

Former Petrolia CAO got \$10,000 retirement payout

Heather Wright
The Independent

Manny Baron may have been shown the door at Petrolia Town Hall, but he left with an extra \$10,000 in his pocket. After 26 months of appeals under the Freedom of Information Act - just two hours before the Information and Privacy Commission adjudicator's deadline for turning the information over - The Independent has obtained the three-page agreement that ended the former chief administrator's employment with the town which reveals the cash. Petrolia council announced Baron's resignation Nov. 17,

2017 after an independent investigator filed his report about Baron's activities. John Fleming was called in to investigate after *The Independent* revealed Baron owned two buildings which were being used by the town - a house which served as a youth centre and a warehouse which was to be leased to the municipality for storage. Baron bought the buildings with a numbered company and never told council about his investment. Town staff helped renovate both buildings and kept the grounds up around the youth centre. Baron received at least \$5,000 in rent for the centre. **SEE BARON PG 2**



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

A transport drops off more biosolid fertilizer on Hale School Road. The Buurma family, which also owns Lasalle Agri, appears to be stockpiling the fertilizer which is made from human waste in Dawn-Euphemia.

Biosolids must be moved: Broad

Heather Wright
The Independent

Greg Roberts is concerned about the mountain growing near his home. The Dawn-Euphemia man has been watching as a mound of fertilizer made of human biosolids has grown into what he calls a mountain. It is far too big of a pile, he says, to be used on the property - "They would need a bulldozer to

spread it." And Roberts is worried it is too close to a sensitive water course - Longs Creek - which is along the property line. "I'm just worried it is going to get into the wells," says Roberts. He's not the only one concerned. Dawn-Euphemia Mayor Al Broad has been watching the pile grow, too. And residents have also been voicing concern. **SEE BIOSOLIDS PG 3**

TAKING A STAND



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

LCCVI teachers Joel Campbell, Krista Mueller and Jessica McKay walk the picket line with hundreds of other Lambton County teachers Tuesday in front of the Lambton-Kent District School Board office in Sarnia. Three of the four teachers unions held a one-day strike in the Lambton-Kent district leaving only French public students in the classroom. The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario is planning another one-day strike to back contract demands Thursday. ETFO and the province met for three-days of negotiations last week, but the talks broke off. Union officials say the province wanted the elementary teachers union to agree to cuts to special education, something they could not do. ETFO has said it will continue its Thursday walkouts indefinitely. **For more on the labour dispute see page 5.**



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AN AUDIENCE WITH OIL SPRINGS OLLIE



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Oil Springs Ollie - a groundhog from Heaven's Wildlife Centre near Edys Mills - met with his fans at the Oil Museum Friday during a special program on a professional development day. The weather prognosticating rodent was gearing up for his official forecast on Feb. 2 - Groundhog Day. Ollie travelled to Sarnia, did not see his shadow and predicted an early spring.

Baron walked away with \$10,000

CON'T FROM PG 1

At one point, when asked directly about the ownership of the building, he told council it belonged to local developer Horst Richter.

After the stories were published in late October, Baron was suspended and Fleming was brought in to investigate. The details of what he found have not been revealed. The same Information and Privacy Commission adjudicator who ordered the town to release the resignation agreement Baron drafted and the town council signed, also said the Fleming report was part of Baron's work record and did not have to be released.

The resignation agreement says the former CAO received two weeks salary plus 15.17 days of accrued vacation time totalling \$6,675.47. It also provided Baron with a "retiring allowance" of \$10,000.

Under the Ontario Employment Standards Act, when an employee is terminated, the employer is not required to give any sort of extra pay if the employee is "guilty of wilful misconduct, disobedience or wilful neglect of duty that is not trivial and was not condoned by the employer or ...because the contract of employment is impossible to perform or has been frustrated by an unexpected or unforeseen event."

Current council members Ross O'Hara and Grant Purdy were part of the council which approved the payment. Neither could recall the conversation around why the payout was given.

Purdy added even if he could remember what happened when Baron's resignation was discussed, he couldn't speak about it because it was dealt with in camera.

Mayor Brad Loosley was among the majority of candidates in the 2018 election who voiced concerns about Baron's dismissal and the lack of information surrounding it.

But when contacted Tuesday to comment on the retirement allowance, Loosley had little to say.

"I'm uncomfortable commenting because I wasn't there," he told *The Independent* adding that generally "when it is proven people are guilty, it certainly should have an

impact on negotiations (for resignation.)"

The resignation agreement says Baron must cooperate with the town and its lawyers about his work or "any public hearing, arbitration proceeding or legal proceeding in connection with matters arising during his former active employment."

The town and Baron agree to keep the severance confidential, unless ordered to release it under the Freedom of Information Act. Only one of the 11 clauses of the agreement was completely blotted out at the request of the adjudicator.

Baron was charged with breach of public trust in 2018, but the charge was withdrawn after he took part in a Direct Accountability Program where he admitted an "administrative error" and gave \$1,000 to charity as restitution.

Baron was hired by the Township of Mapleton two months after he resigned. The mayor of Mapleton said he had talked to then Petrolia Mayor John McCharles about Baron's departure from Petrolia and believed this newspaper's reporting of the issue "was twisted."

Baron did not speak with *The Independent* at the time of his release. He did talk to The Wellington Advertiser about the events which led to his resignation.

"There's no doubt at the time I was in direct conflict of interest in the sense that council was unaware that I owned the building – ah, buildings," Baron told the paper.

