



TOWNSHIP OF
EAST ZORRA-
TAVISTOCK

Eazy Talk

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Last Words from our Clerk!

When Council battles are over and all the votes cast, there's only one voice in the Township which lasts. It's not the Chair's, strong though it may be, or the loudest voice, which becomes history. It's the words that are written by the one who sits by, who listens and watches with an observant eye. Yes, the words that live on is the official work, recorded so carefully by the Municipal Clerk.

Brenda Junker

EZT Christmas Holiday Information

The Hickson Municipal Office will close on Wednesday December 24th at 12:00 pm and re-open Monday January 5th at 8:30 am. This includes General Administration, Building Department, Roads Administration and Fire Administration. Emergency Services and Road Maintenance operations are not affected by this closure.

Real Christmas trees can be dropped off at the Yard Waste Depots in Hickson, Innerkip and Tavistock to be mulched. Please remove all decorations and plastic bags used to transport trees. Trees will not be picked up at curbside.

With the way the holidays fall this season, there will be changes to the recycling and garbage collection as indicated below. Also, don't forget to recycle those gift boxes and gift wrap however, metallic or glitter gift wrap are not recyclable.

Garbage & Recycling over the Holiday Season

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Thursday December 25 th | collection moves to Saturday December 27 th (garbage & recycling) |
| Thursday January 1 st | collection moves to Saturday January 3 rd (garbage only) |

Free Holiday Skating at Tavistock Arena:

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Dec. 22 nd | 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm | Tim Hortons |
| Dec. 24 th | 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm | Tim Hortons |
| Dec. 29 th | 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm | Tim Hortons |
| Dec. 31 st | 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm | Zehr Automotive |
| Jan. 2 nd | 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm | Tim Hortons |

Tavistock Arena will be closed as follows:

Dec. 25th and 26th all day
Jan. 1st all day

Regular public skating rates:

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Pre School | Free |
| Public School | \$2 |
| Students & Adults | \$3 |
| Family Pass | \$9 |

For open ice time see www.ezt.ca



The Spirit of Fire

T'was the night before Christmas when all through the house; not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.

When down through the chimney, all covered with soot; came the **"Spirit of Fire"**, an ugly galoot.

His eyes glowed like embers, his features were stern; as he looked all around him for something to burn.

What he saw made him grumble, his anger grew higher; for there wasn't a single thing that would start a good fire.

No door had been blocked by the Christmas tree; it stood in the corner, leaving passageways free.

The lights glowed brightly for Betty and Tim; they were hung with precaution, so none touched a limb.

All wiring was new, not a break could be seen; and water at its base kept the tree nice and green.

The tree had been trimmed by a mother insistent; that the ornaments used should be fire resistant.

And would you believe it, right next to the tree; was a suitable box for holding debris.

A place to hold wrappings of paper and string; from all the gifts that Santa might bring.

The ugly galoot was so mad he could bust; as he climbed up the chimney in utter disgust.

For the folks in this home had paid close attention; to all of the rules of good fire prevention.

Beat the Silent Killer

It is now the law in Ontario to install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your home if you have a fuel-burning appliance or an attached garage.

"If your home has a fuel-burning appliance or an attached garage, you must have a working CO alarm adjacent to each sleeping area of the home," said EZT Fire Chief, Scott Alexander. "For added protection, install a carbon monoxide alarm on every storey of the home according to manufacturer's instructions." Fuel-burning appliances can include furnaces, hot water heaters, gas or wood fireplaces, portable fuel-burning heaters and generators, barbeques, stoves and vehicles.

Single-family homeowners and owners of residential buildings that contain no more than six suites have until April 15, 2015 to comply with the law. Owners of residential buildings with more than six suites have until October 15, 2015 to comply.

