

Councillor says taxes shouldn't rise because of COVID-19

Heather Wright
The Independent

Petrolia Councillor Marty Souch says its time to take a good hard look at what COVID-19 has cost the town.

And he wants to make sure councillors do as much as they can to keep taxes from increasing to cover the costs.

Souch will ask council Monday to direct staff to examine what COVID-19 has cost the town in lost revenues and come up with a way to reduce costs to overcome a deficit.

"We are faced with the huge revenue loss to the Town of Petrolia, whether it be the arena, the YMCA, the VPP, or sports fields," he tells *The Independent* adding all of the revenue generated from those operation has vanished because most sports and recreational programs were shutdown due to COVID-19.

"We need to we need to take and look at each department and I want each department to be responsible for their lost revenue."

Souch says the need to examine the costs and take another look at how the municipality spends really hit home when Victoria Playhouse Petrolia cancelled its season.

"Then I said, you know what, if the VPP loses money, ... somebody's going to be responsible for it. And who might that be?" While the town shares in the profits made in good years, it also covers all of the deficit in the lean years.

Municipal governments, by law, can't run a deficit. And they are mandated to create reserves - savings accounts - for future projects. Many administrators say reserves are to be used for a rainy day. And while COVID-19 has unleashed a global economic problem, Souch isn't convinced the town should be dipping into the reserves now.

"What are we going to do if five years down the road, and the provincial federal government says, we don't have the funding for you now and we want to do our project?"

SEE COVID-19 PG 3

SHOWING SOME PUPPY LOVE



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Jane Taverner, the secretary at Brooke Central School, gets a little love from a puppy before the teachers began their first ever food drive. The group went door-to-door in Alvinston collecting food for the local food bank and had a chance to see some students from their front porches. See more photos on page 8.

Warwick says LaSalle wants to set up commercial operation near cemetery

Heather Wright
The Independent

Warwick Township officials say it is clear Buurma Farms Inc. wants to set up a commercial biomass fertilizer operation near Watford.

That's contrary to what one of the principals of LaSalle Agri told *The Independent* a week ago.

Buurma Farms Inc. has filed applications against Warwick, Brooke-Alvinston and

Dawn-Euphemia to the Normal Farm Practices Protection Board. Pre-trial hearings were held May 8.

The complaint stems from the municipalities' bylaws which prohibit the stockpiling of fertilizer on a farmers' field. Dawn-Euphemia officials and residents became concerned in February when a large pile of the fertilizer made from human waste was placed on Hale School Road. Roger Buurma told township officials it was to be used for his family's land in the area.

Neighbours were concerned the pile was close to Longs Creek and could contaminate the local water source if there was a heavy rainfall. So, the township ordered Buurma to move the pile, using its zoning bylaw to back up the request.

A similar request was made in Brooke-Alvinston where neighbours complained to the municipality of a pile of the fertilizer approved for commercial use. It also used its zoning bylaw to have the fertilizer moved.

SEE BIOMASS PG 2



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Plympton-Wyoming mourns death of Ron Schenk

Heather Wright
The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming Mayor Lonny Napper says Ron Schenk “told it like it was and didn’t back down from anything.” Schenk who had served on council since 2003 died Friday after what Napper calls a “courageous battle with cancer.” Schenk had a stroke in 2019 but returned to council in January to help with budget deliberations. It was not widely know he was suffering from cancer. Schenk was in his fifth term on Plympton-Wyoming council serving in almost every capacity including on the fire board and parks and recreation committee. He was known for voicing his opinion particularly on

development issues and the budget. He was also one of the more vocal opponents of wind turbines in the municipality. Napper was a veteran politician when Schenk was first elected. He knew he was a smart businessman, but little else. “As time went on, he became my neighbour, living right across from (former councillor) Ben Dekker on Michigan Line.” And they became friends. Schenk would stop by on his way home for a chat with the mayor. Napper says the interactions weren’t always cordial. “He was frustrating,” Napper says. “My relationship with Ron was you either hated him or you loved him and I would do both in the same day.” The mayor eventually came to

