

NOTEWORTHY

IN NORWICH

A COMMUNITY NEWS PUBLICATION



Shirley Miller gets her copy signed by Jeff

Local Author Signs Books

Jeff Tribe a local author held a book signing at the 100th Mile on Saturday, March 7th. Jeff's book, "Accountant With Benefits" was in

great demand, as a steady group of readers dropped in to purchase a copy and have it signed.

Saturday started out sunny giving way to spring showers. Even rain did not deter anyone from stopping by for a copy and a chat with the author.

I have yet to read the book however, based on people attending the signing and the fact that Jeff had to call to have more copies delivered to the store is a good indicator of the book's popularity.

The true testimony of a book is hearing from the down home people who spend their own hard earned money on the book, read it then rave about how great it is and how the author went beyond expectation in his or her writing. The folks I have spoke with who have read "Accountants With Benefits" have unanimously given this book and its author two thumbs up.

Because Jeff was kept busy visiting and signing copies of his book I did not interrupt for an interview. I did however overhear comments such as you have been thinking of doing this for a long time, to which Jeff replied "you have to do it before it's too late".

I wonder if there will be a sequel or perhaps Jeff has plans for another such project in the future. I will follow up with Jeff and report on his answer in an upcoming issue.

A copy of Jeff's book can be purchased at Victoria's store, "At The 100th Mile," while supplies last. I understand it is available on Amazon but buying local helps our community.



Jeff and a reader visit after Jeff autographs a copy of his book.



At the 100th Mile store owner Victoria Body was kept busy restocking the book table as Jeff was constantly busy personalizing books for those who lined up for their own copy.

The Divide is Still Evident

Editorial by Vic Whitcroft

The gash in our township, most evident in the Village of Norwich, continues to fester like an unattended wound.

There happens to be guilty parties on either side of the issue, maybe its better referred to as a non issue. It really only becomes an issue when someone makes statements that comes from lack of knowledge, respect, or because they are ignorant. Going a bit deeper it could stem from bigotry or hatred.

A Facebook post some months ago now, regarding driving, tailgating as I recall, morphed into an offhanded remark about a “reformed” individual. That’s quite a leap, I must say. When questioned in a reply the rant accused the “Cult” of having no respect for anyone but themselves.

As I mentioned everyone is guilty of putting down one another from time to time. When these insults become about religion, race, culture etc. we are on a slippery slope.

It appears that some folks in our township have failed to understand this rhetoric regarding reformed or non-reformed, does nothing but promote hatred. Especially true when the remark is made as a suggestion without knowing the facts an unchecked assumption.

Those posting these hate filled remarks tend to be people of a “non-reformed” group.

Respect is mutual, it should be given until one has done something to lose it.

Albert Einstein said.

“I speak to everyone in the same way, whether he is the garbage man or the president,”

Expect Delays

In the coming months, drivers trying to make their way through Norwich along County Road 59 may find it impossible to pass from one end of town to the other.

The problem for motorists and pedestrians is the bridge over Otter Creek. Stover Street's bridge is slated for a major overhaul that will close County Road 59 for two to four months or possibly a bit more.

My Contact at Oxford County, Nakita Serrador, tells me the tender has yet to be filled, meaning questions remain unanswered. Noteworthy in Norwich will bring you updates as they become available.

Notable concerns for the fire department, drivers of delivery trucks who normally make their way through Norwich, toward Delhi and beyond. Additional drawbacks will undoubtedly be felt by the Nostalgia Days events happening downtown and at ESPS.

Businesses will no doubt be impacted by the closure,

perhaps none more than Home Hardware, located just south of the bridge. Little Bones and Godfathers on the north side will also feel the effect of this project.

Otterville may also experience traffic disruptions this year as well. It has been reported that the bridge that crosses down stream of the dam on County Road 18, is also slated for rehab work.

