

The Independent

Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton

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SILVER STICK SALUTE



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

It is a Christmas break tradition in rinks across Lambton County - Regional International Silver Stick. In Petrolia, the dignitaries took the ice at the official opening of the Earle Trevail Midget Tournament. Nineteen teams from as far away as Fort Erie, Hagersville and Grey County were on hand for the four-day tournament. The winners were not available at press time.

The official no to High Park edibles

Heather Wright
The Independent

High Park Farms has been given the official no to producing edibles at its Enniskillen plant.

In September, the company applied to dedicate about 7,300 square feet to producing cannabis-based edibles including candy and chocolates inside the Lasalle Line greenhouse. It's zoned as agricultural. The move meant changes to the Official Plan and the Zoning Bylaw of the township to allow the value-added product to be made on the agricultural land.

Lambton County Planner Rob Nesbitt said at the time the production would be considered value added to agriculture and could move ahead.

On Dec. 3, when the cannabis producer went to council, two of the four members present disagreed, saying producing cannabis infused edibles was not a value-added item, it was a commercial activity.

When Councillor Wally Dunn moved to allow the production, there was no one else who agreed. The proposal wasn't voted on.

Enniskillen Clerk, Duncan McTavish, in a letter to Trevor Brand, a neighbour of the cannabis operation who is an outspoken critic of High Park, says that meant no formal decision was made.

Another vote was taken on Dec. 17, with all members of council present and the application was turned down, with Councillors Judy Krall, Mary Lynn McCallum and Chad Burke voting against the expansion.

High Park has 20 days to appeal the ruling to the Local Planning Advisory Committee.

Brand is relieved the expansion into edibles has been turned down. He says the company has yet to fix some of the concerns the neighbours have been raising for over a year.

One of the biggest irritants is the smell of cannabis coming from the greenhouse. Brand says there are periods where they are overwhelmed by the skunky smell.

The Brand's concerns were validated by Health Canada. In a letter to Brand, officials from Health Canada say the company was charged in late June because of the smell.

SEE CANNABIS PG 5

CEEH gets \$1.3 million from province

Heather Wright
The Independent

Bluewater Health has already started work on upgrades to elevators, a generator and sanitary sewers as well as a new boiler plant at Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital with \$1.3 million in funding given by the province.

Bluewater Health's Sarnia site will also get \$500,000 to replace a diesel tank.

Bluewater Health applied for \$5 million in exception circumstances funding from the Health Infrastructure Renewal fund to deal with some of the infrastructure problems at the hospital which is over a century old.

In April 2017, it had received a commitment from the Ministry of Health to invest millions into the aging hospital over the next 25 years. The first part of the funding was expected to be \$7.5 million.

But as the planning progressed it became clear there were significant issues with the building which needed to be addressed. Hospital officials at one point told Petrolia councillors the electrical system in the

hospital is so bad, if there were to be a problem it could take weeks to repair.

So, Bluewater Health applied for additional funding under the Hospital Infrastructure Renewal Program.

As first reported by The Independent, the province announced the funding Dec. 18 in news releases from Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey and Bluewater Health giving \$1.3 million of the \$5 million requested.

Officials expect more "exceptional circumstances money will be in the offing next year to deal with the electrical issues.

"Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital is over 100 years old and this jump-starts the redevelopment project," says Bluewater Health CEO Mike Lapaine in a news release.

"We are moving through the five stages to address the \$7.5 million commitment we've already received and we expect the next three stages to move quickly. This is exciting as we will see changes in Petrolia immediately."

Some of those changes can already be seen.

SEE HOSPITAL PAGE 5



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VPP ticket sales grow 1.4 per cent

Heather Wright
The Independent

It was another strong year for Victoria Playhouse Petrolia.

At the end of the season, 33,965 tickets were sold, up by 461 tickets over the year before.

In a report to council, Laurissa Ellsworth, director of marketing, arts and communications, says more seniors purchased single performance tickets this year, however there was a steep drop in the number of adults who went to a single show.

The number of people who went to all six performances of the summer run also dropped

slightly.

The VPP saw a marked increase in the number of tickets sold to groups - including bus tours. Just under 3,000 tickets were sold, up 25 per cent over 2018.

In all, VPP saw about a 1.4 per cent increase in ticket sales.

The extra tickets did bring in extra revenue but are not the full reason for the 3.5 per cent increase. The VPP increased the cost of reserve seats by 3.5 per cent in 2019.

Mayor Brad Loosley applauded the strong season saying taxpayers could be assured they are “not subsidizing the theater; it is paying its own way.”