realize that once Schenk made up his mind, there was little anyone could do to change it. “We would argue and I would have to say, ‘this conversation is over.’ “He told it like it was, and didn’t back down from anything. If he believed in something...you didn’t change his mind. I never won an argument with him,” Napper recalls. While he may have been “gruff” on the outside, Napper says “if he was your friend, you had a true friend.” Schenk he says was an avid sailor and was looking forward to breaking a record at the annual Mackinac race. Schenk could be gruff but Napper says his love of his family was obvious. “He sat at my table and talked for hours about his

children and how proud he was of them,” says Napper. His daughter, Olivia, announced his passing on social media Friday morning. “He had a great sense of humour and I have so many memories laughing together. Family was really important to dad, and I could not have asked for a better father to raise me and my brother.” And she acknowledged he wasn’t afraid to speak his mind. “Dad always said what he wanted to say and did what he wanted to do. He lived a life regret free, and died with no loose ends left to tie.” Napper was able to visit with his long-time friend before he passed away. “I’m not sure I could have been that strong facing what he was facing,” said Napper, his voice



FILE PHOTO

Ron Schenk, seen here portraying John Labatt in 2017 an re-enactment of his kidnapping, died Friday. filled with emotion. “He was so brave, the way he faced it all. I have a lot of respect for him for that.”

Biomass plans in Warwick include storage and distribution say township officials

CON’T FROM PG 1
In March, Buurma Farms Inc. - which includes LaSalle Agri - filed an appeal to the Normal Farm Practice Protection Board saying piling the fertilizer is part of normal agricultural activity. Amanda Gubbels, the administrator of Warwick Township and Ben Puzanov, the manager of planning for Lambton County were among those at the pre-trial hearing. Both say it is clear the

appeal in Warwick includes a new commercial operation. “Our understanding, based on the application is this is for a storage and distribution centre,” says Gubbels noting the land is on Nauvoo Road, heading into Watford and near two cemeteries and walking trails. One of the complaints about the biomass fertilizer is the smell, which some residents say forced them to stay indoors even in the summer.

“Essentially, they are proposing the same use as they had at 6092 Nauvoo Road,” Gubbels added. “The municipality treats that as a commercial use - a storage and shipping commercial component.” The municipality went to court and was successful in getting La-Salle Agri to move a massive pile of the fertilizer from agricultural land near Highway 402 in 2019. Puzanov agreed lawyers for the company confirmed there is

a commercial component to the Warwick appeal, even though the company has yet to approach the municipality with a plan. Roger Buurma, in an interview with *The Independent* May 6, said the fertilizer would only be for use on the land in Warwick. Buurma added Lasalle Agri’s product would not be placed on the field this year. Buurma accused *The Independent* of “drumming up” anger in the

community against the company and unfairly characterizing what the hearing was about. “People will find out that you have reported inaccurately because you are misleading them,” says Buurma. The NFPPB will hear the complaint against Brooke-Alvinston first. A date for that hearing has not been set because of COVID-19 restrictions which limit gatherings to five people.





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Schools won’t reopen, Lambton-Kent to plan for summer school

Heather Wright
The Independent

The director of education for Lambton-Kent’s public school is glad to have some clear direction about the end of the school year. School boards are reacting to Tuesday’s news that schools in Ontario will remain closed for the remainder of the school year. Schools across the province have been shuttered since May 6. Tuesday, Premier Doug Ford said going back is not worth the risk of exposing students to COVID-19. “It is clear we cannot open schools at this time – I’m just not going to risk it,” he told reporters. “Why chance it for a few weeks.” Online learning will be used to close out the current year, with a plan for a return to physical learning in September to be unveiled by the end of June.

At the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, parents were assured the at home learning wouldn’t impact student grades. The final mark for 2020 would be no lower than when school let out March 14. Students could complete extra tasks to improve their marks during the at-home learning period. Students will also have a chance to upgrade their marks over the summer. Education Minister Stephen Lecce also announced there will be enhanced summer school offerings this year to help students prepare for the new school year. “If they didn’t do well this year in a course, they can do it again.” The summer courses will be voluntary. Summer school might include going back to the classroom “with very strong protocols” to stop the spread of COVID-19.