Imagine the kids wanting to use the pool or having a ball game at the park. If you live west of the bridge it means a three to four mile trek to get to the park.

Dates and length of the project have not been reported at this time. It was pointed out that this project may see one lane closed at a time. If this is the case the work will take longer to complete than if the bridge is closed in both directions. Watch noteworthy of more details as they become available.

Turbulence From Council's Decision

Face Book and other social media pages have lit up with opinions regarding the recent decision by Norwich Township Council to reject the "Oxford Safe and Well Plan." Most of the comments were against the plan's rejection by three of the five person council.

The wording that caused the plan to be put down, was the phrase "priority groups." Ward One councillor Karl Toews, a lawyer, suggested the wording should read "groups of particular concern." Toews felt it was more inclusive as priority groups discriminated against people outside those who were deemed a priority. As much as I tried, I could not find a single comment that supported council's three, two decision to defeat the proposal.

Face Book comments included;

Tammy Murray

He is gonna be big big mad when we raise a rainbow flag every June 1st. The flag policy clearly endorse diversity lol! This opinion has no value in Oxford County.

Tammy Cowan-Harnden

When you are elected as a town council member in Canada, your personal opinions are just that, personal. The topic of 2SLGBTQI+ which Norwich Township council members, seem to have such a moral problem with, year after year, stems from religious beliefs.

Mandy Lloyd

You don't end up "standing alone" twice by accident. Norwich didn't stumble into this. The Pride flag fight wasn't ancient history, it was a very clear test of whether everyone in this community counts. People showed up, did the work, dealt with vandalism, pushed through the noise, and the policy changed because inclusion is the law and the standard across Ontario.

Now we're back to the same pattern: resistance the moment priority groups are explicitly named. A Safe and Well Plan that won't even acknowledge who is statistically more vulnerable isn't "neutral." It's avoidance dressed up as procedure.

And let's be honest, things won't change in Norwich if the same Christo-nationalist culture warriors keep dominating council. When ideology overrides evidence, marginalized residents pay the price. You can disagree on policy details. That's democracy.

But refusing to name LGBTQ+ people, racialized residents, or other at-risk groups in a safety plan isn't fiscal prudence or small-town tradition. It's a values choice.

Inclusion isn't radical. It's baseline governance in 2026.

Meg McDonald

That's really disappointing to hear from Mr. Gear. What a 180° from 2022/2023.

Sofia Davison William Bryant

Here we be going again.

Meg McDonald

To all the people talking about "cat ears and tails" that was a hoax/fake news story years ago that was debunked. Same with the "litter boxes in classrooms" they were spam stories to derail real supports for those who need it. Seriously get new material.

Editor's Note

I fact checked the cat and dog thing at Delhi District Secondary School. "No litter boxes, no cat and dog dress up, never happened." "they do wear onsie pyjamas but that's it".

Heather Marie

They are opening a can of worms they will wish they hadn't. I am sure the wording isn't the problem...they will have to say the quiet part out loud and risk outing themselves. The Plan and its wording isn't the problem...the local religious fanatics and Cult members are the problem.

Spring Road Safety

With the first indications spring is nearly here, drivers need to gradually get into a springtime driving mode. With nice weather, warm temperature and distractions of what the weekend will hold, we tend to let down our guard when driving.

How could a motor vehicle collision happen on a sunny day, with great visibility on wide open roads with a clear view of roads ahead and to both sides? Likely driver distractions, add excessive speed and you have the exact ingredients for a serious collision. Of course vehicle condition factors into the equation too. Are your brakes and tires in roadworthy condition?

Lately I have noticed many drivers seem to have an its not my fault attitude so I don't need to give way. The collision may not be your fault, little comfort if you're dead! Even if you are not at fault and no one is injured in the crash, there is a better than average chance your car will be out of service for an extended period of time, months in fact.

With spring, motorcycles have made their way back on the roadways. Having a narrow profile, motorcycles are often missed by other drivers as they check to see if the way is clear to enter the roadway. Please "look twice and save a life".