Petrolia councillors turned off by idling bylaw

The Independent

Petrolia won’t stop people from idling their cars.

Town staff suggested the municipality look into a new anti-idling bylaw. Clerk Mandi Pearson says she’s been monitoring other municipalities over the last three to five years as they implement the bylaws. It came to a head in Petrolia after town officials were asked to intervene in neighbourhood disputes where neighbours were idling their vehicles to annoy the people next door “in

a vindictive way...we don’t have control over... leaving a car running for hours at a time; this helps with that.”

But several councillors, including Ross O’Hara, pointed out a bylaw without enforcement would not be helpful “if we can’t enforce the ones we have now.”

Pearson said any bylaw would enforce only when there was complaints, but Councillor Marty Souch believes “it would be more trouble than it is worth.” Council turned down the idea by a vote of 4-2.

Slow internet hurts Dawn-Euphemia service

Heather Wright
The Independent

Dawn-Euphemia Clerk Donna Clermont says poor internet service is hurting customer service.

That’s why she and Treasurer Scott Gawley are optimist about a proposal by Cogeco which would see fiber optic service come to the municipal office.

Much of the municipality struggles with poor service. Cogeco recently acquired infrastructure in the area and began testing on the current service in the area. Gawley says the internet speed at the office is currently 3.1 megabytes. Cogeco’s proposal would provide 30 MB.

The company would charge \$600 per month in a five-year contract. It would require \$20,000 of equipment but Gawley says that cash has already been set aside in reserve. The plan would

not only provide internet service, it would also provide phone service through the internet.

Clermont says staff often has to call residents back because there is so much static on the line they can’t hear them.

They also have to get back to them with answers to questions, particularly if it has to do with mapping, because often the internet will not allow staff to look at the documents needed.

“It is really to the point where it is interfering with customer service,” she says.

Gawley says the internet would be based at the municipal office but could be extended to the two buildings across the road. He says the fire department also needs better internet to use an app which dispatches volunteers.

Staff will study the deal further and bring it back to council during budget talks in late January.

Centennial needs roof fix

Heather Wright
The Independent

Watford’s Centennial Hall’s days may be numbered, but it needs some work before it closes.

Warwick Township is in the middle of planning for a new \$5 million hall attached to the Watford arena. Township council agreed to keep the hall open until the new community centre is ready.

At the Dec. 9 meeting, councillors heard the roof needs work. “The roof of the centennial hall has been leaking for an extended period of time and it is causing damage to the floor and ceiling in various places. A contractor was hired to inspect the roof and perform temporary fixes to minimize the leaking,” writes Andrew Maver, public works manager in a report to council.

“Tar was placed around all vents and around roof top unit that may have been the source of leaking. This may be enough to minimize leaking,” he says. “However, leaking may continue causing further damage to the structure.”

Mayer says the township could install tarps to minimize damage. That could cost about \$8,000, taking into account it may have to be replaced before the new hall is ready.

Instead, council decided to get three quotes on a repair job for the south side of the roof. Maver says that could be more than \$15,000.



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Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston is looking to fill a vacancy on the Committee of Adjustment effective February 3, 2020. As a member of this committee, you will review and make decisions on applications for severances and minor variances and other planning issues. The appointment is for a three year term.

Interested individuals should send a letter indicating their willingness to be appointed to the Committee of Adjustment. Attendance at meetings will be mandatory. You will be required to prepare for meetings on your time. Previous municipal or planning experience would be an asset.

Applications will be accepted until 12:00 pm on Monday, January 13, 2020 to the address noted below:

Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston
Attention: Janet Denkers, Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment
3236 River Street, P.O. Box 28
Alvinston, ON N0N 1A0
Email to: jdenkers@brookealvinston.com

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act and will be used for the purpose of candidate selection.



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Editorial

May 2020 be a year of growth

2020 has begun and few people have a crystal ball to see what this year and this decade have in store for us. Economist say 2020 is likely to be a good economic year, with most saying it is unlikely Canada will see a recession.

And there are some positive economic signs in Central Lambton; the province has turned on the tap for funding to the Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital redevelopment, giving \$1.3 million to work on some of the infrastructure problems right away. Officials hope there will be more of that to come next year as part of the province’s \$7.5 million commitment to move the century-old hospital into the future.

By the spring, Petrolia’s main street will see one of the biggest construction projects in decades as work begins on the Kingswell Hotel. Petrolia has long wanted a hotel to attract theatregoers to stay here longer. This is an important step toward it.

And, it appears the construction is part of a bigger movement downtown. A new brewery is set to open its doors and some specialty shops are thriving in the area.