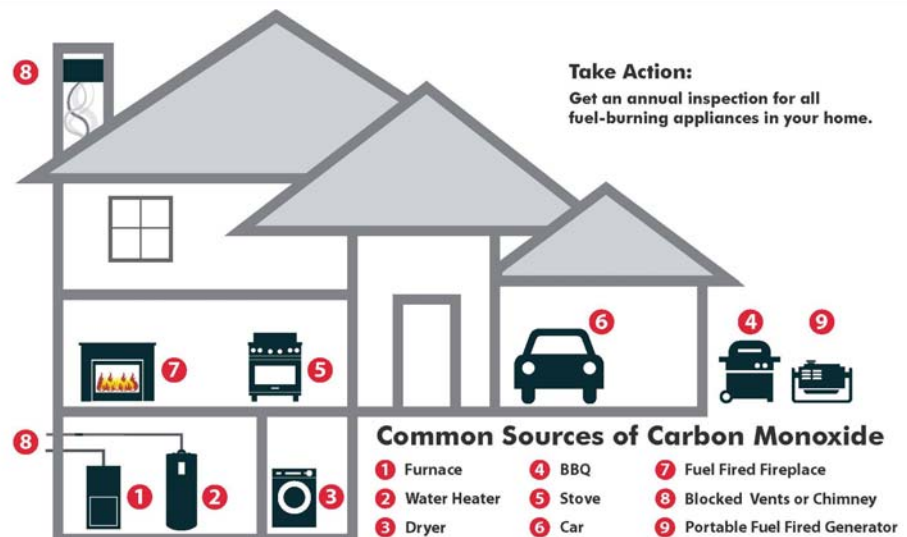
Failure to comply with the CO alarm requirements could result in a fine of up to \$50,000 for individuals or \$100,000 for corporations.

The Ontario Fire Code was amended October 15, 2014 to require CO alarms after the provincial government passed Bill 77 – the Hawkins Gignac Act, in December 2013. Bill 77 is named after OPP Constable Laurie Hawkins, who died, along with her husband and two children, in her Woodstock home from CO poisoning in 2008.

"In Ontario, more than 80% of injuries and deaths from CO occur in the home," said Alexander. "We want to make sure everyone is safe from CO. Install CO alarms, and do everything you can to prevent CO in your home in the first place."

Homeowners and landlords are responsible for ensuring their properties have working carbon monoxide alarms. The law requires landlords to test CO alarms in rental units annually and when the battery is replaced. Testing is also required if changes are made to the electrical circuit or a change in tenancy occurs. Tenants are required by law to notify the landlord if the CO alarm is inoperable and it is against the law for tenants to remove the batteries or tamper with the alarm.

From the Office of the Fire Marshal & Technical Standards & Safety Authority (TSSA)



Message from the Mayor



'Oh The Places You'll Go' I have read this book by Dr. Seuss so many times to my children and now my grandchildren. It has always been read with joy, excitement and anticipation of life's adventures ahead. **"You're off to Great Places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting, So...get on your way!"** However, when one of the places you'll go takes you to the Cancer Clinic in London you remember another line in the book, **"Except when you don't. Because, sometimes, you won't."** I am scheduled for 35 radiation treatments starting on Dec. 15th to treat my prostate cancer so I will be seeing a lot of the clinic over the next few months. Hidden in this experience is also a huge blessing,

On a recent visit to the clinic I met a couple from our community and their story both humbled me and thrilled me. It was their first visit to the clinic and like most first time patients they were very uncertain what the prognosis would bring for their personal health and how that would affect their family. It is very humbling to be reminded of the frailty of life. But I was thrilled to hear them tell of the overwhelming support they were receiving from friends, neighbours, and the community at large. Cards, emails, food and visits had been

received in abundance and were very much appreciated.

WOW! This is our community at its best! Our community, with the best health care services, is ready to reach out, encourage and support each other. They are the hands and feet of love and compassion in action. What a wonderful place to call home!

Please let me reprint a prayer from Catherine Whitmire's book, **"Practicing Peace, a devotional walk through the Quaker tradition."**

I ask for daily bread, but not for wealth, lest I forget the poor.

I ask for strength, but not for power, lest I despise the meek.

I ask for wisdom, but not for learning, lest I scorn the simple.

I ask for a clean name, but not for fame, lest I condemn the lowly.

I ask for peace of mind, but not for idle hours, lest I fail to hearken to the call of duty.



Merry Christmas!

