

All systems go July 19th start for Petrolia Line work

Heather Wright
The Independent

The shovels hit the ground July 19th. That's the word from Birnam Construction, the company contracted to do the first half of the reconstruction of Petrolia Line.

The company met with town officials this week, making firm plans for just when and how the first phase of the \$4.5 million project will proceed.

Petrolia CAO Manny Baron says the company plans to begin construction at the Bear Creek Bridge July 19 and move up the hill to the downtown.

Construction likely won't begin in the downtown area until Aug. 24.

Baron says that the delay of construction is likely to be a positive thing for merchants since it will have less impact on the traffic to their business during the peak of summer.

He adds the company sees "no problem" completing the stretch of Petrolia Line between Tank Street and

Fletcher Road by the Nov. 13 deadline.

While Birnam plans for the work, a number of projects have been completed to make travel around the construction a little easier.

This week, a Niagara based company put a new tar-and-chip topcoat on Centre Street and Discovery Line. That will be the main detour for commercial traffic.

Baron says town staff has also completed a second entrance way on the Farmers' Market to make it easier for drivers to avoid the main street by using Robert Street.

"It will be one way in and one way out to elevate the congestion," he says. "There wasn't a (second) lane there, so we created our own."

Baron knows many people are curious about the construction and says Birnam has offered to take a Saturday during the summer to hold an open house of sorts, allowing people to get an up-close look at their equipment.

WET AND WILD CANADA DAY



Heather Wright Photo

Two young girls became the newest recruits of the Alvinston Fire Department during a battle to push the barrel on a rope to the boys' end at the Brooke-Alvinston Canada Day Celebration. The little firefighters were among thousands celebrating the nation's birthday Wednesday. See more of the celebrations in Petrolia and Central Lambton on Page 8.

Too much water worries rain-soaked Central Lambton

Heather Wright
The Independent

In one week, parts of Central Lambton have had as much rain as they would have had in several months.

And that's taking a toll on fledgling crops, according to the chair of the Lambton County arm of the Grain Farmers of Ontario.

Kevin Marriott says on June 21 some parts of Warwick and Brooke-Alvinston recorded four inches of rain.

Then Saturday another three-and-a-half inches dropped on some parts of Brooke-Alvinston, around the Inwood area.

The young corn and soybeans

in those areas are sitting in water and turning yellow; a sign they're suffocating in all that water lying on the fields. "The longer it stays yellow the more yield loss it has," he says.

All that water is washing away the nitrogen the farmers use as their main fertilizer, he says. That will shrink yield even further.

Warwick Township seems to have been in the center of both storms. Mayor Todd Case says some people have recorded seven inches of rain in one week.

"I've never seen it rain like that ever before. It was coming down in sheets and it seemed to be blowing in two or three different directions," he says.

"I walk the town regularly, and in my time as mayor, I've never seen as many (water damage) restoration vehicles in driveways as I have lately."

Three roads had to be temporarily closed because they could not handle the water.

After four weeks without rain in May, Marriott says Mother Nature may be trying to overcompensate. "But that can be worse than too little rain," he says.

And while some farmers are facing fields of water, Marriott says some have dodged much of the rain and the corn has already shot up as high as a man's waist.

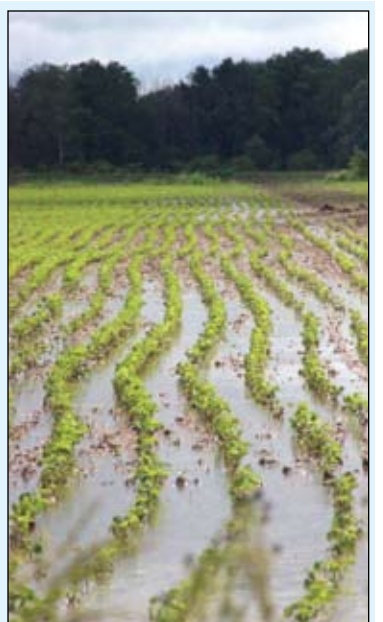
Farmers are not the only ones feeling the pinch from the

weather. Local golf courses have been inundated with water because of the heavy rain.

"It's been terrible," says Heritage Heights General Manager Dave McKinlay. "Our front nine has been open only one week out of the month." Golfers braving cooler, wet weather are using the back nine.

In Oil Springs, weather has hampered play as well. Randy Hull of Black Creek Golf Course says they've been closed for five days because of the flooding. Hull was hoping to reopen by Wednesday.

"I know certain people need the rain," says McKinlay, "but I've had enough."



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Four month probation for nursery school theft

Heather Wright
The Independent

A Wyoming woman has been given a four-month conditional sentence after admitting to stealing from a Petrolia nursery school.

In April, the Lambton OPP were called to Kiddie Corner Co-op Nursery School, after the board discovered irregularities in their books. Police investigated and found

money missing in the period between Sept. 2012 and 2014.

Police charged Isobel Coke, 60, who had been the nursery's treasurer, with a number of thefts, fraud and possession of property obtained by crime charges.

In May, after the audit of the books continued, more charges were laid.

Court documents show that in all, \$2,600 was taken including \$1,600 just before

Christmas.

Coke recently plead guilty to one charge of theft and was sentenced June 24 to a four-month conditional sentence plus one year probation.

Coke must also perform 500 hours of community service and may not go near the nursery school in the future.

She's also been given nine months to pay a \$200 Victim's Surcharge.

Politicians not sure full-time chief needed in Petrolia/Enniskillen

Heather Wright
The Independent

Petrolia and Enniskillen leaders agree there is too much work at the local fire department for a volunteer chief. But whether the department gets a full-time fire chief is yet to be seen.

Petrolia Mayor John McCharles and Town CAO Manny Baron have been meeting with Enniskillen Mayor Kevin Marriott and the township's administrator Duncan McTavish. They have been meeting together to figure out how to alleviate some of the time pressures facing the local department.

Fire Chief Lawrence Swift, who is a volunteer, recently suggested the position be made full time because of all the extra responsibilities being given to local fire departments by the province.

Politicians worried about the cost of the idea – an estimated \$90,000. Currently, the fire chief receives a stipend for his work which is done while he works full time.

The town and township held an in-camera meeting Monday on the issue. McCharles says the two administrators will be meeting with the current

chief to see “what sort of agreement we can come up with.”

“Everyone agrees there has to be some changes made; its how in depth we make those changes – (but) most people feel we don’t require a full time chief yet,” says the mayor. “We have to get that clear for council because...we’re not sold on the fact we need a full-time chief. With that said, there is no doubt in my mind a full-time chief is eventually going to happen ... it’s probably inevitable.”