"However, I can assure you that the town was not out money.

"They didn't pay me rent on a monthly basis. They paid their portion of the utilities. They did pay first and last, but did their own leasehold improvements.

"Apart from that, I personally went and got donations to cover the expense of the youth centre and the seniors centre so the town wasn't out any money, which in hindsight I wish I had told council at the time, but here we are now."

The youth centre has since closed and Baron has sold both buildings.

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Elementary teachers want help with volatile students

Heather Wright
The Independent

Concerns for violence in the classroom, not cash are driving elementary teachers to the picket line says one union head.

Classrooms Petrolia and Central Lambton were silent Tuesday as elementary, secondary and English Catholic teachers walked out of the classroom for a one-day strike to back contract demands.

Elementary teachers - both public and Catholic - across the province walked off job while the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation authorized a number of school boards, including Lambton-Kent, to hit the bricks as well.

And Thursday, elementary teachers will be walking the line again instead of teaching classes. It follows a walkout Jan. 30 by public elementary teachers.

It's all part of escalating job action to put pressure on the provincial government in contract negotiations.

All four major teachers unions are in negotiations and it hasn't been going well.

The Ford government has repeatedly said the teachers simply want more money than the one per cent salary increase all public servants in Ontario will get this year.

Lambton-Kent Elementary Teachers Federation of

Ontario President Laurel Liddicoat-Newton says that's only a very small part of the teachers' concerns.

Liddicoat-Newton says many classrooms in Lambton-Kent are "volatile" because "children are in classrooms without the necessary supports to help them and this is causing injuries," adding children and teachers are injured weekly.

"Teachers are getting concussions, dealing with the daily trauma of protecting the other children, sometimes alone, and increasing the class size will only make that worse."

Liddicoat-Newton says its not just cuts to education impacting the number of kids needing help. Recent changes to the way students with autism receive help are having an impact in the classroom.

The union head says the changes means "has put children floundering into the system...and they're really struggling to stay in class."

ETFO, Liddicoat-Newton says, wants the province to commit to coming up with a strategy to deal with the violence in the classroom. And she says, they want the province to scrap its plan to increase the number of students allowed in each classroom. She says more children in desks with only one teacher in the room will make the situation worse.

Liddicoat-Newton says the rotating strikes are not "about getting a huge raise - that's the least of it - of course it is part of the negotiations; cost of living is what we are looking for," she says. "We're looking to maintain class sizes, fair hiring practices (for occasional teachers) and appropriate funding for special education."

"Parents really need to understand the fault lies with this Ford government... and educators need the tools and supports to support all students to achieve their full potential and their aspirations to succeed."

Despite the premiers contention most parents oppose the strike, Linda Thomas, who teaches at Ecole Hillcrest, says parents have been very supportive. She carries a coffee gift card given to her by one student's parents. It reads "We support what you're doing 100 per cent."

That's encouraging for Thomas and her coworkers. After 28 years in the classroom, she says she sees how taking money out of the system has led to more students falling behind. With 21 students and no educational assistants in the classroom, Thomas says it's difficult to provide one-on-one help to a child falling behind.

"I've been teaching for 28 years; I've seen the

changes in workload, the downloading to teachers. It's because of cuts and more cuts and more cuts. I see students education suffering further if we don't keep the money we have now in the classroom."

Liddicoat-Newton says teachers are committed to standing up for their students.

The province and the teachers' union negotiated for three days last week before the talks ended.

Union officials said the province wanted teachers to agree to more cuts to special education, something the president says they cannot do.

The union head said Tuesday a deal was within reach when talks ended.

Elementary teachers across the province will hold another one-day strike again Thursday.



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Roger Buurma of Lasalle Agri has told Dawn-Euphemia officials the biosolids piling up on Hale School Road will be used on eight local farms. The townships official plan does not allow farmers to stockpile fertilizer in one place.

Lasalle Agri must move biosolids says Dawn-Euphemia

CON'T FROM PG 1

"We've had a few phone calls from concerned residents," says Broad. "It's a very significant pile they're building there." It is now so large a large tractor with tracks on it climbs the pile to move things around, creating a pathway.

The Buurma family owns the land and Lasalle Agri which markets the biosolids fertilizer. They have had trouble before with stockpiles of fertilizer in the township. Several years ago, Dawn-Euphemia voiced concern smaller piles were catching fire through self combustion. The fire department was called out several times.

The company also plead guilty to running a commercial operation in an agricultural zone in Warwick Township last year. There the pile was larger than two football fields and about three stories high. It took Warwick council nearly two years to resolve the issue.

Dawn-Euphemia's Clerk-Administrator, Donna Clermont, has already looked into the issue. She told council Monday Roger Buurma told her the fertilizer was for eight 150-acre farms which his family farms in Dawn-Euphemia.

Clermont says under the township's official plan, farmers are not allowed to stockpile fertilizer but may leave it on the

land which it will be spread.

Buurma also told Clermont, the shipments of the biosolids would continue until the end of this week.

That worried Councillor Mark McGuire; "I say enough is enough. If they broke the rules why would allow more?"

The township plans to write a letter to the company informing it the pile must be moved to the individual farms.

"This is nothing new they've been before the judge (for a similar case in Warwick) before; I don't know how we can't uphold the official plan."

Broad says the fertilizer should also be "tarped and tired" by the end of the week.

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Editorial

Is there any accountability?

