

Guelph Mercury

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Breaking news

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Getting it right

Our accuracy pledge

Nothing is more important to us than accuracy. We always strive to ensure the information we provide is factual and correct. But sometimes we make mistakes, and when we do, we will correct them promptly and prominently. If you see a factual error, please contact the newsroom at 519-823-6060 or by email at editor@guelphmercury.com.

Lottery results

Yesterday's unofficial winning numbers:
Pick 3: 1 2 4
Pick 4: 1 2 4 0
Keno: 2, 4, 5, 7, 12, 20, 28, 30, 31, 33, 35, 38, 39, 41, 47, 48, 51, 56, 61, 62
Encore: 6989246

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Rainbow Chorus needs our praise

Guelph was well represented recently by Rainbow Chorus Waterloo-Wellington at UNISON, a national choral festival, in Winnipeg, held from May 21-24. The festival featured 15 choruses from across Canada with some 400 singers.

Earlier in May, the 30th self-produced concert, called *Two Fires Singing* was presented with their sister chorus, Singing OUT!, from Toronto. It raised the rafters, especially when the two choirs — more than 100 voices — joined together to sing four songs, including Leonard Cohen's *Hallelujah* and Gordon Lightfoot's *Song For a Winter's Night*.

The program for the Winnipeg festival consisted of six numbers, one of which was *Starlight*, their first commissioned piece. Words were composed by chorus member Van Waffle and music by renowned Canadian composer Mark Sirett. It also included an arrangement by chorus member Les Smith of *Evening Song*. It begins with the words, "Welcome Home" and metaphorically that is exactly what happened to the chorus both here and in Winnipeg. Four of the six pieces were a cappella.

It was the second song, *Shenandoah* that gave the chorus and the audience goose bumps. It is an a cappella, eight-part harmony version, which rolls with the river flowing through the Appalachian landscape. The chorus nailed it!

First, there was silence and then a standing



MELODY WREN
community
editorial board

ovation. The Rainbow Chorus was told it was the piece that crystallized the festival and that they were the diamond of the event. The chorus were given the "Fire" award. This was high praise from their peers and the sweet taste of 10 years of hard work by the chorus under the very able direction of Robert Miller.

They finished with a selection from *Jersey Boys* and for the first time were all in sync with the choreography (they are NOT a show choir).

The Rainbow Chorus or The Waterloo Wellington Chorus of Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Friends, which is often shortened to Rainbow Chorus Waterloo Wellington, was founded in 1994 by four friends who wanted to build the kind of chorus that — then and now — only existed in larger urban centres; as well as to foster a community of singers, gay and straight, who came together to sing. The four were Murray Jose and Glen Pelshea and their respective partners Robert Bojeczko and Kevin Fallowfield. Rehearsals started in January 1995 and their first self-produced concert was put on in 1995. The chorus have since produced 30 concerts in 15 years.

The Chorus has also put on numerous community performances at events like Spring Fest, weddings, funerals, AIDS services, pride services, affirmation services, hate crime vigils, and events at the opening of the YMCA in Guelph, the AGM of the Kitchener Waterloo Sexual Assault Centre, Tsunami Relief, the Hamilton Conference of the United Church of Canada, Action Reads, Women in Crisis AGM and seasonal celebrations at the River Run Centre with the Guelph Chamber Choir and a number of church and community choirs.

They have practised and sung at a number of churches in Guelph but their most enduring relationships have been with the Guelph Unitarian Fellowship and Harcourt Memorial United Church.

The chorus has had five artistic directors: Rob Gascho, John Tute, Rob Phillips, Gordon Burnett and Robert G. Miller — who has been the longest serving.

While the Chorus currently consists of 47 members, 188 people have sung with the chorus over the past 15 years.

They have performed in Guelph, Kitchener, Waterloo, Hamilton, Dundas, London, Toronto, Montreal and New York. In 2006 they sang at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

Guelph should feel proud to have the Rainbow Chorus represent them so well in other parts of our country.

Melody Wren is a member of the Guelph Mercury Community Editorial Board.

FRANK VALERIOTE, MP

Working for You.