Staff will meet with Swift and likely report back to council for July 8.

Wyoming to ask Petrolia for fire prevention help

John Phair
The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming council has directed its Chief Administrative Officer to talk with the Town of Petrolia about the contracting of fire prevention services for the Village of Wyoming.

Councillor Ben Dekker says the Plympton-Wyoming fire board is simply looking at hiring services on an as-needed basis as a more cost-effective method of delivering fire protection services within the village.

He says there is already a handshake agreement with Petrolia on a number of things but the joint fire board wanted to forge a more formal agreement.

Dekker pointed out that, at present,

Plympton-Wyoming's fire chief is the village's fire prevention officer and many of the inspections he does are 'risk assessments'.

Mayor Lonnie Napper says many of those inspections could be done on a cost recovery basis without cost to the taxpayer.

CAO Kyle Pratt said he would enter into discussions with Petrolia and would bring a report back to council with the outline of a contract including time-lines and cost comparisons for council's consideration.

Councillor Bob Woolvett noted that the contract would be solely for the Village of Wyoming and would not include Camlachie as there is already a fire prevention program in place for that area.

West Nile larviciding begins in Lambton County

The bug trucks are out again.

Lambton Public Health says crews are out in force, trying to control the mosquito population by placing larvicide in catch basins across Lambton

County.

It's a move to reduce the amount of mosquitos which carry the West Nile virus which can lead to serious illness in people.

Officials say surveillance has already found the

presence of mosquito larvae in catch basins across Lambton County.

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority has been contracted by the County of Lambton to do the work.

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Mitchell Crombeen, Marlee Darrach, Lily Cardiff and Julianne Breen’s pictures will soon join the Nicol Legacy Wall after the four were named the 2015 Nicol Scholars at LCCVI.

Four LCCVI students join the Nicol legacy

Over 380 students over 28 years have won the award

Heather Wright
The Independent

Julianne Breen, Lily Cardiff, Mitchell Crombeen, and Marlee Darrach are the newest LCCVI students to join a very prestigious list, as Nicol Scholars.

The four graduating students were honoured June 24 and presented with the \$10,000 US grant to help pay for their education.

Breen, Cardiff, Crombeen and Darrach join 380 students who have been recognized for excellence in education and community service by the Nicol Foundation since it began.

Twenty-eight years ago a former Petrolia resident named Harold Robert Nicol

set up a private foundation to give away his life savings after he passed away.

Although he lived in Florida, he wanted to help his hometown.

So, the Nicol’s Scholarship began. Students apply for the \$10,000 grant and are evaluated by a panel of four, which includes the mayor of Petrolia, the principal of LCCVI, the Catholic priest at St. Philip’s and the canon of Christ Anglican Church in Petrolia.

“Everyone honoured here today is at the very top of the class and demonstrates excellence outside of the classroom as well,” says Principal, Linda Jared, noting 23 people applied for the scholarships this year.

“To be Nicol Scholars, students have to show growth throughout high school and we have to see the potential for more growth.”

Cardiff, who has been active in the arts in Petrolia

as a part of the Lambton Youth Choir and the Lambton Young Theatre Players, is honoured to join the ranks of Nicol Scholars.

“It’s nice to be recognized for all the hard work put in over the years,” she says. “It’s quite an honour.”

Cardiff will be attending Ryerson University to study Theatre Production.

Crombeen is headed east as well, attending the University of Waterloo to study nano technology.

“I always heard about (the Nicol Scholarship) and it is an honour to be one of the people selected. It’s a big achievement for me.”

Breen, from Alvinston, agreed.

“It’s such an honour to be part of such a great group of kids who have done so much in our school and our community,” she says.

Breen – who was a constant presence in the LCCVI music department - will attend Western

University for Music.

And Darrach, who excelled in sport at LCCVI including golf and swimming and was active in the Athletics Association and Ontario Students Against Impaired Driving, says she is pleased to be included in the group.

She says when she started at LCCVI she heard about the scholarships but now recognizes the importance of not only the financial aid, but the prestige of being named a Nicol Scholar, as well as the honour attached to the scholarship.

Elise Chambers, the pastor of Christ Church in Petrolia and a member of the selection team, says she is constantly amazed by the work young people are doing in the community.

“You guys are amazing,” says Chambers. “What you guys do, matters... you are all called to do your best.”

“It does make a difference in this world.”

Nicol Scholarship becomes family tradition

The Independent Staff

It has come full circle.

For the first time in the 28-year history of the Nicol Scholarships, the daughter of a Nicol Scholar has also claimed the prize.

Marlee Darrach was one of the four 2015 scholars. In 1987-88, her mother, Lydia, won the honour in the second year of the Nicol’s history.

Lydia Darrach used the \$10,000 US scholarship to cover the entire cost of her education at the University of Western Ontario where she studied actuary science.

“It helped a lot - \$10,000 went a lot further back then,” she says. “I never, ever had to pay



Marlee Darrach stands with her mother, Lydia, in front of Lydia’s high school graduation picture on the Nicol Legacy Wall. Darrach becomes the second generation of her family to win the bursary.



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Editorial

Pride of Canada shines through

Not that long ago, Canada Day celebrations might have consisted of a fireworks display and maybe a community get-together like a barbecue. They were quietish celebrations; certainly not the over-the-top parties, parades and the general hoopla you would see three days later from our American neighbours.

But over the years, that has changed. People started wearing red and white on Canada Day - partially no doubt a product of some marketing genius but partially because we were ready to be a little louder in our enthusiasm.

The barbecues and fireworks became day long affairs that took on a fair-like atmosphere with red and white everywhere. And if you ever have the opportunity to watch or attend Canada Day celebrations in Ottawa, the bar has been raised significantly.

We think that's a good thing.

We often spend time numbering our government's faults, yet we still have the right to voice our complaints and to vote in peaceful elections for people who will serve us better.

We mourn that there are always people who lack resources, whether they be financial or health or mental health resources, yet we still have world-class hospitals which regularly save lives and solve our minor problems as well.

We worry about "the bad apples" ruining society or "kids these days" yet this paper and plenty others show stories every day of the good in people and the things they do to make the country strong.

We know we are fortunate to live in this great country and we're ready to spread the word to whoever will listen. With that pride of country and great people looking to right the wrongs and help their neighbours, Canada can only get better.

Letters to the Editor

The Independent welcomes Letters to the Editor.

Our preferred methods to receive letters are via email to news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca (please use Letter in the subject line) or through our website www.petrolialambtonindependent.ca

You can also deliver letters to The Independent at 4156 Petrolia Line, Petrolia or drop them in the mail at The Independent, Box 1334, Petrolia, ON, N0N 1R0.