After two years, three months and 19 days, we have one small piece of the puzzle. \$10,000. Petrolia’s former CAO walked away with an extra \$10,000.

We’ve learned that and confirmation of something we learned last month, anything to do with the investigation which led to his dismissal was deliberately kept from taxpayers with a non-disclosure agreement.

We believe the \$10,000 is significant, Someone who is fired for just cause usually is walked out the door with the bare minimum of their final weeks pay, Petrolia councillors decided the former CAO deserved just a little more of taxpayers money, even though he misled council about buildings he owned and the town used. He clearly broke the rules of the municipality and lied about it in a public meeting. If there ever was a case for a straight out dismissal without any severance, this would be the case.

Of course, there is a rub. As much we know about the former CAO’s actions, we still don’t know the full story because the council of the day made sure the investigators report into the debacle would be sealed with a non-disclosure agreement and the protection of the Freedom of Information Act which shields any records of employment from public view.

Here is the real lesson of this whole sorry affair; the system that is suppose to give the public access to public information - the Information and Privacy Commission - and the Act it uses to regulate the release of information, has failed us.

The process is lengthy - two years and three months to get information - cumbersome, and tilted in favour of those trying to shield information from the public in cases like this. When we filed for the information, the hope was some of the mystery could be uncovered in time for the municipal election a year later. That, of course, didn’t happen.

The CAO is the highest administrator in the municipality and is directly employed by council. If we cannot know what happened someone at the highest administrative level in town misleads us, there is no accountability to taxpayers in the most important matters. And that is shameful.

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

This postcard shows the Alvinston Methodist Church in the early 1900s. The building still stands today as a part of the Hope United Church on Elgin St. The tower looks slightly different as a peaked roof was added to the building at one time. There is now another brick building attached where the members meet.



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SUPER HERO STRONG



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Brooke Central School classmates of Izzy Whiteley were sending lots of positive Super Hero vibes her way. Jan. 30 was Super Hero Day in honour of the senior kindergarten student who is in the hospital battling leukemia. Brooke Principal Chad Brown says the school wanted to find a way to lift her spirits. “Izzy is a fire cracker,” says Brown smiling. “She’s very social and she loves art.” Her grandma, he adds, is her best friend. Over the Christmas holidays Izzy went to the doctor for what her family thought was an ear infection and doctors found she had the most common form of the cancer. Brown says it is very treatable, but it is a very long road. The kindergarten student will likely need treatment over the course of two years. While she’s not at school now, Brown says she will be able to return when she improves. For now, her friends wanted to let her know they were thinking about her. Recently, students dressed up as their favourite Super Heros and the school took a group picture for Izzy. They also produced a short video of the day. Even the older students, who don’t know Izzy all that well, got into the act, compiling a joke book to keep Izzy’s spirits up. Educational Assistant Lyn Faulds says caring for Izzy has been a teachable moment in the classroom, helping young children understand someone else’s pain. “They’re learning compassion.”

Napper thanks leaders for service in Plympton-Wyoming

Heather Wright
The Independent

Tyler Whitbread is being honoured for one of the greatest honours of his life. The Camlachie man was among those honoured by Plympton-Wyoming Mayor Lonny Napper at his annual luncheon. Whitbread grew up in Camlachie playing minor ball. Little did he know then, that he would be wearing the red and white and playing for Team Canada. In 2015, Whitbread was part of the U18 Team for Canada which placed fourth in the World Championship. “To wear that Canadian jersey is pretty special,” said Whitbread before Saturday’s ceremony. The pitcher also had a chance to play for a minor Major League Baseball team playing against soon-to-be greats including Toronto Blue Jays slugger Vladimir Guerrero Jr. “He was younger than me...but he was a big

hitter. You could tell he was going to be something special.” Whitbread says the minor league experience prepared him to pitch for Indiana State University in Division One ball - some of the highest calibre baseball in the world. There, he had a career ERA of 4.12, a record of 13-6 and 52 appearances in four years. Today, Whitbread is working in Sarnia and considering whether to join the semi-pros at the London Majors. Whitbread says he was surprised Napper singled him out for praise. “It’s special to get recognized in your hometown,” he says adding Camlachie was “where I started having fun in baseball.” Whitbread wasn’t the only ball player honoured. Noah Myers, who was recently picked by the Toronto Blue Jays in the MBL Draft was also recognized. He’s currently playing US College ball. Napper honoured all kinds of people from different walks of life, from busi-



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Tyler Whitbread with Mayor Lonny Napper at the Mayor’s Honours Luncheon Saturday. ness owners to service clubs and the man who created a sunflower field to honour Max Rombouts - a little boy who died of cancer last year. Max’s Miracle Minions has raised over \$65,000 for cancer causes. The proceeds from the lunch also went to the organization.

More gravel for roads boost Dawn-Euphemia’s spending

Heather Wright
The Independent

Dawn-Euphemia residents will be shelling out a little more for municipal taxes this year. Council passed the \$3.82 million budget Monday night after a public meeting where only one member of the public attended. That’s a 4.9 per cent increase in spending or about \$179,531. Treasurer Scott Gawley says about 2.5 per cent of that increase comes

from increasing the township’s gravel budget by \$50,000. Even with the increase, council would have to add another \$300,000 to the gravel budget alone to get it back to the same levels as 2008. The township also faced a 20 per cent increase in its insurance premiums - partly because of the fire at the Florence Library last summer. That accounts for about half per cent of that 4.9 per cent spending increase. A slight increase in policing costs and the St. Clair Region Conservation

Authority budgets also contributed to the increased spending. Dawn-Euphemia lost about \$50,000 in provincial funding, contributing to the increase in spending. While the township has increased the amount of gravel it will buy, it is actually spending less on repairing roads. Dawn-Euphemia will spend \$926,216 on road capital, about \$44,000 less than last year. The cost for council increased by \$7,152 after councillors increased their pay in 2019.