Other Central Lambton communities are also seeing a revival. Alvinston has more businesses downtown than it has seen in years. Plympton-Wyoming and Warwick are taking concerted steps to improve their respective downtowns. Watford is poised to see some major investment as a private company partners with the municipality to revive an entire block of the downtown.

And federal and provincial grant money is beginning to trickle into the area - with a number of major recreation projects looking for cash in the coming weeks.

All positive signs. The only dark spot is the difficult year our agricultural community is coming out of. We can’t under estimate the economic impact of a horrible 2019 on our local economy.

The erratic weather, trade problems and strikes will mean less cash for farmers to spend. One estimate put the loss at over \$97 million to farm gate receipts.

Thankfully, the regional economy, though driven by agriculture, is diverse enough to withstand the storm.

We can only hope 2020 will be year of growth for all.

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*, 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



FROM THE DAVE BURWELL POSTCARD COLLECTION

A young man named Charles sent this post card of Petrolia to a young woman in California, marking the spot where he was parked writing the post card with an x - in front of the Bank of Nova Scotia. Charles tells Bertie he’s been having a good time and there are a lot of people downtown shopping.

A quiet welcome for the new decade - 2020

It seems obvious but it took endless numbers of “best of the decade” lists to remind me we’ve entered a new decade - 2020.

The 2010’s have slipped by and there has been little fanfare about the new decade. Certainly not like years past.

It seems like only yesterday we were concerned about the calendar flipping from 1999. It was the time of acid wash jeans and Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. Canadians were just getting used to the idea that Wayne Gretzky was no longer playing hockey and that the North West Territories was now Nunavut.

Many of us - including me - were wondering what the new year would bring as the specter of the dreaded Y2K reared its head.

Y2K, for those of you who weren’t alive yet, was a computer flaw many people worried would throw the world out of whack.

When computer programs were written in the 1960s, engineers used a two-digit code for the year. As 2000 approached, people worried the systems wouldn’t know what to do with 00 and could malfunction.

There were concerns of power outages and water plant failures. People filled bathtubs before heading out to New Years Eve parties, fearing something would go wrong.

I distinctly remember buying a kerosene heater for our chilly basement, not just to keep us warm while we watched TV, but to be an alternative heat source should something actually go wrong.

It didn’t. Our fears were basically unfounded.

Apparently, looking back, there was only one power plant in Japan that had a hiccup, but not a major problem.

For a while, the US thought some missiles in Russia were launched because of the Y2K bug - but as it turns out, they were training to take over Chechnya.

So much excitement with so few problems.

This year, there is little excitement and hopefully nothing more than a snowstorm or two to mark the arrival of 2020.



Heather Wright



The Independent

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HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Over 200 firefighters from across Ontario came to pay respect to Tanner Redick, 20, Dec. 18, a volunteer firefighter with Brooke Fire Rescue and a career firefighter with Six Nations.

Firefighters, family and friends say goodbye to FF#2

Heather Wright
The Independent

Firefighters from across the province, family and friends said goodbye to Tanner Redick.

The 20 year-old Alvinston man died in a collision with a combine Dec. 13 on Petrolia Line. Redick was a volunteer with Brooke Fire Rescue - who wore the number 2 and was a career firefighter with Six Nations.

Dec. 18, about 200 firefighters marched from the Alvinston hall to the funeral home where Redick was resting. Then Dec. 19, mourners filled the Brooke-Alvinston Inwood Community Centre to overflowing for his funeral.

The Alvinston station's Deputy Chief, Kris Redick, Tanner's uncle, urged Tanner's classmates from the Lambton Fire School, to "lean on each other" as they grieve for their friend. "Never loose that connection which is so strong now...also be present for each other."

Redick also shared stories about his nephew, whom college instructors and his current employer said was well on his way to being an exemplary



CHRYSTAL BRESSETTE PHOTO

Members of Six Nations Fire Emergency form an honour guard as the body of Tanner Redick is taken to the Alvinston cemetery on the back of the department's antique truck.

firefighter.

Redick had been keeping a close eye on his nephew while he was on probation, even calling to wake him when friend's feared he might sleep in.

Redick says even though his nephew had a career firefighting job, he still volunteered. He worked with his nephew for the last time during a fire

in Inwood. Five people were burned - three badly. Redick says Tanner had arrived on the first truck and worked to control the fire in the garage.

As Redick was giving him his next task, Tanner became impatient and said "'Let's (expletive) go, we've got work to do.' And he left, doing what needed to be done."