The Independent reserves the right to edit letters for brevity and clarity.

All letters need to be signed and must have a phone number for verification.

Our Story



Petrolia Heritage Photo

Petrolia Heritage is trying to track down some of the people seen in this photo of the Shiloh School in Enniskillen Township. It appears to be from the 1950s. Anyone with information about any of the students can contact Petrolia Councillor Liz Welsh.

My Canada Day wish for our country

A friend of mine, who really never had anything good to say about the benefits Canada provides our First Nation's people, recently had an epiphany.

He was at a conference where he was able to hear first hand the way our European ancestors treated the people who were here first - from the moment we landed until today. That included the horrifying truth of our segregation of First Nation children from their families in residential schools.

My friend stood before me, his voice cracking, saying "I never really understood."

While he's not convinced the current federal government is doing anything to help the situation, he does acknowledge something has to change in the way this country treats - or mistreats - its aboriginal citizens.

Politically-correct-me wishes my friend was only one of the few which needed to have this epiphany. Sadly, we are a nation in need of enlightenment.

Over the years, I've come to learn a little more about the culture and practices of First Nations people; what they think of us and our government and their quiet determination to improve life for their people.

But there is still so much I need to know. The federal government's Truth and Reconciliation Commission which delved into the horrors little children faced after they were torn away from everything they knew in the name of progress and education is a start.

You could read every commission document and still not understand all of what the First Nation people have faced and will face daily.

I know I am not alone in my lack of knowledge about the people who walked this land before me and who live in our communities.

It's my hope this Canada Day that we not only acknowledge the wonderful place that we live but that we acknowledge our fault - the sins of our past - and vow to make them better, however we can in our little corner. The world sees us as a nation of compassion yet we have been compassionless to the people closest to us. Let's become for Canada's First Nations what the world believes us to be..



Heather Wright

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Opinion

Organize rally against Premier says reader

EDITOR:

Premier Wynne has closed some of the blood banks in Ontario saying they weren't needed. She is pushing bisexual education on our young children in public school when

more time is truly needed for Math, History of Canada and a better command of the English language. People who donate their body to science should read the fine print as to where their parts are going - think about all of the people

who have to pay for cancer drugs. She also plans on selling off 60 per cent of Ontario Hydro with the money going for infrastructure in Toronto. I think everyone in Ontario should organize bus loads

through a sick day and take buses to Toronto to Queen's Park with signs saying "Down With Wynne: Save Ontario"

Maggie Peters
SARNIA, ON



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Lambton inches closer to rural Internet solution

Heather Wright
The Independent

There are days when Joanne Sanderson has to stand on the lawn of her Shetland area home just to answer a call on her cell phone. Sanderson who works for two beef cooperatives and the Ontario Soil and Crop Association from home isn't sure what the best option for Internet services in rural area is; she just wants it fixed. "If I want to talk on my cell phone, most of the time I have no service," she says. "I have a work cell and my calls are forwarded there... to answer them, you have to stand outside on the lawn." Sanderson was one of about 80 people who came to a public meeting designed to help Lambton County Councillors decide how to provide the best internet service in the county. For several years, the

Western Warden's Caucus has been championing a regional fibre optic network dubbed SWIFT. Each municipality would commit funds - in Lambton County's case about \$1 million over five years - to create a pool of money to convince the upper levels of government to invest in the \$243 million project. Lambton councillors have also heard from independent communications companies - such as Brooke-Telecom - who say the SWIFT project will provide the bare bones needed to get fibre optics to the communities but not the homes. They contend that bare bones network is already in place and it is simply too costly for private business to extend the services to the front doors. So the group in the Wyoming Lion's Hall tried to hash out the pros and cons of the SWIFT system or working with local providers.



Heather Wright Photo

Residents, business people, politicians and Internet providers spent some time learning and commenting about the proposed SWIFT system at a recent meeting. After the meeting Warden Bev MacDougall said it was helpful to hear the perspective of everyone from the frustrated homeowner to the business people and county staff who explained what the SWIFT project could do. She was disappointed the rural internet providers weren't able to share their plan for the county. It's expected to be ready in two weeks time. MacDougall expects county council will discuss the issue in July. She says councillors may "take the best from both plans and get going." But one thing was clear after the meeting, says MacDougall. "These people care about the connectivity of Lambton County." "We have to get with the program if we're going to service the modern family of Lambton County."

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4	5							2
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	4		7					

Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Level: Intermediate



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Summer firefighters ready to answer questions

The Independent Staff

Jay Carruthers and Atlee Williams are ready to answer all your questions about smoke and carbon monoxide detectors this summer. The pair are working for the North Enniskillen/Petrolia Fire Department in the summer months and will, among other things, go door-to-door to check people's devices and explain the rules about carbon monoxide detectors. It's now law to have one in your home. Carruthers has worked for the department for a number of summers and has helped spread the word about smoke detectors since he became a firefighter in 2007. "Generally people, for the most part, are happy to have us," he says. "As much as we push (the importance of detectors), people don't check them. Usually, they're happy to have us get up on a stool or a ladder to check them." Carruthers adds the pair won't be enforcing any of the laws, just simply getting people thinking about protecting their families. Williams, who is a junior firefighter



Heather Wright Photo

Atwell Williams and Jay Carruthers will be going door-to-door to help people with the new rules surrounding CO2 detectors in Dawn-Euphemia, is excited for the challenge. "I like being out with the fire department and I like being out in the community seeing people and talking to people," he says. The pair will also be helping with the department's Junior Firefighter program which starts July 22.



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Petrolia pharmacies want to be part of the solution to end fentanyl abuse

Police say painkiller ‘very serious problem’ on the streets

Heather Wright
The Independent

Two Petrolia pharmacies say they want to be involved in a new program to keep fentanyl off the streets.

But it may be a few months before the Patch 4 Patch program will be up and running.

Sarnia Police Det. Const. Michael Howell recently told Lambton County councillors about

the program the city police and the Lambton OPP are introducing across the region.

Howell says fentanyl has become “a very serious problem in Sarnia-Lambton.”

“We have the same death rate (from fentanyl overdose) as London, which is three times our population,” says Howlett. “Fifty per cent of new methadone clients are fentanyl users.”

Fentanyl is a legitimate painkiller often given to people suffering from long-term illnesses or cancer. “Patches, when they are worn and used legitimately still retain 60 to 80 per cent of the original dose,”

he says.

Those used patches end up on the street, sometimes sold by legitimate prescription holders. “To abuse the drug you have to destroy the patch,” he says.

So the Patch 4 Patch program – which has been used in other communities with great success – forces prescription holders to return all of their used patches to receive the next batch.