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CHARLOTTE ELEANOR ENGLEHART HOSPITAL OF BLUEWATER HEALTH

The Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital (CEEH) Foundation is ramping up fundraising activities in 2020 for the largest campaign in its history - the redevelopment of Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital of Bluewater Health. This, along with the Town's plan to create a new Healthcare Village, will put Petrolia on the map as an innovative rural healthcare hub.

While the redevelopment of CEEH is still moving through the various stages of approval with the Ministry of Health, the Foundation knows it needs to raise 10% of the total cost of the redevelopment plus the purchase of any new equipment. A monumental task for any small organization.

To start, CEEH Foundation has joined forces with Bluewater Health Foundation's Dream Home Lottery. To mark its 25th anniversary, two houses are being offered in Petrolia and Sarnia this year along with an impressive bevy of other prizes including a 50/50 draw which is currently valued at over \$50,000! The Petrolia home, built by Sepe Construction and decorated by D. Janzen Interiors, is located at 304 Sunset Crescent and is valued at over \$540,000.



(left to right) Mike Lapaine – Bluewater Health CEO, Mark Braet – CEEH Foundation Treasurer, Kathy Alexander – Bluewater Health Foundation Executive Director, and Owen Byers – CEEH Foundation President.

Tickets are \$100 each and available for purchase at www.bwhfdreamhome.com. Open houses for each of the Dream Homes are taking place every Saturday and Sunday from 1pm - 4pm until March 8, 2020.

Owen Byers, President of the Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital Foundation, says his team is excited for the future. "We are committed to the longevity of our local hospital. The Province of Ontario is rising to support healthcare in Petrolia and the community has a responsibility to do the same. The Foundation is poised to take on this challenge."



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Sports

Squires hope to out gun Lucknow in playoffs

The Independent

It will be 12th-ranked Petrolia against 13th-seeded Lucknow to open the Senior ‘A’ playoffs.

A full schedule has not been released, but the series is expected to begin this Friday at Greenwood Recreation Centre in Petrolia.

The Squires finished the regular season with a 6-16 record, including 7-1 and 4-2 win over Lucknow in November and December

respectively.

The Lancers’ overall regular season record was 3-16-3.

The Squires and Lucknow gave up the second most goals in the league this season but the Squires may out gun Lucknow - the Lancers scored the fewest goals in the league at 55, 23 fewer than the Squires.

HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Adam Arsenault scores in the 7-1 November win against Lucknow



Flyers battle the Blades in the final home game

The Independent

The Petrolia Flyers bring the curtain down on their PJHL home schedule Thursday against the Blenheim Blades.

Game time at Greenwood is 7:30.

As of press time this week, the Flyers were in sixth place in the nine-team Stobbs Division, three points better than the Blades,

Blenheim takes on the Flags in Mooretown Wednesday.

Petrolia is coming off a 4-1 loss in Wheatley last Wednesday and a 4-2 home ice setback to Mooretown last Thursday.

Brenden Bouvier had the lone goal against the Sharks while Harly Jacklin-Allison and Shane Boelens scored

against the Flags.

Jakob Knowles took both losses making 68 saves in the process.

The Flyers are in Lakeshore Friday to play the Canadiens to end the regular season. Playoffs will begin next week.

Flags crown Dresden Kings

A night before the Superbowl in Miami, the Mooretown Flags scored what amounted to a pair of converted touchdowns in a 14-2 romp over the Dresden Junior Kings at the Moore Sports Complex.

Eight members of the Flags registered multiple points in a game where the home team outshot the visitors, 71-23.

The 14 goals eclipsed the 13 goals the Flags scored against Wheatley last month.

Brock Perry led the Flags with three goals and three assists, while Max Steeves added a goal and six assists.

Perry has 52 points in just 15 games this season and leads the province in points per game at 3.47.

Jake Wilkins made 21 saves for his province-leading 22nd victory of the season.

Trevor Bogaert had two goals last Thursday to lead the Flags to a 4-2 win in Petrolia.

Colby Ramsdale improved to 10-0 with 39 saves for Mooretown.

Following its home game against the Blades Wednesday, the Flags take on Lakeshore Saturday in Mooretown at 7:30.

Oilers advance

Petrolia blanked Mooretown, 4-0 Saturday to sweep the first round of the OMHA Midget B playoffs.

The Oilers now advance to play either Lambeth or Ilderton in the quarter-finals. That series is tied at two games each.

Meantime, the Petrolia Midget AE’s are tied at a game apiece after a 3-1 wins over St. Marys. Game three is Wednesday at Greenwood at 7 pm. And, the Pee Wee Reps eliminated Mooretown with a 5-2 triumph last weekend. They open the quarter-finals Friday at Lambeth with game two set for Sunday at Greenwood.

ANGELS STRIKE GOLD



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Alvinston Ice Angels brought home the hardware from a competition in Oakville’s Synchrofest. The Elementary Team, pictured above, brought home gold. The Pre-Novice team earned a silver and the Adult Team was fourth in a field of 15 teams. The skaters head to Markham this weekend.