The move was not unexpected, but local educators are glad to have the matter settled. “The Lambton Kent District School Board is pleased to have clear direction on the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year,” says John Howitt, director of education for the Lambton-Kent District School Board in a statement to The Independent.. “We look forward to receiving the details both for summer learning and for a return to school in September. “Having these details will allow us to plan and prepare for the safe return of our students,” Howitt says. “Based on the expectations outlined by the Ministry of Education, LKDSB Senior Administration is working with principals, educators and education workers to continue the teacher-led, staff supported student learning for the remainder

of the school year. “We encourage families to stay connected to the school community,” Howitt wrote in a letter to parents. “With the continuation of remote learning, please note that students’ final marks will not be disadvantaged by the COVID-19 school closures. In accordance to the Ministry of Education’s directions, all LKDSB students on track to graduate will be supported to graduate.” “We understand that this announcement may require families to consider additional planning



Stephen Lecce

and considerations for the coming days and weeks. A plan for students to access personal belongings will be communicated shortly,” Howitt said. Cathy Abraham, president of the Ontario Public School Board Association, also commended the province on Tuesday’s announcement. “We appreciate the government taking a measured and cautious approach to the return to in-class instruction that is guided by the advice of health officials, with input from school boards, educators, and staff. “School boards appreciate the direction and advice being provided by our provincial and local public health officials. “Along with the Ministry of Education and our education partners, we continue to deliver and improve upon remote learning for all of our students.”

Increasing heritage tax break not in Petrolia’s cards

Heather Wright
The Independent

Petrolia won’t be increasing a grant which helps owners of historic buildings make improvements. The Petrolia Heritage Committee, during a March 2 meeting, agreed to ask town council to increase the Heritage Tax Rebate to 20 per cent in 2021 and 25 per cent in 2022. But that was before the world wide pandemic slowed the economy in Ontario. Mayor Brad Loosely voiced concern about the idea. “I think this is not the ideal time to be requesting additional money when

we’re we don’t know where we’re going,” he told councillors during the May 11 meeting. “And I think that’s something council should maybe consider next year’s budget.” Councillor Joel Field agreed. “I know that we looked at it at budget time (in January) and brought it from 10 (per cent grant) to 15. And there was some discussion then for the future but I again, I would agree that it would have to go to budget before it is passed.” Councillor Marty Souch is part of the committee. He says the group was looking to help improve the down-

town. “They were looking at recommendations that it was increased last year and that some of the costs (for facade improvement) have gone up. “They were trying to help some of the other people within the town.” Council decided not to consider the idea at this time.



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Petrolia’s new water plant up and running

Heather Wright
The Independent

You likely haven’t noticed the difference but Petrolia and Central Lambton’s water is now coming through the town’s reconstructed water plant. Petrolia has the oldest water system in the province and for decades the treatment plant in Bright’s Grove served the community. Two years ago, the town and the municipalities which use the plant received funding for a \$7 million upgrade which included a new clear well on the site. The construction took some time but Sam

Smith of the Ontario Clean Water Agency says the new clear well is in operation. “We’ve done our 14-day performance run and it has been handed over (to the town) and everything is working well,” he recently told council. “It has been a pretty seamless transition from the old clear well and the high lift pumps to the new system...and it went very well,” he added. “There’s always a concern when you go from new construction, whatever changing over that is needed goes in a smooth manner,” says Mayor Brad Loosley. “I’m pleased with the way things are going out there.”


COVID-19 losses may be ‘heavy’ says Souch

CON’T FROM PG 1

“We do not want to come back to taxpayers and say, we’re going to increase our taxes, five-and-a half, six per make up for the project when we’re on our way to making it now,” says Souch. “We have a plan - we have a long term plan, and we need to stick with our plan.” The councillor has confidence staff can find ways to save money. “I believe that our staff will go back and look at where are we losing? How much money are we losing? What’s the goal? And I know that they do a good job - but we need to know the dollar. I’m guessing our dollars could be fairly high.”