If they’re selling them on the street, Howlett says it will become obvious. “If they abuse it there is nothing left for them to return.”

The officer says the Sarnia Police and the OPP are working with

doctors and pharmacists to roll out the program, although it is not clear how long that will take.

Howlett does add it is important all pharmacies and doctors are part of the program or the drugs will still make their way onto the streets.

Two Petrolia pharmacies say they have heard of the program and plan to be a part of it.

Steve Churchman of Hogan’s Pharmacy in Petrolia says they hope to have the program up and running by August.

Bob Newman of Lambton Pharmacy also plans to be part of it, but says he’s only heard

about the program so far from news reports. “It’s for the safety of everybody and it would cut down on the abuse of drugs for everyone,” says Newman. “We will certainly take part when it does happen.”

Newman says it will take coordination with doctors and guidance from his professional association, to make the program work.

“I applaud the policy’s intent. It will be good when all the parties are on the same page because certainly we recognize that fentanyl is a major drug of abuse now across the province.”

New health science centre at Lambton College a go

Heather Wright
The Independent

Lambton College will begin construction on its new Centre for Health Sciences in 2016 after the federal and provincial government committed \$10 million each to the project.

Sarnia-Lambton MPP Pat Davidson and Cambridge MPP (L) Kathryn McGarry were at Lambton College Wednesday to make the announcement.

Earlier this year, Lambton County Councillors committed \$5 million for the project when the feds and the province anted up.

The \$30 million Centre will bring students, faculty and researchers under one roof and include laboratories, meeting spaces and interactive learning studios for students in the health care fields including nursing, personal support workers and paramedics.

Judy Morris, president of Lambton College, was delighted with the news.

Morris says officials in Davidson’s office found a “small window of opportunity” in a grant for rural communities that

would allow community colleges to apply for innovative projects worth more than \$75,000.

The college had already been turned down for funding once but “we thought ‘what the heck’ and Pat Davidson’s people really challenged us to apply. They’ve been looking for a long time to help ...we made ourselves fit into the funding model.”

Morris says there is a lot of planning to be done before the shovel hits the ground in 2016.

The college has to raise the \$5 million needed to pay for the building Lambton College launched a fundraising campaign to pay for the new centre. It will also raise cash for an equipment fund and a student wellness centre which will be built at the same time as the health sciences centre.

While it’s a lot of work, Morris says they are excited for the future. “This is a game changer for Lambton College.”



Judy Morris

Notice of Public Community Meeting For a Project Proposal Under the Large Renewable Procurement



The proponent identified below is proposing to submit a proposal to the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) to design, build, and operate a Large Renewable Project for the generation of electricity under the IESO’s Large Renewable Procurement (LRP).

The LRP is a competitive process for procuring large renewable energy projects generally larger than 500 kilowatts. At the conclusion of the LRP, the IESO may award contracts for successful projects up to the specified procurement targets for each renewable fuel: 300 megawatts (MW) for wind, 140 MW for solar, 75 MW for waterpower, and 50 MW for bioenergy.

This notice is being distributed to notify members of the public of a public community meeting that has been scheduled to discuss the Large Renewable Project proposal. Information regarding the proponent, the Large Renewable Project proposal, and the meeting details are described below.

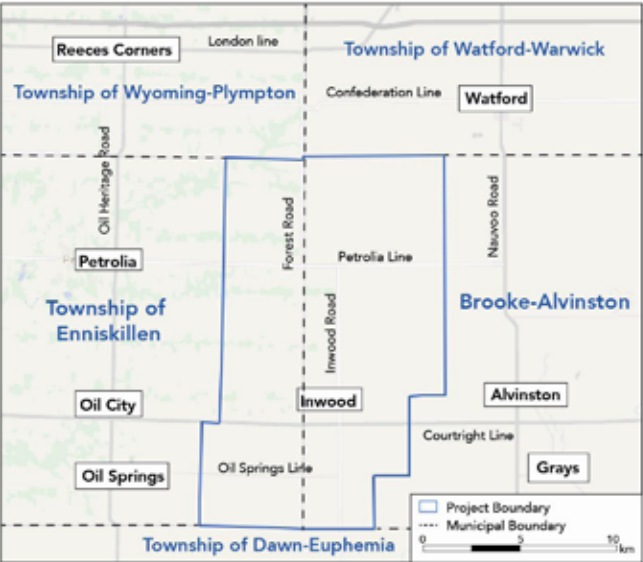
This public community meeting is being held as part of the early community engagement requirements of the LRP. The public community meeting will present details about the Large Renewable Project and its proposed connection line. Representatives of the proponent will be available to discuss the Large Renewable Project and the overall LRP process. Should this Large Renewable Project be awarded a contract, the Large Renewable Project would need to obtain all required permits and approvals and conduct any further required community engagement activities.

Further details regarding the LRP are available at www.ieso.ca/lrp.

Proponent and the Large Renewable Project proposal

Proponent:	Lambton Enerwind LP
Qualified Applicant from the LRP Request for Qualifications stage associated with the proponent:	Enerfin Energy Company of Canada Inc.
Name of the Large Renewable Project proposal:	Sydenham Wind Project
Renewable fuel of the Large Renewable Project:	On-shore Wind
Proposed capacity of the Large Renewable Project (MW):	Up to 100 MW
Proposed connection point of the Large Renewable Project:	N22W, N21W, L24L or L26L (Brooke-Alvinston)

Proposed location of the Large Renewable Project and proposed Connection Line Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston and Township of Enniskillen or Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston



Public Community Meeting information

Brooke-Alvinston Community Complex
3310 Walnut Street
Alvinston, ON N0N 1A0
Thursday July 30, 2015
6 pm-9pm

Contact information for the proponent

Sébastien Verzeni, Director
1-514-658-0934
sydenhamwindproject.enerfin@elecnor.com
Lambton Enerwind LP
2075 Boulevard Robert-Bourassa, Bureau 1105
Montréal, (Québec) H3A 2L1
Project Website: www.sydenhamwindproject.com

Enerfin Energy Company of Canada

TINY CHURCH



Cara Vosburg Photo

Members of the Cemetery Board at the Oil City Cemetery gathered to garden around the new replica of the 1881 United Church. It was built by John R. Wilson and brought to the cemetery just in time for Decoration Day. The original replica was pulled down two years ago after raccoons invaded it and damaged it beyond repair.