Unfortunately very often motorcycle riders are going faster than they should, making it difficult to judge how quickly they are approaching. Do be on the lookout for these two wheeled riders.

Earlier, I said gradually get into spring time driving mode, I said this because it may be we have to readjust our driving again back into the winter driving mode. At this time of year it is not uncommon to get another blast of snow or freezing rain. Just when you think it's all clear for spring driving, mother nature plays tricks with our ability to respond to such driving conditions. Happy motoring everyone, and drive carefully.

Beer Store Loading Dock Now A Swimming Pool

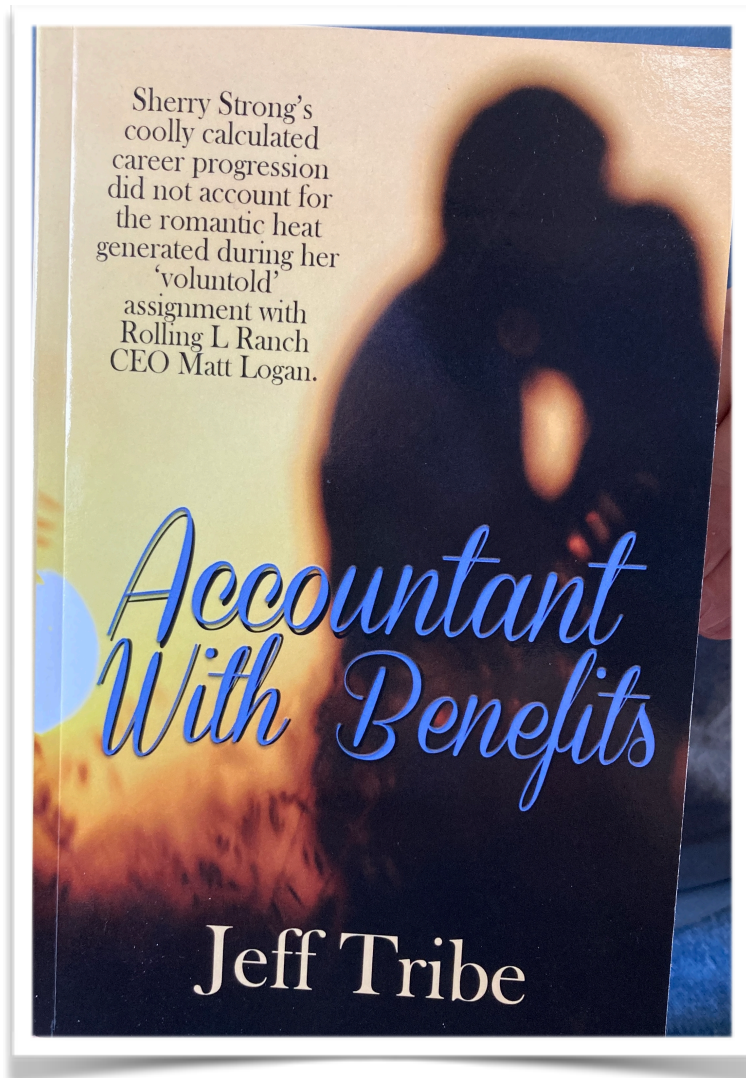


The former beer store loading dock has filled with water as a result of the recent heavy rains. This has the potential of turning into a fatal safety hazard for children, pets and passers by.

Apology My apology to Ward four councillor Adrian Couwenberg for the misspelling of his last name in the Safe and Well Oxford article in our last issue.

The winner is Patty Klatecki. Patty found the [NWN] and reported it first.

Remember the only acceptable claim is for the logo with square brackets and capital letters. [NWN] Find it in every news issue. It does not appear in the events pages.



Jeff Tribe's book is very much in demand by Norwich residents and people from afar, as evident by the turnout at Jeff's book signing..