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DRAW IS IN STORE AT NOON ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH

WINTER MAINTENANCE NOTICE

Snow Removal

- Under the Highway Traffic Act Section 181 – Deposit of snow on Roadway, states that “No person shall deposit snow or ice on a roadway without permission in writing to do so from the Ministry of Transportation or the road authority responsible for the maintenance of the road.”
- This generally applies to the snow that accumulates in laneways from precipitation and from private or municipal snow plowing operations, those who insist on plowing snow from private property onto public roads can be fined

Overnight Parking

- Residents are reminded there is no overnight parking on Town streets between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- This allows for the Town’s Road Crews to plow the roads safely and efficiently, we ask that you please abide by the by-law and be considerate of the road crews when they are out doing their best to keep our roads open and in safe condition

Parking on Roadway

- Under the Highway Traffic Act Section 170.
Vehicles interfering with traffic
(12) Despite the other provisions of this section, no person shall park or stand a vehicle on a highway in such a manner as to interfere with the movement of traffic or the clearing of snow from the highway.
R.S.O. 1990, c. H.8, s. 170(12).

Sidewalks


- Under By-Law Business owners are required to maintain the front area of their storefront, this includes the removal of snow
- The sidewalk Plow will make its way through Town once permissible, Roads are priority for Works Crew once they are clear Sidewalks

Sporting Equipment

- Please ensure all sporting equipment ie: hockey nets, basketball nets are removed from the curb & roadway

Your co-operation is appreciated

Mike Thompson
Director of Operations



DeGurse leads Legionnaires to win

The Sarnia Legionnaires scored twice in 44 seconds in the third period to break a 2-2 as the home team went on to beat Strathroy, 5-3 in GOJHL action at the Sarnia Arena. Nolan DeGurse led the Legionnaires with a hat trick and two assists a few short days

after scoring his first goal of the season for the Sarnia Sting the previous weekend. Nolan DeKoning made 29 saves for the goaltending victory. On Friday, Sarnia couldn't find the back of the net in a 4-0 loss to the Lincolns in St.

Marys. Justin Vertesi made 54 saves in a losing cause as the Lincs outshot Sarnia, 58-29. The Legionnaires have three road games this week. They play at Leamington, St. Marys and Chatham on Thursday, Friday and Sunday night respectively.

Plympton-Wyoming's Harper has solid series

Austin Harper had a goal and three assists for Lambton Junior Sting in a 7-4 loss to Elgin Middlesex in Minor Midget Alliance playoffs Monday. The top-ranked Chiefs won the series in five games. Harper had five goals and 11 points in the series, including a breakaway game-winner in

the opener and a lacrosse-style winner in game three. The Sting now take on Sun County in the consolation round of the playdowns. Meantime, the Junior Sting Major Pee Wees are up two games to none on Windsor in the first round of the Alliance League playoffs following a 6-1

win on the weekend. Game three is in the main rink at the Progressive Auto Sales Arena Thursday night. Puck drop is 7 pm. The Pee Wee team includes players from Petrolia, Mooretown, Watford and Sombra.

Eagles soar into second round of OMHA playoffs

The East Lambton Midget Eagles disposed of North Middlesex with an 8-2 win in Parkhill to complete a three-game sweep of the Junior Stars. The Eagles had won the first two games by scores of 8-1 and 4-2. East Lambton will now play either Belmont or West Lorne in the quarter-finals. Dates for the series had not been announced by our weekly

press time. Meantime, the Eagle Atom Reps have also advanced to the quarter-finals with a 7-4 win over Lambton Shores last weekend for a series sweep. East Lambton opens a series against Belmont this Sunday at the Watford Arena at 3 pm. The Pee Wee Reps are up two games to one on Belmont after a 4-3 home ice loss last weekend.

Game four is in Belmont Saturday afternoon and the fifth game, if necessary, will be played in Watford Sunday at 4:15. And, the Atom AE's open a series against Ilderton this Thursday in Watford at 6:30. The Eagles swept Mooretown in the first round.



Dawn-Euphemia's Dawson chosen in draft


Kyle Dawson of Florence was selected 27th overall by Brampton in the Major Series Senior 'A' Lacrosse League draft in Peterborough. He played last season with Nanaimo of the BC Junior 'A' league where he amassed 35 goals and 62 points in 25 regular season and playoff

games and was chosen as the league's Most Sportsmanlike player. The graduate of the Wallaceburg Red Devils was selected by San Diego in the third round of the National Lacrosse League draft late last year but was released during training camp.

The 21-year old also played junior hockey with the Dresden Junior Kings and the London Nationals.



Kyle Dawson



TOWNSHIP OF WARWICK
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING
CONCERNING PROPOSED
ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Warwick will hold a **Public Meeting on Monday, February 10, 2020 at 6:40 pm at the Warwick Community Centre at 7074 Egremont Road**, to consider a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment under Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended.

THE PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT would amend Warwick's Zoning By-law 121 of 2012 on lands described as CON 4 SER PT LOT 19 AND RP;25R8827 PART 2 (5438 Nauvoo Road) in the Township of Warwick. The purpose of the By-law amendment is to rezone the lands from Industrial 1 (M1(H1)) to a new Industrial Processing (M6) zone. The purpose of the new Industrial Processing (M6) Zone is to allow for the construction of a Ready Mix Concrete Facility. This zone will also establish a special height regulation for asphalt or concrete processing facilities.