SENIOR OF THE YEAR IN BROOKE-ALVINSTON



Cara Vosburg Photo

Jim Hayter gets a congratulatory hug from his sister-in-law, Bernice Bindner, after he was named Senior of the Year. Mayor Don McGugan presented the award following a special Canada Day church service at the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre Sunday. McGugan describes Hayter as a man devoted to both his family and his community. Hayter joined the Alvinston Fire Department in 1973 and spent 15 years as Chief there. He served as the Ontario representative for the Canadian Volunteer Firemans' Association for nine years, and is currently deputy mayor. Hayter jokes that the award means he must be getting old. He thinks volunteering is a great thing and says he tries to do his part to help the community.

Questions about who pays what for radio system

Heather Wright
The Independent

Lambton's fire departments will be getting a new communications system, but not everyone is happy with the way the cost for it is being divided.

Right now, fire departments across the region are often not able to communicate with each other because of the range of equipment. St. Clair Fire Chief Walt Anderson who is the Lambton County Fire Coordinator says it is causing safety problems.

Spectrum Communications can build 14 towers across Lambton County and provide the bases for 23 fire stations in 12 communities for \$1.6 million.

The \$1.6 million won't be the only cost. Local fire departments have to upgrade the radios the firefighters carry and the municipalities are just now getting the costs for the total package.

Alvinston Deputy Fire Chief Kris Redick says the county has divided the original capital costs by 21 stations. Each municipality will pay the cost per station, plus additional funding to upgrade radios in the local department.

In Brooke-Alvinston's case, the township is looking at a bill of nearly \$170,000. The bill for the Inwood department is higher than Alvinston's because Alvinston has been replacing its radios with equipment which are compatible with the new system.

"We've been working with Spectrum for quite a few years," says Alvinston Chief Ron McCabe. "We knew since 2013 that Industry Canada was going to force this to happen...so we're at the point where we don't have to replace a lot of our radios."

Brooke-Alvinston Councillors voiced concerns

about the cost, saying the cost should be shared on a per capita basis instead of being based on fire halls. But it passed a motion of support for the new system, recognizing the need for it.

"There really is no choice here," says Mayor Don McGugan, "other than the money." McGugan plans to approach county council about the funding of the project.

Brooke-Alvinston may worry about their bill. However there are a number of municipalities paying more.

St. Clair Township, with six fire stations, has a \$565,000 bill. Lambton Shores would pay almost \$467,000. Plympton-Wyoming is facing a \$190,231 bill while Warwick will pay \$160,000, Petrolia will shell out \$108,000. Oil Springs' share comes to just under \$91,000 while Dawn-Euphemia would pay about \$87,000.

Florence sewage solution closer says CAO

The Independent Staff

Dawn-Euphemia hopes to have a firm plan for sewage treatment in Florence by the end of the year.

Several years ago, the Ministry of the Environment told the municipality some of its private sewage treatment systems were failing and sewage was getting into the storm drain system.

The municipality hired the consulting firm Parsons to investigate the alternatives as part of an Environmental Assessment. The consultants have come up with a number of solutions, some of which cost \$6 million.

But they're hoping to provide a lower cost solution for the village by using the private systems and sending the sewage also to a number of weeping beds in the community. That would allow the township to deal with the worst problems immediately and then phase the system in over a number of years to keep the cost down.

Administrator Mike Schnare says the Ministry of the Environment now says it is okay to look at that option – so the planning is moving ahead.

"A system that starts on the private property and then is collected there and

winds its way to a municipal system is doable and practical," says Schnare. "We didn't want to spend a lot of money pursuing a system they (the MOE) won't approve."

"We're trying to find a cost effective solution for Florence and to find a treatment of effluent because the private systems, some of them are failing and the lots - at least some of them - are too small for a new system."


Schnare hopes to have the study complete for council to consider the options this summer.

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The office will be **CLOSED**
Wednesday, July 29
and will **RE-OPEN**
Monday, August 10
Please note there will be no paper the week of August 3, 2015

The **Independent**
Serving Petrolia & Central Lambton

Canada's Great, Big Birthday Bash

There was food, music, games and fireworks all over Petrolia and Central Lambton on Canada Day



Mike and Demi Krall continue a 50-year tradition, barbecuing 250 half chickens for the Enniskillen Chicken Barbecue. Michael Hayter, 21 months, sinks his little teeth into some broasted chicken in Alvinston while Bob Lucan and Don Moore share stories while they eat dinner with Deltas Shea in Rutherford at the Firefighters Barbecue. And, there were fireworks, these in Petrolia where Lexi Morrissey and her dad, Kel, of Wyoming were among the thousands watching.



Friends Jorja Kelly, 7, and Ava Podolinsky, 8, enjoy the day in Alvinston. Cameron and Jacob Wild of Alvinston chase each other down a slide in their hometown where there was also a 4-On-4 Ball Hockey Tournament. And the Enniskillen Express entertained at Krall Park with a game against Corunna. Marty Oblak provided some of the musical entertainment in Petrolia.



Entertainment

Finding art wherever he looks

The Independent Staff

Henry VanKlinken says he could stop every five feet and find something new to paint.

While the Petrolia man still considers himself a hobbyist when it comes to painting, his first solo exhibit is now on display at Victoria Hall, courtesy of the Victoria Hall Art Advisory Committee.

VanKlinken can remember the first time he started drawing. His older brother was doing an oil pastel of his girlfriend and handed him the oils to do his own. By 12, he was producing paintings while travelling with his family in Holland.

But life, with four boys and a full-time job as an architectural technologist and later in building design and maintenance, was busy. While VanKlinken loved to paint, he didn't have time. He estimates he may have only produced five or six works.

But, his daughters-in-law found his work in a closet. "They said, 'Dad, you have to do something more than put them in the closet.'"

And so he started painting and learning about painting. VanKlinken would spend hours on YouTube watching artists paint, learning technique and "being inspired." He would find photos on the Internet or take his own on his travels or his daily trip to work. Later he would reproduce them.

"I could stop my car every five feet to find something to paint," he says adding the changing skies on his commute were a favourite subject. "There are so many skies I want to paint."

Recently, VanKlinken has turned his attention to birds. His friend, photographer Bill Combes, has been supplying him with bird pictures on a weekly basis, which VanKlinken uses for inspiration or to copy.

Combes suffers from Parkinson's and VanKlinken says the



Heather Wright Photo

Henry VanKlinken and Anna May Aldous hang Bear Creek for VanKlinken's "Pictures and Portraits" show at Victoria Hall.

proceeds of any of the bird paintings he sells at the Petrolia show will go to help fight the disease.

The Petrolia show exhibits all of VanKlinken's works to date, but it shouldn't be long before he will have more. Once inspiration hits him, VanKlinken says he gets lost in the art.

"If I start, sometimes I can't stop. I keep going and keep going and I don't want to go to work," says VanKlinken. "Sometimes, the oils are just the texture and consistency and you can't stop... when I get the feeling and get the flow, it (new paintings) can happen very quickly."