My team can provide assistance and information on many federal government programs including:

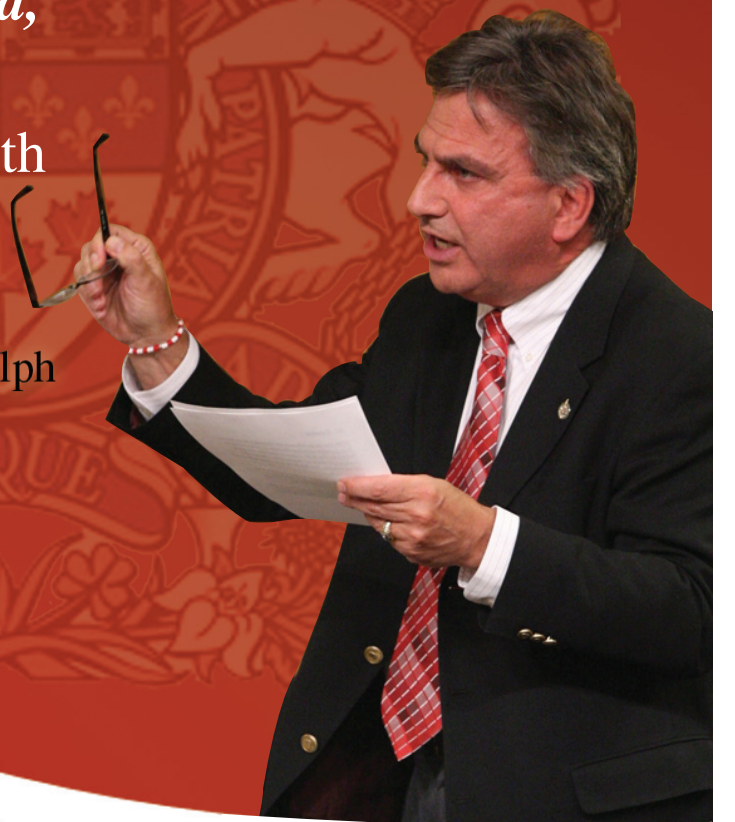
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- Canada Pension Plan
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- Guaranteed Income Supplement
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*Although I may be in Ottawa,
I am always in Guelph.*

Please contact my office with your federal concerns.

Frank Valeriote

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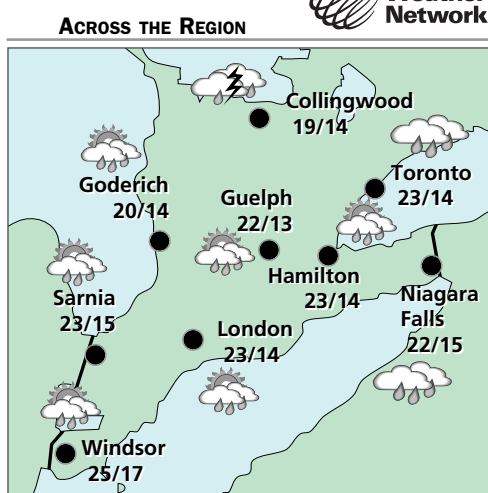
WEATHER

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ALMANAC	TOMORROW	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Normal High 24.7° Normal Low 12° Record High 32.2°/1994 Record Low 3°/1978 Precipitation Today's Normals 3mm	 Showers H: 22 L: 13	 Mainly sunny H: 26 L: 15	 Mainly sunny H: 28 L: 20	 Showers H: 28 L: 17

CANADA	TODAY	TORONTO	WORLD	TOMORROW	MADRID	MEXICO
Calgary	tstorms 13/7	Toronto	Amsterdam	sunny 18/11	p.sunny 20/11	tshowers 20/12
Charlottetown	showers 13/10	Vancouver	Beijing	rain 35/24	tshowers 32/27	tshowers 32/27
Edmonton	cloudy 17/8	Whitehorse	Berlin	sunny 19/9	p.cloudy 18/13	p.cloudy 18/13
Fredericton	sunny 20/9	Winnipeg	Brussels	p.cloudy 18/11	cloudy 40/32	rain 14/14
Halifax	sunny 17/10	Yellowknife	Hong Kong	tstorms 30/27	rain 14/14	rain 14/14
Iqaluit	p.cloudy 6/0		Honolulu	p.cloudy 28/23	sunny 28/20	p.cloudy 26/21
Montreal	sunny 23/13	RESORTS	Jerusalem	sunny 28/14	p.cloudy 26/21	tstorms 30/27
Ottawa	m.sunny 23/13	Toronto	Kiev	p.cloudy 22/16	p.cloudy 18/9	p.cloudy 18/9
Quebec C.	sunny 21/9	Acapulco	Las Vegas	windy 34/20	tstorms 31/22	sunny 31/22
Regina	sunny 26/13	Bermuda	Lisbon	p.cloudy 23/16	cloudy 18/12	showers 29/25
Saskatoon	p.cloudy 23/12	Havana	London	sunny 20/10		
St John's	rain 11/6	San Juan	Los Angeles	p.cloudy 18/15		



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