NO OTHER APPLICATIONS have been received at this time.

ANY PERSON may attend the public meeting and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of, or in opposition to, the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment. **WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS** in respect of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment can be made to the Clerk of the Township of Warwick.

IF A PERSON or public body would otherwise have the ability to appeal the decision of the Township of Warwick to the Local Planning Appeals Tribunal but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Warwick before the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.

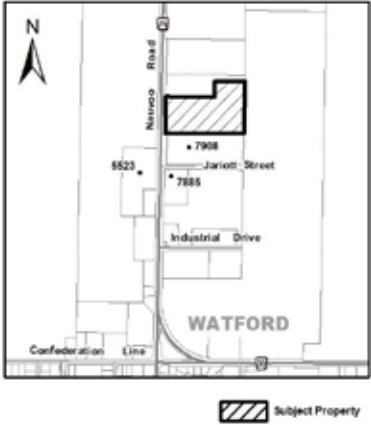
IF A PERSON or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Warwick before the by-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Local Planning Appeals Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

IF YOU WISH to be notified of the adoption of the proposed Amendment, you must make a written request to the Township of Warwick, 6332 Nauvoo Road, RR#8 Watford, ON N0M 2S0.

THE KEY MAP shows more particularly the lands affected.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION about this matter, including information about appeal rights and the proposed Amendment is available for inspection during regular office hours at the Municipal Offices at 6332 Nauvoo Road, RR#8 Watford, ON, N0M 2S0.

DATED THIS 20th DAY OF JANUARY, 2020.



Amanda Gubbels
Administrator
Township of Warwick
6332 Nauvoo Road,
RR#8
Watford, ON, N0M 2S0
Telephone: 849-3926
Fax: 849-6136



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Parmesan Crusted Chicken Breast
Served with sautéed asparagus and marinara sauce


Jumbo Shrimp Sauté
with sweet peppers and onions in a lime coconut cream sauce

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Also featuring our weekend specials of:

Prime Rib or Grilled Rib-Eye
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Nashlea Brogan
Doctor of Audiology

EAR CLEANING HOURS

Appointment Required | Fee is \$50

SARNIA - 714 London Road
Wednesdays, 10:00-1:00PM

CORUNNA - 348 Lyndoch Street
Thursdays, 9:30-12:00PM

PETROLIA - 4130 Glenview Road
Thursdays, 1:00-3:00PM



519-344-8887
bluewaterhearing.ca

WEEKLY EAR WAX REMOVAL CLINIC

- SUCTION (VACUUM)
- CURETTAGE
- IRRIGATION
- VIDEO INSPECTION



FREE WALK-INS TO CHECK FOR EAR WAX!

Classified Deadline:
Monday @ 12 noon

Classifieds




Word Classifieds: \$10 plus tax for up to 40 words
Stop in at the office 9a-5p Mon-Fri
4156 Petrolia Line – Call 226-738-0728
or email: office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

Coming Event

Lambton County
Science Fair

Open to students
Grades 3-12
April 3 & 4 2020
at Lambton College

For information and to register
www.lambtoncountysciencefair.ca
Registration Closes March 30th.



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Coming Event

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Presents



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Victoria Hall
Petrolia, ON

\$30 ALL AGES

Saturday
February 22, 2020
Show at 8:00pm
LCBO Event

Tickets Available Online at
thevpp.ca
or by phone at
519-882-1221

Coming Event

ANNUAL
Roast Beef
Sweetheart
DINNER

Saturday, February 15 | 4:30 - 6:00pm

St. Paul's United Church
4169 Petrolia Line, Petrolia

Tickets \$15 each
Children 12 & Under FREE
Take-Out Available

Britannia Chapter No. 34
Order of the Eastern Star



Card of Thanks



THANK YOU

We would like to say Thank You to all our friends, family and neighbours for the many visits and support during Tom's illness and since his passing. All the calls, food, cards and memorial donations were very much appreciated.

To Rev. Jim Breen, Van Heck Funeral Home and Hope United Church Ladies we thank you. Your many acts of kindness and support continue to be a great comfort to us in our time of sorrow.

Marg Lassaline & Family


Obituary



MOORE
Durward (Dale)

It is with great sadness the family of Durward "Dale" Moore of Petrolia announce his passing on **January 30, 2020** surrounded by his very loving family at the St. Joseph's Hospice in Sarnia. Dale was born in Plympton Township and has been the much loved husband of Gail (nee Dalziel) for over 60 years. He is also the much loved father of Ian & Lorie Moore of Petrolia and Shawna & Steve MacDonald of Brighton. The loving grandpa of Sue Ann & Kevin Kuebler, Alexander & Anh MacInnis, Ally MacInnis & fiancé Jesse DeForges, Patrick MacInnis, Alex MacDonald & fiancé Ryan Row and Tyler MacDonald. Dale is the son of the late Durward (Dinty) & May (nee Warren) Moore and is survived by his four sisters and their spouses; Rosa & Gary Salisbury, Carol & Bruce Slaughter, Linda & Jim Wilson, Juanita & Dan Morningstar, and his sister-in-law Cheryl and the late John Cuthbertson. He also leaves behind many loving nieces and nephews. Dale retired as a Chief Warrant Officer from the RCAF after 32 years of service, and then spent 13 years with Canspec in Sarnia. He was an active member of Petrolia Legion Branch 216, but most importantly he was a great mechanic to whoever needed his help. He will be so deeply missed but our hearts and minds give thanks for the **82 years** of love and friendship that he extended to everyone throughout his life. No words can say how much you will be missed. **Visitors and a Legion service were received and celebrated on Sunday at Needham-Jay Funeral Home, where a celebration of Dale's life was held on Monday, February 3, 2020 at 11 a.m. with Rev. Susan Cameron of St. Paul's United Church officiating. Interment at Hillsdale Cemetery, Petrolia.** Expressions of sympathy may be made to St. Joseph's Hospice (www.stjosephshospice.ca). Memories and condolences may be shared online at **www.needhamjay.com**