Cannabis plant expansions still a concern for neighbour

CON'T FROM PG 1

"Inspectors are currently reviewing responses from the licence holder and have requested that the licence holder provide a corrective action plan to address the escape of odours from greenhouses that maintain roof vents in the open position," says David Pellman director general of compliance with Health Canada in an email to Brand.

"The licence holder has indicated that in addition to the current filtration

system on site, it plans to install dehumidification and cooling system by February 2020, with the expectation that upon installation of the system, the greenhouse environment will be cooler therefore reducing the amount of time vents will be open."

"There are some ongoing issues, for me, they need to be cleaned up before expansion," says Brand.

But he says, even if High Park abandons its plans for edible

production - which would have created 40 new jobs - Brand says there are signs the company will continue to expand on Lasalle Line.

"The company has fenced the property completely," he says. "You don't fence in 100 acres unless you're going to grow (cannabis) outside and I'm worried it is going to exacerbate the problem." High Park has never said publicly it has plans for outdoor production on Lasalle Line.

Hospital renovations already underway at CEEH

CON'T FROM PG 1

Neighbours around the hospital received a letter in November saying there would be construction around the hospital until March.

Backhoes have already been at work behind the hospital as preparation for the work began in early December.

"I am extremely pleased that our government is making this important

investment in the renewal of CEE Hospital," says Bailey noting CEEH has an important role to play in the health care system of all of Lambton County.

"Today's \$1.89 million investment at Bluewater Health and Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital is another step in our government's plan to build a connected and sustainable public

health care system around the needs of patients, which includes investing \$27 billion over 10 years in hospital infrastructure."

The announcement was one of dozens across the province.

Health Minister Christine Elliott announced \$175 million to invest in 131 hospitals across the province.

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STOP SITTING STAND MORE

Ironically, health professionals have been saying that sitting is the "new smoking." Sitting less and standing more is significant in improving back health.

PRIORITIZE SLEEP

Getting a good night's rest is crucial to achieving optimal health. If you're experiencing back pain, it could be a sign you aren't getting proper sleep.

SEEK TREATMENT

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HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

McKenna Morrison of Camlachie is deep in concentration preparing her cow for judging at the Plympton-Wyoming Fall Fair.



Firefighters look for another way into a burning Garden Crescent home after a fire alarm installed.



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Lights with messages to cancer survivors lined the LCCVI track for the first Relay for Life in Petrolia.



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS

A crowd of more than 100 people gathered at the corner of Albert and Birchbank in Corunna to say goodbye to their crossing guard, John Wilson in November.



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

It was the end of an era in October at VanTuyl and Fairbank as the oldest independent hardware store in Canada closed its doors after 154 years. Owner Charlie Fairbank greeted former customers and friends on the



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Below, Petrolia/North Enniskillen firefighters crouch in a Petrolia Line home during a training exercise Aug. 13. By the time the firefighters left the building, the temperature had reached 1200 degrees



BONNIE STEVENSON PHOTO

Fans of the RCMP Musical Ride were thrilled to get an up close and personal look at one of the 34 horse and riders after the show at the Brigden Fairground in July.



Students from Queen Elizabeth II, Ecol... Gimple as Remembrance Day is marked



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

ome Feb. 27. Fire officials say the blaze likely started as a hot water heater was being



Left, Two people were taken to hospital after a car smashed into the side of the Tim Hortons in Reece's Corners in April. Brooke Sinclair, 17, was inside the restaurant when it happened. "It was scary, everyone in the store rushed outside, just to watch him hit a tree as he jumped the curb and went into the fence."

DAWSON CURRIE PHOTO



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

e Hillcrest and St. Philip's stand silently as the last post is played by Dan
ed in Petrolia's Victoria Park Remembrance Day.



MARIANNE VANDERSPEK PHOTO

While many people hunkered down inside as the temperature dropped below -25, photographer Marianne VanderSpek and her husband, Pete, spent time outside turning hot water into instant snow and interesting pictures in February.



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Ten fire trucks paid tribute to Tanner Redick - a member of the Brooke Fire Service and the Six Nations Fire and Emergency Service - at the Alvinston Santa Claus Parade Dec. 14. The young volunteer firefighter died in an accident on Petrolia LIne. Redick's helmets were placed on the lead truck in tribute to his service.

Sports

Burton now a Radar

The Independent

One of the Petrolia Squires stand-out players is now playing with the Clinton Radar's.

Brad Burton announced after the Squire's annual Turkey Night that he would be joining the Squire's rivals to close out his career.

In a Facebook Post, the 33 year-old left-winger - a native of Wingham -says he will hang up his skates hopes to win a championship with the Radars, who

are fourth in the league.

