs that generously donated to the library, making it a hub for personal betterment and community growth. The apartment units on the upper floors are meeting a real need for affordable seniors housing.

Also, the former Tavistock Library building has been sold to Dave and Kim and we look forward to its transformation and future use. It is always a challenge to know what is best for communities and their old buildings. I would encourage us to focus on the use and programs delivered from these buildings rather than just the bricks and mortar. I am confident that the library services and programs have been improved and enhanced in a timely and cost effective manner and the former library building is in good hands.

As we approach the Christmas season I wish each one of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Enjoy your family and friends and remember to reach out and be helpful to those less fortunate in our community.

EZT Holiday Information

The Hickson Municipal Office will close on Friday December 24th at 12:00 noon and re-open Monday January 3rd at 8:30 am. This closure includes General Administration, Building Department, Roads Administration and Fire Administration. Emergency Services and Road Maintenance operations are not affected by this closure.



Free Holiday Skating at Tavistock Arena:

Dec. 20	1 pm - 3 pm	Tim Hortons	Dec. 29	1 pm - 3 pm	Zehrs Automotive
Dec. 22	1 pm - 3 pm	Tim Hortons	Dec. 31	1 pm - 3 pm	Tim Hortons
Dec. 25/26	Closed		Jan. 1	Closed	
Dec. 27	1 pm - 3pm	Tim Hortons	For open ice time see: www.twp.ezt.on.ca/tdrc		

Winter Control Policies

Just a reminder to all residents of the Township's 'Winter Control Policies'.....

There is **No Parking** on any roadway in Innerkip and Tavistock from **November 15th through April 15th from 1:30 am to 6:00 am**. If required, this time is used for snow removal operations in these areas.

A contractor hired by the Township will plow all Township sidewalks. This will be done when snow accumulations warrant it. The level of service will be one clearing per day or per storm event. The Township is asking residents to supplement this activity by continuing to clear the sidewalk in front of their residence after light snow falls or in between clearings. The Tavistock Business area (Woodstock Street from William to Jacob and Hope Street from William to Minerva) will continue to be governed by By-law #16-91, which requires the abutting property owners to clear snow and ice. The street snow removal service will continue, as needed, in this area.

Do not push snow or ice onto the road or sidewalk when clearing your driveway. This applies everywhere; in town and in the rural areas. This practice endangers the safety of the motoring public, as well as snow removal equipment and its operators and is in contravention of the Highway Traffic Act. We appreciate your co-operation in this matter. It will assist us greatly in providing a safe and reliable road system to our ratepayers.

Council

Mayor & County Councillor

Don McKay

519.532.2500

dmckay@twp.ezt.on.ca

Deputy Mayor

Maureen Ralph

519.462.2955

mralph@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 1

Linda Fulton

519.655.3004

lfulton@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 1

Clive Lawry

519.655.3102 or 519.655.3490

clawry@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 2

Don MacDonald

519.462.2672

dmacdonald@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 3

Don Lazenby

519.537.3758

dlazenby@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 3

Jeremy Smith

519.536.6363

jsmith@twp.ezt.on.ca

Council meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 10:00 am and the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm. All meetings are open to the public.

Profiling our OPP Officers

Ontario Provincial Constable Catherine Braceland has been a general law enforcement officer in Oxford County for the last 3 years. When Catherine first came to Oxford County, she reported to the Ontario Provincial Police Detachment in Ingersoll. Since the OPP assumed the East Zorra-Tavistock area in October of 2009, she now reports to the EZT OPP office in Tavistock. Prior to policing, she obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Political Studies and Law from Lakehead University and worked for several years as a court clerk. While with the OPP, Catherine has received training in DNA Collection, General Investigation Techniques, Domestic Violence Investigation and Sexual Assault Investigation.

Raised in Northern Ontario, Catherine recognizes the importance and value of quality and respectful small town community policing. She enjoys the friendliness and goodwill the residents of East Zorra-Tavistock have extended towards her. Catherine hopes to continue creating and promoting these positive relationships.



2010 Municipal Election

...Cont'd from page 1

Your 'new' Council gets down to business on December 1st, with immediate emphasis placed on continued education for the members and planning the 2011 Budget. Priorities for this term will be continued drainage improvements for Tavistock, as well as economic development opportunities leading to future employment. This past term saw an increase in residential development for both Innerkip and Tavistock with the Lunor Subdivision nearing completion, and new construction planned in both locations. The new Council will be challenged with continuing the trend by encouraging private sector developers to consider East Zorra-Tavistock for both residential and industrial expansion.

Office and Facility Contacts

Township Office

90 Loveys Street
Box 100
Hickson ON N0J 1L0
Phone: 519.462.2697
Fax: 519.462.2961
Email: ezt@twp.ezt.on.ca
Website: www.twp.ezt.on.ca
Office Hours: Mon - Fri
8:30 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:30

County of Oxford

Phone: 519.539.9800
Website: www.county.oxford.on.ca

Tavistock & District Recreation Centre

Phone: 519.655.2102
Fax: 519.655.3560

Tavistock & District Memorial Hall

Phone: 519.655.9992
For Bookings: 519.655.2102

Innerkip Community Centre

Phone: 519.469.3889
For Bookings: 519.469.3449