Souch points out larger municipalities, like Samia and Chatham-Kent, have already begun to adjust spending to deal with the economic fallout of COVID-19. “And I think that if our senior staff can’t go back and create ways of saving, and they may not get to the goal of our losses. Then if we’re in a dire need, then we’re in a crisis, we need to borrow from our reserves, “But ...council has done a good job, the Town Petrolia has done a good job in building those reserves and we don’t want to squander it. “We want to hang on to it and exhaust all avenues before we have to touch it,” says Souch.

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Thank you;
Heather Wright
Publisher, The Independent





Editorial

Municipalities have monument tax task

Calls to take a hard look at the financial impacts of COVID-19 are on the money.

Petrolia Councillor Marty Souch wants administrators to report to council on the financial impact to the municipality of the world wide pandemic which has shut-down the town’s recreational programs and its largest tourism driver, Victoria Playhouse Petrolia.

Souch believes each department should be looking at its own financial picture and coming up with a way to mitigate the losses.

Municipal governments are in a tight spot right now. It’s the only level of government which is legally bound to run a balance budget. It is also the level of government which runs the services most affected by the pandemic - recreational services like gyms and arenas, public events and in some cases long term care homes.

Municipalities have already asked the federal government for a \$2.5 billion bailout for municipalities. Much of that money would go to larger communities with transit systems which are bleeding money right now as people stay home. The plan does provide \$35 per person for the next four months, so presumably, if the federal government agrees, Petrolia will get some of that cash.

But council can’t depend on that. And Souch makes a good argument about not depending on reserves to get out of the COVID-19 cash crunch. Normally, that money is socked away for “a rainy day.” It’s pouring now, but Souch points out it might be wise to hold onto as much of that money as possible since the province and federal government won’t likely have a lot of cash to throw around in the years to come.

And taxpayers are unlikely to rejoice over double digit property tax increases if they, too, have lost their jobs.

So, council and staff have a job to do. Look closely at what they have, figure out what we can do without for now, and get Petrolia through these rainy days, all without impairing our future prospects. Good luck to them, it will be a monumental task.

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

The terraced gardens of Glenview Estate, home of Jacob and Charlotte Englehart. This land is now part of the Kingswell Glen Golf Course.

Zoom has its problems but helps democracy, for now

Whether you use Zoom meetings, Google Meets or FaceTime, video conferencing has kept a lot of us connected in the past two months as we deal with this pandemic.

It is no doubt good to connect with people, however there are limitations. “Unmute your mic” has become a common refrain everywhere from Grandma’s house to the House of Commons. And let’s face it, in southern Ontario, internet connections are not the best so sometimes Grandma makes even less sense than normal.

Video conferencing has also helped us stay connected with our community. Municipal councils have pivoted quickly to make sure the wheels of government continued to turn. And by and large, it has worked. But, like the call with Grandma, there are issues.

While there can be the technical

issues - including the familiar “Unmute your mike” - and people walking into meetings while you’re in your home, it is something less technical that worries me.

While there is discussion during electronic meetings at council, it is not the same as the discussion that takes place in person. I think many people will agree it is hard to keep your focus when you’re meeting online; that happens at council, too, and those who normally contribute to the discussion can sometimes seem distant.

And even worse, councils haven’t come up with a good way to allow public involvement. Chatham-Kent’s practice of reading presentations by residents is not that effective. Staff members who read the letters do a fine job, but their reading can’t convey the conviction of a person who took the

time out of their day to prepare a presentation and then stand before a bunch of people to present it.

Frankly, it is not good government but it will do when times are tough.

After over 30 years of sitting in council meetings multiple nights a week, sometimes bored to tears, I never thought I would say this, but, I look forward to the day when I’ll be in the crowd for a live council meeting.