Burton has been with the Squires since 2014. He says he was allowed to grow as a player and try new things which increased his love of the game.

"Through the winning and the losing it was still a place I enjoyed being because off the ice it was always a bunch of great guys," Burton says. "I will don new colours to the finish, but the black, green and gold will be enshrined in me for eternity."

REBOUND FOR REBOUND



BRUCE SMITH PHOTO

LCCVI kept pace with the Wolfpack during a charity game. The Lancers lost 57-54 to Great Lakes in the Rebounds for Rebound Charity match before the Christmas break. Brett Hecimovich went up for the rebound. Trevor Syer was LCCVI's top scorer with 28.

SILVER STICK CELEBRATION



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

The East Lambton Eagles claimed the PeeWee C title at the Watford Regional Silver Stick, beating Alymer 4-1. It was the first regional final of the tournament's 60th anniversary. The grandson of founder Roy Caley, Ryan Bork, accepted the championship banner.

Watford Silver Stick celebrates #60

Heather Wright
The Independent

For 60 years, Christmas and hockey have been linked together in Watford.

This year the Roy Caley Memorial Watford Regional Silver Stick PeeWee and Bantam celebrates its diamond anniversary.

International Silver Stick Hockey was the brainchild of Jack Kinsella who thought of the idea what at an exhibition game between Potsdam, New York and the Bantam Woodroffe Cardinals from Ottawa West in 1956. Kinsella decided a return match should be setup to promote the game and foster "goodwill" between the two countries.

The test match was successful, so in Feb. 1958, the first tournament was held. That led to the expansion of Silver Stick into regional tournaments. Roy Caley – a Watford resident who

worked the sports desk for CHOK Radio – went to Port Huron for a tournament and brought the idea back home. The tournament has had a good base of volunteers, many of whom attended the 60th Anniversary banquet Dec. 18. Two of the long-time tournament workers are Joe and Cathy Rombouts.

Joe – who has been working with the tournament committee for about 40 years - likes being at the arena early in the morning, greeting coaches and making sure the dressing rooms are ready for the teams coming to play.

Over the years, Joe has travelled to International Associations. "I was in Florida and I saw someone and they said to me 'I played in your tournament 30 years ago.'"

That comradery is why the Rombouts help. "I love the people and it is surprising how many you meet and



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Joe Rombouts presents a championship banner to Ryan Bork, the grandson of the tournament's founder, Roy Caley. The Watford regional is 60 years old.

then you meet them again the next year," says Cathy.

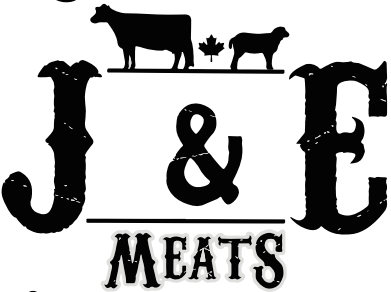
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A Year in Sports

A look at some of the big plays and the great photos of 2019



Daniel Gibson, left, and Braeden Nickles, right, celebrate as the Petrolia Midget Reps break a 1-1 tie in the Regional Silver Stick Final against Wallaceburg in Petrolia in January.



Carson Peer moves some earth in the junior boys long jump at SWOSSA in Chatham in June.



Penalty kicks were not kind to the LCCVI Lancers in high school soccer playoffs. LCCVI and John McGregor slipped by the Lancers boys 2-1 on penalty kicks in the Lambton-Kent final.

PHOTOS BY BRUCE SMITH AND HEATHER WRIGHT



Football returned to LCCVI in 2019 with a Junior squad on the field. The Lancers took on St. Pat's in the Homecoming Game.

Noah Myers, below, is presented with a custom bat by Jason Helps marking the moment the Toronto Blue Jays drafted him in June. Myers success was marked at Canton Park.



Caity Frew keeps a close eye on the birdie during the Lambton-Kent Secondary School Athletic Association play in April.



Dray Pepper goes up for a shot and squints in a mass of arms as LCCVI wins the Jr. Boys Lambton-Kent title



The rodeo returned to Alvinston in June. The weather was fine Friday but heavy rain led to a mucky Saturday and Sunday.

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Classifieds



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In Memory



In loving memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather and friend.

Antonio Libreiro
May 28, 1942 - January 6, 1992

*I believe there are Angels among us,
Sent down to us from somewhere up above.
They come to you and me in our darkest hours,
To show us how to live,
To teach us how to give,
To guide us with a light of love.*

Sadly missed and lovingly remembered by Bea Joe, Bernadine, Tony, Emma & Jesse Mike, Maria & Alyssa

Thank you



The family of Jeannette Duquette would like to express their sincere heartfelt thanks to the staff of Lambton Meadowview Villa for their care and attention over the last ten years.