Card of Thanks



Thank you

The family of the late Robert Elliott would like to thank family, friends & neighbours for acts of kindness, flowers, food, charitable donations, visits, cards and phone calls after Bob's passing on January 7, 2020.

Also thanks to Four Counties Hospital Staff, Firemen, Ambulance and Police. Special thanks to the Pall Bearers, Flower Bearers, Ministers, Badder Robinson Funeral Home and the United Church Women for the delicious lunch.

Margaret Vogt-Elliott, Dorothy Vogt and the Elliott Families

Obituary



DILLON
Sally

It was with profound sadness we announce the death of a loving wife, mother, and grandmother, **SALLY DILLON (nee Deacon)**, of Petrolia on **Thursday, January 30, 2020** at Bluewater Health, Sarnia, just **shy of her 84th birthday**. She is survived by her loving husband of 67 years Robert, her children Martin and Dorothy Dillon of Petrolia, Tracy and Robert Horne of Everett, Janet and Gary Hardy of Petrolia, Scott Dillon of Petrolia, and Corey Dillon of Sarnia. Also survived by grandchildren, Adam and Eve Dillon, Sara Dillon, Jacky Hardy, Jordan Hardy, Brynn Dillon, Lauren Dillon, Andy Sherlock, Matt Sherlock, Nikki Bonney, and families. She is also survived by her brothers Jim Chevalier and Jerry and LeeAnne Chevalier of Sarnia as well as Patricia and Gil Wilkinson, Bill and Mardelle Deacon and Mary Ann and Steve Fuller. Predeceased by her beloved son Drew and her sister and brother-in-law Margery and Martin Beauchamp. Sally was a proud 5th generation hard Oiler. She was well known in Petrolia for her many years of volunteering with many organizations including Coffee Plus and C.E.E. Auxiliary. Sally was a long time member of First Baptist Church, Petrolia and is now with our Lord and Saviour and the and relatives and friends who went before her to help prepare her place. **At Sally's request, there will only be a private family graveside service at Hillsdale Cemetery, Petrolia at a later date.** As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to C.E.E. Hospital Auxiliary and First Baptist Church, Petrolia. Memories and condolences may be shared online at **www.needhamjay.com.**

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.**

Obituary



WHITE
Elizabeth Katie "Beth" (n. Minielly)

Beth died peacefully on **Saturday, February 1, 2020** at C.E.E. Hospital, Petrolia. A lifelong resident of Wyoming, **ELIZABETH KATIE "Beth" WHITE (nee Minielly)**, was **91 years of age**. Beth was predeceased by her husband George (1992) and her son Allan (2014). She will be missed by her son David, her grandson James, and a great grandson Liam. She is also survived by her sister Aileen McKellar and was predeceased by brothers, Lloyd, Neal, and Les and sister, Thelma. Beth and her husband George operated McKay and White Funeral Home and Furniture in Wyoming, and she was actively involved with St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Wyoming and Royal Canadian Legion Br. 388 Ladies Auxiliary. **Cremation has taken place, and interment of Beth's cremated remains will be in Wyoming Cemetery. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.** Beth's family would like to thank Dr. Mather and staff of C.E.E. Hospital for their care in Beth's final days, and a special thank you to her niece Debbie, and Dr. Li for their care. As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to C.E.E. Hospital Foundation (www.ceefh.ca). Arrangements by Needham-Jay Funeral Home. Memories and condolences may be shared online at **www.needhamjay.com.**

Word Classified:

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Call 226-738-0728
or email:
office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

Other things may
change us, but we
start and end with
the family.

~ Anthony Brandt

NOTICE

CAT OWNERS in the **CARDINAL CRESCENT AND SURROUNDING AREA.** Due to the number of nuisance cats straying onto my porch, any that are caught will be put in the control of the animal shelter. Any and all cost involved will be those of the owner.

N Kelman.

Obituary

BUURMA
Peter

Peter Buurma of Forest and Strathroy, formerly of the Netherlands died peacefully with family by his side in his **96th year** at Strathmere Lodge in Strathroy. Beloved husband of Jean. Peter and Jean where married and came to Canada in 1950. Peter & Jean raised their family of Harry (Shirley), Donald (1963), Harriet, Teresa (Alastair), and Joyce (Carlo). Peter leaves a legacy in his Grandchildren Glenn, Ross, Bruce, Roger, Brian, David, Stephanie, Eric, Charlie, Ashley, Aleah, and Adam Buurma; Andrew and Madeleine Cicchelli, and 29 Great Grandchildren. **A visitation will take place at Gilpin Funeral Chapel, 123 King Street East in Forest on Friday, February 7, 2020, from 2pm-4pm and 7pm-9pm, with a third visitation taking place on Saturday, February 8, from 9:30am -10:30am at the Royal Canadian Legion, 58 Albert Street in Forest, followed by a service at 11am. Interment will take place at Beechwood Cemetery.** Special thanks to Strathmere Lodge in Strathroy for the care and compassion shown to Peter and his entire family. In lieu of flowers, donations are appreciated in Peter's name to the Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital Foundation. Arrangements are entrusted to Gilpin Funeral Chapel, 123 King Street East in Forest, 519-786-4964. Please leave a memory or condolence online at **www.GilpinFuneralChapel.com**

Obituary



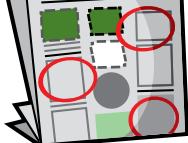
BELAN
Michael Sr.