Heather Wright

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Opinion

Reader questions release name of accused in gun incident

EDITOR: Just wanted to know if you realize how much turmoil your paper caused by printing the names of the men that were involved in the alleged incident on Wednesday. Other papers did not publish their names. How come the accusers names were not published, this probably would have given the town a different look into the situation. This created lots of hurt on the families involved and many threats to the men themselves. They were not kids on the dirt bikes they were young men. They were not joy riding in Oil Springs as it was thought, but in Petrolia riding across several lawn causing damage then going out of town on wheat field that were also damaged. But none of this info was forwarded to the public. I would like to know if you agree to “innocent until proven guilty.” This practice of yours I think needs to be changed so it doesn’t upset families of the accused and the accusers.

**Rosemary Wilson
Petrolia, ON**

Editor’s Note: The information contained in the online story and in the pages of this newspaper was provided by the OPP.

Big Canada Day fireworks display will have to wait

**Heather Wright
The Independent**

A joint Canada Day celebration hosted by Petrolia, Plympton-Wyoming and Enniskillen is on hold. The three municipalities all applied for grant money from the federal government to host a larger than normal fireworks display in Petrolia. All three communities received the grant and were planning a special event for Canada Day. But that was before the pandemic hit and the province placed restrictions on the number of people gathering in one spot. Right now, only five people are al-

lowed to gather in one spot at a time. Petrolia’s celebrations, which traditionally people from Plympton-Wyoming and Enniskillen attend, draws thousands of people. Laurissa Ellsworth, director of marketing arts and communication for the Town of Petrolia, says while they’re looking at what they can do for Canada Day, there won’t be a fireworks display unless it is a virtual display. The town piloted an app on the Victoria Day weekend which allowed residents to see a fireworks display in their backyards without setting off any fireworks. But Ellsworth says the communities

still want to have some sort of big celebration together in 2020. “Maybe as we move through the year and the restrictions loosen up, maybe we’ll have an event. It might not be Canada Day but we can bring the communities together to do some of the things we do on Canada Day.” Plympton-Wyoming CAO Carolyn Tripp agreed. “I think it’d be very much the same thing (as Canada Day) provided it can be arranged ... subject to what time of year that is and the availability. So the idea is let’s do fireworks but that is the hope to have a celebration when COVID-19 is over.”

Nursing home leader disheartened by continued outbreak

**Heather Wright
The Independent**

Heather Martin says it is disheartening to see COVID-19 continue to infect residents of Vision Nursing Home. Martin is the CEO of the Sarnia home where now 14 residents and 10 staff members have now tested positive for the respiratory virus which has killed over 1,408 people in long term care homes, including four at Vision. COVID-19 was first detected in Vision April 23, the day before the home was scheduled to be part of a mass testing of all nursing home residents in the province. Lambton’s Medical Officer of Health says the residents who are now sick didn’t show signs of the virus at that time of the mass testing, saying they were retested after they had signs of the illness.

Martin says the outbreak has been contained to one wing of one unit at the home. Officials have closed it off to the rest of the home, staffing it separately, making sure workers don’t move through the home but stay only in the are where there is infection. The nursing home has taken advantage of help from organizations in the community including Bluewater Health. “I have a good relationship with the staff there, and when they put the first call out to see how they could help. I said, ‘how about some of our staff, who went to work at the hospital; send them back, we need them.’” Those workers, who in April had to chose one workplace to work in to avoid spreading the virus, have now returned to help with the outbreak. Martin is also hoping to have school board employees come in to help. The province and some of the unions have agreed to send laid off workers into

nursing homes to help out. “Why wouldn’t we call over and ask to send over educational assistants and social workers? Our residents are lonely, they could use some comforting.” Martin says of those residents still showing symptoms, the home is monitoring one resident closely; but the others she says there is “no doubt about it, the grace of God is looking down on these people; right now, they are rallying.” Still, watching the number of people develop COVID-19 has been “disheartening. Being in this business as long as we have, we do experience residents deaths... but this isn’t natural. This isn’t right.” Vision Nursing Home is one of three in Lambton with outbreaks. At press time there were two cases at Village on the St. Clair and one at Marshall Gowland Manor.