A very special thank you to the medical, nursing and support staff for the outstanding care and compassion provided to Mom as well as us, her children, during the week she spent at CEE.

To Amanda, Heather and Kellsie, for the wonderful eulogy, Marie, Rachel and Kyla for the especially beautiful singing and music. Mom would have been so proud.

And last but not least to everyone who supported us, with your presence, at the visitation and funeral, your monetary donation to CEE Hospital Foundation, Lambton Meadowview Villa, 4H, and for the flowers and food, we are forever grateful.

It was a beautiful send off for a very special lady.

Anne Marie, Randy, Barb, John, Carol, John, Michael, Judy, Judith Anne, Derek, David, Melissa and families

**PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF PLYMPTON-WYOMING**

Please be advised that the Town of Plympton-Wyoming 2020 Draft Budget and the Water/Sewer Rates By-law will be considered for adoption at the Council Meeting to be held **Tuesday, January 7th 2020** commencing at **10 a.m.** in the Plympton-Wyoming Council Chambers. If needed, a second date for further consideration will be held on **Thursday, January 9th 2020** commencing at **5 p.m.**

Please monitor the Town's Website for any updates.
Copies of the draft Budget and By-law will be made available upon request before and/or at the Council Meeting.
For any questions or additional information, please contact:

Erin Kwarciak, Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming
(519) 845-3939
ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca
www.plympton-wyoming.ca

Wanted

Farmland - Younger Farm family looking for an opportunity to moderately expand cash crop acres by sharecrop, rent or lease. **Competitive Rates.** Please call Shawn at Font Farms **519-384-2855.**

Wanted

WANTED TO BUY - Old items - cameras, bottles, sealers, insulators, razors, pottery, toys, Coleman lanterns, sports items, comic books, jewelry, watches, license plates, early furniture, signs, advertising, pens, musical instruments, radios, Shelley china. **Call Chad Howlett 519-639-9102.**

For Rent

4670 CHURCHILL LINE - near Wyoming 3 bedroom house. Central air, additional charge for pets. Available Jan 1, 2020. **\$975/ Month.** Grass & Snow Removal included. Cal 519-383-4404.

Apartment for Rent

4152 PETROLIA LINE Petrolia - 1 bdrm, balcony. Additional monthly fee for pets. \$590. plus utilities. **Call 519-383-4404**

Upcoming Events

PETROLIA ENNISKILLEN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING - Tuesday, January 13th at 6:30pm. Lions Hall, Petrolia. For more info contact Doug at 519-882-1055.



**for all classified ads is
Monday
at 12 noon**
for the paper that prints
and distributes Wed-Thurs

Thank you



A note of thanks to all who helped me, when I fell Saturday, at Hogan's. To the man with the calm reassuring voice, the lady with the red hat, and our own awesome Paramedics (I didn't get your names and don't know whether I even thanked you) and to Marsha Boyd who picked up Robb, I thank you all. What a wonderful world we live in. Merry Christmas!

Carol Huff

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FIREARMS WANTED FOR FEBRUARY 8th, 2020 LIVE & ONLINE AUCTION: Rifles, Shotguns, Handguns, Militaria. Auction or Purchase: Collections, Estates, Individual Items. Contact Paul, Switzer's Auction: Toll-Free 1-800-694-2609, info@switzersauction.com or www.switzersauction.com.

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GET UP TO \$50,000 from the Government of Canada. Do you or someone you know Have any of these Conditions? ADHD, Anxiety, Arthritis, Asthma, Cancer, COPD, Depression, Diabetes, Difficulty Walking, Fibromyalgia, Irritable Bowels, Overweight, Trouble Dressing... and Hundreds more. ALL Ages & Medical Conditions Qualify. Have a child under 18 instantly receive more money. CALL ONTARIO BENEFITS 1-(800)-211-3550 or Send a Text Message with Your Name and Mailing Address to (647)560-4274 for your FREE benefits package.

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Monday @ 12 noon



Thank you

Thank you...

The Family of Frauke (Fran) Stockklausner would like to thank all of her wonderful friends for their kindness and support during our time of sadness.

The Stockklausner Family

The Family of Frauke (Fran) Stockklausner would like to thank the owners Mike and Maxine of Fiddicks Nursing Home in Petrolia, and the nurses and caregivers who took such good care of her during her stay.

Your care and attention meant so much to Fran and to all of us.