VanKlinken's work will be on display for the month of July during regular business hours at Victoria Hall and during Art in the Park July 10 and 11.

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2015

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LIVE MUSIC

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OPTIMIST BBQ

6:00 TO 11:00 PM

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LEAH GRANDMONT



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These ‘Women of Country’ were country when country wasn’t cool

Heather Wright
The Independent

When Callandra Dendias heard a then 13-year-old Leanne Rhimes belt out Blue, she was hooked.

Elicia MacKenzie loved musicals since she was a toddler, walking around her parents’ home singing all the lyrics to *The Little Mermaid* at the age of four. That love of music grew and eventually she discovered country. “My first concert was Shaina Twain.”

Now the pair join the cast of *From the Heart, The Women of Country* to sing the music they grew up loving.

Dendias is no stranger to Victoria Playhouse Petrolia. She’s done several shows at Victoria Playhouse Petrolia including *Country Sunshine* and is currently the theatre’s marketing manager.

In *From the Heart*, Dendias gets a chance to relive the days when she couldn’t wait to hear the latest song from Leanne Rhimes.

“She was my age and I was just really jealous...I taught myself how to yodel because she could do it,” she tells *The Independent*.

“This was back in the day before the Internet so you had to sit there watching CMT to catch your favourite person.”

“I would watch CMT and that’s how I became a country music fan; just so I could see more Leanne

Rhimes videos.”

“If there was a picture this big,” she says, holding her fingers just a few centimetres apart, “of Leanne Rhimes, I’d cut it out. My entire bedroom wall was just articles and photos of Leanne Rhimes.”

Dendias kept singing and eventually went to Sheridan College for Musical Theatre. For *From the Heart*, she will sing part of that great standard, Blue, honouring country greats such as Patsy Kline, Loretta Lynn, Anne Murray, Reba McIntyre and current favourites, like Carrie Underwood.

MacKenzie, on the other hand, didn’t start out as a diehard country fan. “I loved Disney. I think I remember my first Disney movie. I knew all the words to *Little Mermaid* and I would go around the house singing it when I was three or four years old,” she says.

Then her aunt introduced her to country and Patsy



Callandra Dendias



Elicia MacKenzie

Kline. “I grew up listening to her. My aunt used to have a CD and I would try to imitate her.”

“When I grew up, I knew I wanted to be a singer but I didn’t know where I wanted to go with it and I ended up taking a music theatre program.”

That took her to an unlikely audition – a CBC reality show called ‘How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria.’ MacKenzie won the competition to play Maria in *The Sound of Music* in Toronto.

Since then, she and Dendias have worked together in London, performing in *Shrek*.

Now, MacKenzie will also get to relive her childhood, belting out one of Kline’s songs. “It’s nice I get to sing one of the songs I used to imitate.”

And while both Dendias and MacKenzie are looking forward to singing the songs of the artists they grew up with, they love all of the music in the show.

Dendias adds the show will lead the audience through the changing history of country music. “Country music has become this glitzy world of big hair and wind machines,” says Dendias. “While back then it was just stand and deliver. It was all about the vocals and the storytelling.”

“And there still are those singers that do those wonderful storytelling songs,” says MacKenzie.

Kids can learn to act or play the violin

There are lots of opportunities for artistic kids to be active this summer.

Lambton Young Theatre Players will be hosting drama camps, acting workshops and a program which links young theatre buffs with seniors.

There are a number of Junior Players Drama Camps which run in July as well as an Elements of Acting Workshop for teens from 12 to 16.

“I’m very excited to be teaching Elements of Acting,” says Nancy Keys, artistic director. “This workshop will go far beyond our performance training programs and focus on the building blocks that every young actor needs to develop in order to take performance to a more meaningful

level. It’s going to be a challenging workshop getting into the nitty gritty of acting, and will definitely benefit the serious young actor.”

LYTP will also be hosting “When I was a Kid” a small touring show which will present their play in late August and September. For more information contact Keys at (519) 331-3338.

And the International Symphony Orchestra is holding a Summer Strings program for children over five. Adults are also welcome to attend the morning lessons which begin July 13. You can choose to play the violin or cello and instruments will be provided. Call the ISO office for more information at 519-337-7775.

activities that will connect participants to each other, the exhibitions, and to art, in fun and unique ways,” says Lisa Daniels, Gallery Curator. “The funding will also allow us to rent a bus for seniors who don’t have access to transportation to bring them into the gallery to participate in the program.”

Seniors art program planned for this fall

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Doggone it: Petrolia hosts 600 dogs at sanction show this weekend

Heather Wright
The Independent

Petrolia is going to the dogs – at least for one weekend.

Starting Friday, over 600 canines will be arriving at Greenwood Park for the Sarnia Kennel Club’s three-day-long 2015 Dog Show.

Marti St. Jean, vice president of the Sarnia Club, says dog handlers are travelling from all over North America for the event. “So far I have seven trailers coming in from London, Tillsonburg, Oshawa and Ottawa. There is someone coming from Mexico and one of our judges is coming in from out west.”

Some of the dog handlers – people who show others’ dogs professionally – will bring between eight and 10 animals to

the Petrolia competition. “This is all they do every week,” says St. Jean. “They do the circuit constantly, only going home to change clothes.”

The shows are important to breeders. As they earn points, the value of the dog as a breeder increases. St. Jean says “dog people” take the competitions – and the breeding of their animals – very seriously.

“Dog people are crazy,” she says with a laugh. “I once paid \$8,000 for a bitch.” The dog had to be shipped by air to St. Jean but when the plane landed, she was having a hard time finding her. “I almost had a fit.” It turned out the dog was in the VIP area for Very Important Pets.

St. Jean says some of the dogs arriving in Petrolia will be valued

at tens of thousands of dollars. And while human spectators are encouraged and welcomed, canine spectators are expected to stay home. St. Jean says American Kennel Club regulations prevent dogs, not in the competition, from being near the ring.

There will be competitions indoors at the arena and demonstrations outside. “There is even a drill team which will perform around the lunch hour,” says St. Jean.

The shows start at 9 am Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

File Photo

Shadow was in the winner’s circle at the 2012 Sarnia Kennel Club dog show with owner Stephanie Wilkins of Iron Pride Malamutes. Wilkins will be one of the handlers in Petrolia this weekend.



Enthusiasts pull together to form a new tractor pullers association in Ontario

Cara Vosburg
The Independent

The vintage tractors at Greenwood Park haven’t been sitting around and collecting dust. Their owners are tractor-pulling enthusiasts who came out to compete in the new Ontario Vintage Tractor Pulling Association’s (OVTPA) “Old Iron Pull.”