Michael Sr. Belan - **Age 87** of Oil Springs, passed away peacefully on **Thursday, January 23, 2020** at Bluewater Heath, Sarnia. **A celebration of life will take place at the Inwood Fire Hall (6483 Weidman Line, Inwood Ontario, N0N 1K0) on Sunday, February 09, 2020 from 2pm to 5pm.** Sympathy may be expressed through donations to St. Joseph's Hospice. Memories and condolences may be sent online at **www.steadmanbrothers.ca.** Arrangements entrusted to **STEADMAN BROTHERS FUNERAL CHAPELS**, Brigden 519-864-1193.

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.**

Classified Deadline:
Monday @ 12 noon



Real Estate

Classifieds

Word Classifieds: \$10 plus tax for up to 40 words
Stop in at the office 9a-5p Mon-Fri
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or email: office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca



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Watford



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MLS#160305

ATTENTION DEVELOPERS & INVESTORS

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Bob Leaper

Sales Representative

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SOUTHWEST REALTY, BROKERAGE

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\$514,900.00 incl HST

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bleaper@rivernet.net

Notice

FAMILY DAY EARLY DEADLINE



for all classified ads is

February 14 at 12 noon

for the paper that prints and distributes Wed-Thurs

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.

of events

UPCOMING EVENTS

| DATE | START TIME | LOCATION | EVENT | CONTACT INFO |
|--------|---------------|-------------|---|--|
| Feb 6 | | Sarnia | Sarnia Lambton Parkinson's Care Partner Support Group Meeting at the Strangway Centre | 519-336-3286 |
| Feb 7 | 10-2p 5-7p | Thamesville | Ticket Sales - The Knitting Pilgrim - Sunday, Mar 1 Thamesville United Church. Tickets \$15/adv, \$20/door (cash only) Evelyn 519-683-8959 or Tracy 519-692-4156 | |
| Feb 7 | 7pm | Petrolia | St. Philips Parish Card Parties | 519-882-4840 |
| Feb 7 | 8p-12a | Wyoming | First Friday at the Wyoming Legion featuring Dirt Country playing. Reserve your seat. | 519-845-0072 |
| Feb 8 | 1pm | Petrolia | Euchre at St. Paul's United Church from 1-4pm \$5/person. Door prizes and light lunch. | |
| Feb 8 | 3:30pm | Alvinston | Alvinston Legion Meat Raffle in support of the Brooke Alvinston Ag Society with Catch the Ace at 6pm | 519-898-2100 |
| Feb 8 | 4-6pm | Oil Springs | Oil Springs Legion Meat Raffle . Everyone Welcome • 10 Meat Draws \$20 for 3 Chances at 10 Draws or \$2 per Draw | 519-834-2537 |
| Feb 9 | 1-3pm | Sarnia | JNAAG: Family Sunday Drop In - Playing Memory | jnaag.ca |
| Feb 10 | 7pm | Petrolia | Puzzlemania & Games Galore @ First Baptist Church. Puzzles, Mats & Games provided/bring your own. FREE. | 519-882-2480 |
| Feb 13 | 11:30-1:30p | Corunna | Corunna United Church "Soup On" Luncheon . Serving soups, bread & Dessert. Take out available. All Welcome | 519-862-1040 |
| Feb 14 | 7:30pm | Sarnia | Sarnia Rock & Fossil Club Meeting at Twin Lakes Terrace Retirement Home (1310 Murphy Rd) | 519-869-2003 |
| Feb 15 | 12 Noon | Alvinston | Alvinston Legion Pool Tournament with Catch the Ace at 6pm | 519-898-2100 |

CLUBS AND REGULAR EVENTS

| DAY | START TIME | LOCATION | EVENT | CONTACT INFO |
|-----------|------------|-------------|--|--------------|
| 1st Thurs | 11am | Sarnia | Parkinson's Support Group @Strangway Centre | 519-336-3286 |
| 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 |

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
Prebyterian 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

Church Office 519-845-3963

 Find us Facebook

Business & Service Directory

PRO-TAX

Professional INCOME TAX SERVICES

519-882-2966

3927 Petrolia Line

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HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS

Fifty current and former members of the Petrolia Squires took to the ice at the Greenwood Recreation Centre for a 50th anniversary Alumni Game Friday. One of the players from the first team - The 1969 Petrolia Chiefs' Danny Wilson - suited up for the game along with a host of others from the Allan Cup Days. Scott Kelvin was chasing the puck into the boards, being chased by Jeremiah Goodacre, above, while Paul Musselman celebrates his goal as Ryan Chapman laughs along. Kevin Luckhurst reclaimed the crease for part of the game (right). Organizers say many players hope to reunite for another game, soon.





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