The Stockklausner Family

Calendar

PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM
DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Events are listed FREE for non-profit groups in Petrolia and Lambton County (space permitting).
To be included in this listing email the required information to office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca Subject: FREE EVENT LISTING.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
Jan 3	4:30-6:30pm	Watford	Trinity Anglican Church Spaghetti Supper Adults \$10, Kids \$5 - Take Out Available	519-876-3824
Jan 6	12:30p	Alvinston	Seniors Pot Luck Dinner at the Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Jan 7	9:30am	Camlachie	Coffee & Conversation at the Camlachie United Church. Topic: Your thoughts and needs during your grief journey	519-869-2102
Jan 7	7pm	Pt.Edward	Bluewater Anglers - Winter Meeting at the Point Edward Arena & Community Centre 210 Monk St.	
Jan 10	6pm	Watford	Watford Legion Meat Raffle/Catch the Ace	519-876-2360
Jan 10	7pm	Petrolia	St.Philips Parish Card Parties	519-882-4840
Jan 11	9am	Petrolia	The Lambton Outdoor Club is hiking at Lorne Henderson Conservation Area. www.lambtonoutdoorclub.org	
Jan 11	1pm	Petrolia	Euchre at St. Paul's United Church from 1-4pm \$5/person. Door prizes and light lunch.	
Jan 14	7pm	Sarnia	Bluewater Chordsmen Guest Nights at All Saints Anglican Church, corner of Charlotte & Vidal	226-402-3060
Jan 15	9:30am	Camlachie	Bible Study Group at the Camlachie United Church. No registration required. Discusses about The Book of James	519-899-4720
Jan 15	1-4pm	Petrolia	Kenny J & Friends Musical Jumboree at the Petrolia Legion	519-882-1557
Jan 17	6pm	Watford	Watford Legion Meat Raffle/Catch the Ace	519-876-2360
Jan 18	9am	Sarnia	The Lambton Outdoor Club is hiking at Perch Creek in Sarnia. www.lambtonoutdoorclub.org	

CLUBS AND REGULAR EVENTS

DAY	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
2nd Mon	7:00p	Petrolia	Margaret Stokes Chapter IOOE Meeting	519-882-2073
2nd Tues	7:00p	Petrolia	Meadowview Villa Card Party	519-845-1198
3rd Wed	1-4pm	Petrolia	Kenny J & Friends Musical Jumboree @Pet Legion	519-882-1557
3rd Thurs	7:00p	Oil Springs	Optimists Meat Bingo @ The Youth Centre	519-834-2152
Mondays	1:15p	Oil Springs	Social/Euchre @ Oil Springs United	226-307-0929
Mondays	7:00p	Watford	Watford Legion - Fun Darts	519-876-2360
Tuesday	4:30p	Petrolia	TOPS Weight Loss Support @ Meadowview Villa	
Tuesdays	7:00p	Watford	Watford Legion - Progressive Euchre	519-876-2360
Tuesday	7:00p	Petrolia	Petrolia Toast Masters @ St.Andrews	519-882-0946
Weds	7:30p	Oakdale	IOOF Euchre Card Parties @ Oakdale Hall	
Thursday	11am	Sarnia	Parkinson's Exercises @ Strangway Centre	519-337-5330
Thursdays	5:30p	Petrolia	Lions Meat Raffle @ Haywood's	519-882-8728
Thursdays	6:00p	Petrolia	Optimists Meat Raffle @ Crabby Joe's	519-882-1255
Thursdays	6:30p	Petrolia	Petrolia Legion - Dart Night	519-882-1557
Thursdays	7:00p	Watford	Watford Legion - Cribbage	519-876-2360
Fridays	9:00a	Brigden	Brigden United Church - Mom & Tots Drop In	519-892-3151
Fridays	6:00p	Watford	Watford Legion - Meat Raffle & Catch the Ace	519-876-2360
E/O Tues	12noon	Wyoming	P-W Agricultural Society Lunch & Euchre	519-845-3661
E/O Fri	7pm	Oil Springs	Srs. Card Parties @ United Church	519-882-4697

Thank you



Thank You

The Legacy Lappers FUNdraising Team would like to thank all the great businesses and people who have supported us in 2019.

We have been able to bless 14 families with a few 'extras' as they battle cancer.

Church DIRECTORY

Christ Church Anglican

414 Oil Street, Petrolia

Service at 11am

Coffee & Fellowship after 11am service, All are welcome!