Dale Cooper, a member of the association which is only a year old, who has been competing in tractor pulls for about 10 years, says it’s a fun event and it provides a venue for using the vintage machinery. “It’s nice to get them out of the barn,” he says of the 1946 and 1954 Farmall M tractors he and his dad brought to the competition recently in Petrolia.

Tractors are divided into weight categories and classes before competitions begin. Stock class contenders drive tractors from 1959 and older, while the improved class allows tractors from 1972 and older.

Winners are determined by the farthest pull. Drivers are awarded points that are tallied up at the end of the season before an awards ceremony



and banquet.

This year the OVTPA has 11 local events, which will continue into the fall. OVTPA President Jim Bright says that it’s a good, tight community. They have been pulling together for years, even though the association only became official this year, he says.

The events allow antique tractor owners to enjoy their machinery

outside of a shed, give the public an opportunity to see vintage agricultural equipment, and provide support to smaller, local communities, says Bright. Men and women from Norwich, Leamington, Woodstock, Windsor, and many local communities registered at the event Saturday.

The association’s next pull is in Ridgetown, August 1.

Cara Vosburg Photo

Ardell Patterson competes in the 4500 lb. Stock Class with an Oliver 88 at Saturday’s Old Iron Pull in Greenwood Park. He achieves a full pull, with a distance of 321 feet and 6.84 inches.

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Fundraising
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Saturday, July 18

1 pm Shotgun Start
18 Hole
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Includes Cart & Steak Dinner
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Dr. Ekaterina Slipacoff

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The deadline to submit is
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We thank you for your interest but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



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Notices / Coming Events

STANDPIPE DEDICATION - Petrolia Heritage invites you to a brief public recognition ceremony at the Petrolia Standpipe Water Tower located on Centre St. Sat. July 18 at 10 am. As one of the most important civic developments in Petrolia's history, Petrolia heritage is pleased to have placed interpretive signage at this site with much appreciated assistance from the County of Lambton, CIMA+ and the Town of Petrolia staff.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL LETTER WRITING - Wednesday, July 8th from 7-8 pm. An hour of letter-signing/writing at DeGroot's Nurseries Green Room, 1840 London Line. To learn more about world human rights issues and sign pre-written letters on those topics and write one of your own if you wish. Share your concerns. Everyone welcome. Contact Peter: petersmith777ca@yahoo.ca or Thea: 6090thea@bell.net

Answers to this week's
Sudoku
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8	7	2	9	3	5	1	4	6
5	3	4	6	1	7	2	9	8
6	8	3	1	9	2	4	5	7
4	5	9	3	7	8	6	1	2
2	1	7	4	5	6	3	8	9
9	6	5	8	2	1	7	3	4
7	2	8	5	4	3	9	6	1
3	4	1	7	6	9	8	2	5

4110 Petrolia Line
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www.city-ins.com

Notices / Coming Events

150TH ANNIVERSARY of Van Tuyl and Fairbank Hardware - Friday, July 10 come and join us for tours, demonstrations, historic displays, souvenirs, prizes and fun! **Guided tours** starting at 11 am - 12 pm, 1 pm to 5 pm, 7 pm - 8 pm. 394 Station Street across from the Farmer's Market.

Lambton W.I. SCHOLARSHIP - Lambton Women's Institute is offering a \$500 scholarship. Available to those students who have graduated from secondary school and are entering either their first or second year of college or university in Ontario. Must be a Lambton County resident. Previous winners are not eligible. For criteria please contact Ann McGugan: amcgugan@hotmail.com. Applications are due Oct. 31, 2015.

BLACK GOLD FEST: Continue Oil Springs' 150th birthday celebrations at the Oil Museum of Canada, July 19, 1 - 4 pm. Take a horse-drawn wagon tour through an historic oil field. See model trains, a knitting demo, an interactive blacksmith demonstration, re-vamped Oil Springs gallery. Enjoy children's activities and a delicious slice of pie. Adults \$6, Seniors & Students \$5, Children \$4, Family \$18, Members \$1. 519-834-2840 or www.lambtonmuseums.ca

JNAAG - First Friday event on July 3 from 11 am - 9 pm. **Family Sunday:** July 5 from 1 pm - 3 pm - create 3D forms with your children. July 7-9, 11 am - 4 pm **The Power of Puppetry** (RAAW 2015). Come visit our current exhibitions throughout July. For more info visit www.jnaag.ca/plan-your-visit/calendar-of-events

PETROLIA YOUTH IDOL CONTEST - Join the fun and excitement in this 7th annual event hosted by the Rotary Club of Petrolia on **Saturday, July 11 @ 1pm - 3pm**. Entry forms can be picked up at TD Bank, OHDCC (Community Centre), M & M Meats, or Clouse Photo. All contestants who enter will receive a prize. Let your voice be heard: SING OUT! Prizes sponsored by Damar Security Systems. Contact Diane: 519-333-8029.

CHARITY BBQ - Friday, July 3, 11am-1pm at Mrs. B's Coffee-house, Brigden. Burgers, hot dogs and sausages, with Chefs 'Chez Leaper'. Proceeds to Brigden Parent Council.

The Oil Springs Volunteer Fire

Dept. invite you to help in celebrating, by taking part in the **150TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION PARADE** - July 18, 2015 starting at 11 am. There is NO ENTRY FEE, please come help us make this event a success. Entry forms available online at: oilsprings.ca

Wyoming Legion Dance - July 4, 2015 Saturday Dance to **PIERCE FAMILY** at the Royal Canadian Legion, 493 Erie St. Wyoming 8 pm to 12 am. All welcome. Info: 519-845-0072

JNAAG - Artist Talk: Shawna Reiter of CLUNK Puppet Lab on the **Power of Puppetry**. Exploring the relationship between puppeteer, puppet and audience. Wednesday, July 8 from 6 pm - 7:30 pm. For more info www.jnaag.ca/plan-your-visit/calendar-of-events

Plympton & Wyoming Agricultural Society BROASTED CHICKEN DINNER on Saturday, July 18, 5-7 pm at the Wyoming Fair Grounds. Tickets: Adults \$15, Children (6-10) \$8, pre-school - free. Tickets at the door or for more information contact Gary Atkinson @ 519-845-0302.