Council and Staff Changes in EZT

On Wednesday November 25th, a gathering was held to celebrate and reflect on the accomplishments of each and every member of Council for the 2010-2014 term. A big thank-you went out to 3 Councillors who have ended their duties and responsibilities serving your Township. It was quite a blustery evening and weather conditions did not permit **Don MacDonald** to attend the event however, **Don Lazenby** and **Clive Lawry** spoke of their achievements and memories during their term and passed along several thank-you messages of their own to Staff, fellow Council Members as well Members of various boards. A "Fond Farewell" to these individuals for devoting their time to serve the residents of EZT.

A "Warm Welcome" goes out to EZT's three new incoming members of Council, **Shirley McCall-Hanlon** (Ward 1), **Mike Campbell** (Ward 2) and **Mike Routly** (Ward 3). If you have the chance, congratulate and welcome them to their new roles. If you have any comments, suggestions or questions, contact information for all Council members can be found on the last page of the newsletter as well as on our website.

Another very significant change to EZT is the retirement of **Brenda Junker**. Beginning her career in an administrative assistant type role she has climbed the ladder over the years to her current position of Corporate Services Manager, Tax Collector and Clerk. Beginning her career at the Township Office 38 years ago, she has been involved in significant milestones with the Municipality and has endured some very challenging times as well as very memorable experiences throughout her career. On Friday November 28th, Council, Staff, Family, Friends and many EZT Residents gathered at the Craigowan Golf and Country Club to take part in an Open House honoring Brenda's many years of dedication to the Township in her various roles. Council and Office Staff will miss her vast knowledge of the Township and its' residents. We really wish Brenda all the best as she ventures into the world of "Retirement" enjoying every minute she can with her family and perhaps many more trips to the Ottawa area!



On December 15th, Staff and Council will welcome Woodstock resident, **Will Jaques**, stepping into the role of Corporate Services Manager. Will comes from the Municipality of West Perth, in Perth County bringing with him 10 years of municipal experience, all of which has been in a senior role, either as Clerk-Administrator or CAO. We welcome Will to EZT!

Council

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Mike Routly

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Councillor - Ward 3

Jeremy Smith

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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.

Old Man Winter is Here Once Again!

The Township is responsible for the maintenance of 210 km of roads and work very hard to ensure they are safe for all the motoring public. At times, residents call in very frustrated with the winter control activities of our Public Works Department. Our Road Patrollers are out at 3:00 am and if the weather warrants, the men are called in to begin their day at 5:00 am. With a typical snowfall, it takes our operators with 3 plows and a grader approximately 4-5 hours to get over all the roads once and many times they start all over again just to keep ahead of the hazardous white stuff. High priority roads are completed first being the 16th Line, the Braemar Sideroad west of the 13th Line, the Maplewood Sideroad and the Tavistock Streets. Also, keep in mind that the County roads including Blandford St. in Innerkip, Loveys St. in Hickson and Woodstock and Hope St. in Tavistock are maintained by the County of Oxford.

Residents need to keep in mind that snow removal times depend greatly on the conditions. Heavier, wet snow, treacherous blowing snow or freezing rain obviously slow down the process while our crews work in a safe manner for themselves as well as others out on the roads. Also, despite meticulous maintenance of the equipment, breakdowns do occur and every effort is made to get the plow or grader back on the road as soon as possible. Please be patient and try to understand the challenges that face our Public Works Department.

Also a reminder to everyone there is "No Parking" on roadways in the villages from December 1st to March 31st from 1:30 am - 6:00 am. If required, this time is used for snow removal operations in these areas.

A contractor hired by the Township will plow Township sidewalks. 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 will continue to be governed by By-law #16-91, which requires the abutting property owners to clear snow and ice.

Do not push snow or ice onto the road or sidewalk when clearing your driveway. This applies 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.

Office and Facility Contacts

Township Office

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Phone: 519.462.2697
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Website: www.ezt.ca
Office Hours: Mon - Fri
8:30 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:30

County of Oxford

Phone: 519.539.9800
Website: www.oxfordcounty.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: 519.539.1340

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