Rev. Michelle Collins-Wongkee

Church Office 519-882-1430

 christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com

St. Paul's United Church

4169 Petrolia Line at Centre Street

Rev. Susan Cameron

10:30am Service

Nursery • Sunday School

Church Office: 519-882-1390

stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net

First Baptist Church

418 Greenfield Street, Petrolia

10:30 am Church Service

Pastor: Alex Craig

Church Office 519-882-2480

email: fbcpetrolia@gmail.com

www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca

Find us on Facebook!

 www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

416 Queen Street, Petrolia
(Behind the Post Office)

10:00 am - Worship

Church School • Nursery

Coffee & Fellowship After Service

www.standrews-petrolia.ca

Wyoming United Church

730 Second Street, Wyoming

Join Us for Worship - All are Welcome

Sunday Worship 11am

Sunday School 11am

Rev. Carey Wagner

Church Office 519-845-3963



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HONOURING SENIORS OF THE YEAR



PHOTO CREDIT

Two familiar faces were honoured as Warwick Township’s Senior Citizens of the Year. Joe and Cathy Rombouts who have been organizers with Roy Caley Memorial Silver Stick Hockey Tournament for decades. The couple was overcome with emotion when Mayor Jackie Rombouts announced the award at the Silver Stick 60th anniversary banquet Dec. 18. Joe simply held his finger to his lips unable to speak and Cathy was in tears. Days later, the pair were still emotional about receiving the award. “It was a total shock,” says Cathy. “I’m not that kind of person. (Awards) are not why we do things.” Aside from being a constant presence behind the scenes at Silver Stick, Rombouts has also been active in minor sports including hockey and baseball in the community.

More grants cut

It’s bad, but not as bad as they thought.
Dawn-Euphemia council has finally received word about its Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund grant. The grants were announced in November, however Dawn-Euphemia’s was not announced because Ministry of Finance officials were still analysing the township’s numbers.
Treasurer Scott Gawley says Dawn-Euphemia will receive \$334,100 - a 14.8 per cent decrease from the year before. That’s about \$58,000 less to spend.
It’s part of a five year trend which has seen rural municipalities lose millions as the province phases out part of the grant. Mayor Al Broad says it is disappointing, however it was not as bad as expected. Gawley believed the township would lose \$65,000.

Petrolia Discovery, Oil Springs among grant recipients

Heather Wright
The Independent
Petrolia Discovery is one of the Central Lambton organizations getting a helping hand from the Creative Counties fund in 2020.
The committee announced over \$71,880 in funding for 21 projects before Christmas.
Discovery will use \$7,850 to renew displays, create new signs and buy new lighting and audio equipment.
Fairbank Oil Fields received \$7,500 to be used to help host the International Industrial Heritage Conference in the area this spring.
Brooke-Alvinston received \$2,800 to develop a professional cooking program. The municipality also received \$1,000 to help promote the Fair ambassador program in its 10th year.
Oil Spring’s Family Funfest gets a big boost with a \$3,000 grant from Creative Counties.
More signs will dot the former hamlets of St.

Clair Township, thanks to a \$1,500 grant.
The Alvinston Arts and Music Festival will create additional programming for the yearly event with \$1,300 in grant money.
The Moore Agricultural Society is starting a new program called “Music - The Universal Language.” It’s received \$10,000 for the program.
Plympton-Wyoming’s Historical Society will have \$2,000 to put up historical murals in the municipality.
And Daytripping Magazine will produce a mural recognizing artist Barbara Perrin. The magazine has received \$4,500 for the project.
The Lambton County Plowing Match received \$3,000 to promote its 100th Anniversary.
In all, officials estimate the organizations receiving funding will spend almost \$300,000 on cultural events in Lambton County with the help of the grants. The next grants will be handed out in the fall.

Convention cash up

Brooke-Alvinston council members will have a little more money to spend on conferences in 2020.
At the Dec. 12 meeting, council passed a bylaw which will keep their meeting pay the same as before but increases the amount which can be claimed for conferences.
In 2019, the mayor could spend up to \$1,500 and councillors \$1,000. But Mayor Dave Ferguson says the cost of conferences and the travel to get there is increasing and the allowance covers just one event. Often the registration and hotel room alone take up the yearly allowance.
In 2020, the mayor will have \$2,500 a year to spend and councillors will have \$2,000.
Council discussed the idea of raising its meeting pay as well, however decided against the move.

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news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca or send it by mail to
4156 Petrolia Line, Petrolia, Ontario N0N 1R0

did you have a new addition to the family in 2019?

get ready to brag, we will feature the “Babies of 2019” in our January 23rd issue.

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Babies of 2019

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deadline for submission will be Thursday, January 20, 2020