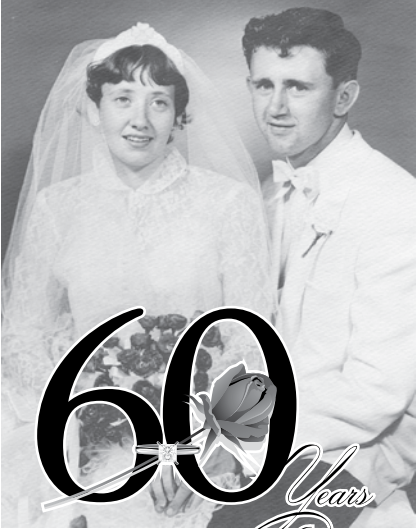
JNAAG - Reading out Loud, A forum on Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists? Session facilitated by Ottawa artist, Gail Bourgeois. Thursday July 9, 7 pm - 8:30 pm. For more info www.jnaag.ca/plan-your-visit/calendar-of-events

CAMLACHIE MUSEUM - Camlachie Museum will open on Saturdays during July & August from 10 am till 3 pm. Open on Sundays only in July from 1 until 3 pm. Three exhibits featured are **The Great Storm** of 1913, where losses included 3 ships in this local area. Our military exhibit features the **Private William Wright** story with his WW1 burial cross, plus artifacts from WW1, and WW2, and **Plympton's Early Settlers** - currently under construction.

ART IN THE PARK - Over 50 artists and artisans in Victoria Park, Petrolia. Live entertainment in the bandshell. **Friday, July 10: 11 am to 8 pm. Saturday, July 11: 9 am to 5 pm.** Free Admission. List of artists at www.artintheparkpetrolia.com


CLASSIFIED DEADLINE is Monday at 3pm for the current week's Independent. 226-738-0728

Life's Celebrations



The Children & Family of
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Invite you to join them as they celebrate the occasion of their
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Happy 50th Anniversary



Pauline & Lloyd Stokes

Amy Stokes would like to invite family & friends to an
Open House
to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of her parents to be held at the
Enniskillen Community Centre
(Old Oil City United Church).
Sat., July 11/15
from 1-4 pm
Best Wishes Only, Please.

Cards of Thanks
BANKS/GORMAN - Thank you for all the birthday cards. A big thank you to all who attended our birthday celebration and helped make it a memorable occasion.
Ruth and Frank

In Memory

BRANDON - In loving memory of a dear son and brother **Tom Brandon** who passed away 6 years ago on July 4th.

*As we loved you, so we miss you;
In our memory you are near.
Loved, remembered, longed for always,
Bringing many a silent tear.*

**Missed by Mom
Donna & Tom, Jim & Tara**

MITCHELL

In loving memory of Mildred Mitchell who passed away on **July 3, 1984** and **Gerald Mitchell** who passed away **August 9, 2007.**

We miss you both every day.
But your memories we keep
In our own special way.
We know you are happy in heaven together.
And know that you will be watching
Over all of us forever.
Sadly missed and never forgotten.

The Mitchell Family



Death Notices

June 25 to June 27, 2015

This information is provided as a community service. For detailed information, please refer to the funeral home website listing.

SATURDAY, JUNE 27
EWEN, Brian
Age 54, of Petrolia
Jay Needham Funeral Home - Petrolia

FRIDAY, JUNE 26
VOKES, Rozelle Charlene
Age 71, of Sarnia Township
Jay Needham Funeral Home - Petrolia

CALLAGHAN, Caroline
Age 72, of Petrolia
Jay Needham Funeral Home - Petrolia

NEWMAN, James "Jim" Russell
Formerly of Wyoming
Denning Funeral Home - Watford

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25
FINLEY, Rosalea
Age 87, of Dresden
Thomas L. Deburger Funeral Home - Dresden



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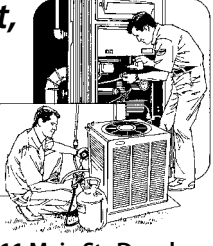
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Rain-soaked weekend? No problem say Lambton’s ham radio operators

Cara Vosburg
The Independent

“When all else fails... Ham Radio.” If you see these words printed on a bumper sticker on a car around Lambton County, there’s a good chance you’ve found a member of the Lambton County Radio Club (LCRC). And they proved it this weekend. Club members spent Saturday and Sunday participating in the Amateur Radio Field Day exercise, an event that’s been held annually since 1933. During the exercise, amateur radio operators across North America set up temporary ham radio stations in public places to demonstrate the capabilities of amateur radio. Last year, the event had more than 45,000 participants. The LCRC set up their temporary stations at Krall Park in Enniskillen Township Saturday, using tarps to shield their equipment from the rain and wind. The poor weather conditions added an element of authenticity to the day, showcasing ham radio’s “ability to work reliably under any conditions from almost any location and create an independent communications network.” Chuck Chivers, president of the LCRC, says the event gives them the chance to practise in “semi-austere conditions.” With the wind blowing and water on

the floor, Chivers says, “It’s not the comfortable chair in your basement.” Amateur radio operators in Lambton County have a formal role in the emergency communications plans for the county, province, City of Sarnia, and the local chapter of the Canadian Red Cross. “We can deploy our own equipment to help governments and municipalities to communicate,” says Chivers. When Internet and cell phone service is interrupted, amateur radio provides a method for communicating. Cell phone systems can become quickly overwhelmed and collapse when usage increases during an emergency, says Chivers. They have a small tolerance for influx, he says. In addition to demonstrating the science of amateur radio and its practical applications, the day also celebrates the fun of making contact with people in different geographic zones. The event has a competitive aspect, where operators log the number of different contacts they make and are awarded points. According to Vic Diccio, a ham operator from Kitchener-Waterloo who has friends at the local club, “There are a lot of facets to this.” Some members like the competitive aspect, some like to



Cara Vosburg Photo

Eric Manning and Fred Cady shelter inside a tent set up to house the equipment needed for one of the amateur radio stations Saturday. This station was operating in Morse Code mode, while others were set up for digital, voice, and low-power Morse Code. Morse Code has advantages to voice stations because you can reach farther distances on the same amount of power and you avoid language barriers, says Vic Diccio, amateur radio operator. build the specialized equipment, and some like being an operator, he says. The LCRC meets weekly for breakfast at The Bridge Tavern in Point Edward Sunday mornings and for lunch Wednesdays at Stokes Inland. Although a license is required to be a ham radio operator, anyone interested in the skill and science is welcome to join the club.



WIFI ON PETROLIA STREETS READY

SLICC employee Rob Stonehouse attaches equipment for wireless Internet in front of *The Independent* on Petrolia Line Tuesday. The company will provide free wireless service in the downtown as part of a deal which saw SLICC place a tower on the town’s water tower. It’s not clear when the service will be available. Users will be able to access free WIFI for 10 minutes at a time.

Heather Wright Photo



BOB’S BBQ

Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey held one of his two annual community barbecues in Petrolia, June 25. Hundreds of people came to take part in the free hotdogs and hamburgers and to have a chat with the MPP.

Heather Wright Photo

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