Plympton-Wyoming considering security cameras

**Heather Wright
The Independent**

Plympton-Wyoming is looking at installing security at some of the town’s properties. Earlier this year there was vandalism at the town’s waste water treatment plant and staff decided to investigate how much it would cost to install security cameras there. “There was some discussion in regards to ... Freedom of Information Act and our ability to put up cameras. So we are consulting, and thoroughly reviewing the cameras locations and other information before we finalize

to have them installed,” says Adam Sobanski, director of public works. “We did not budget for them in this year...we’re just we’re being very careful to maintain our budgets so we have not committed to spend money at this time. We’re simply investigating the needs of cameras.” Councillors also suggested looking at the water tower and the town pool as possible spots for surveillance. Mayor Lonny Napper says there have been problems at the water tower before. “There’s been some history there in the past; at one time there was some young fellows climbed at the top of

the tower and wrote graffiti as they removed the caps. “At the time we had to go to great expense to drain that tower, bring it down, because over exposure to it ... I think that was quite costly at the time,” he says. Sobanski says town staff is just analyzing now what locations should be monitored and how to make sure the cameras are pointed at town property only. “We’re very much in preliminary stages with our study ... and we are shopping considering the consequences and the logistics of having this carried out.”

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RETURN TO THE GREENS



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Elsie Fulcher takes her first shot of the season at Black Creek Golf Club in Oil Springs Saturday. The province allowed the opening of the clubs as it began to ease some of the restrictions in place for the last eight weeks to stop the spread of COVID-19. Black Creek Owner Randy Hull was excited to get the season started but said they were being cautious, following all the health guidelines to make sure everyone is safe. Golfers will be given longer tee times – between 10 and 15 minutes depending on the club. Foursomes will be allowed, but only one person will be in the carts – some clubs will allow two bags in the cart with one person driving and the other walking. Hull says foursomes who can show they all live in the same house can share a cart. And there will be plenty of cleaning – each course The Independent talked to said the carts would be sanitized between each use. The clubhouses won't be open to sit down and have a drink after a round – some may be open for washroom use. Other local courses may offer takeout food or a beer cart on the course. But any new rules didn't seem to stop people from hitting the links. "The phone has been ringing off the wall," Hull says. At Kingswell Glen – the new name for Heritage Heights in Petrolia – owners Jenna and Joe Gorzeman welcomed golfers back to the historic club. They're excited to take advantage of the opportunity to open when many businesses are not. But Jenna Gorzeman says the new procedures will make it tough to make money in an industry where margins are already tight. "The truth be told this course is one that hasn't had a very positive financial track record," she says adding they were trying to figure out "how are we going to do this in the best of circumstances." Gorzemen says the tight restrictions are likely to ease and that may help. And she says if golf courses across the country start having large financial problems, their may be some help from the federal government.

Parents say at home learning 'overwhelming'

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

Parents are getting a chance to have their say on how home learning is going in Lambton County as Ontario announces students won't head back to class this year. And it seems many are having a hard time leading their kids through lessons online. Students have been at home, taking courses through video conferencing like Zoom and Google meets for two months now. Both the public and the Catholic School Boards asked parents how things were going. Around 1,050 parents and guardians took part in a 'Thoughtexchange Survey' on May 12, where they were

able to ask some of their most pressing questions as a group. The number one question in the session dealt with access to school work being spread out over multiple applications. "Due to having to go on different links etc. it often takes a lot more time than what we were told. Many kids need us to sit and help them" read the top ranked thought. "It can get overwhelming with all of the spots to visit." "Similar to using textbooks and additional resources to facilitate learning, educators may use multiple apps to teach different aspects of the curriculum. Our staff is committed to supporting students' success and we have encouraged staff to continue to reach out to families to better understand needs and offer supports," say officials with the local school boards. About 85 per cent of parents in the public system say they felt communication between the school board and families was at a good level. "We are proud of the efforts of our staff who regularly demonstrate their extraordinary commitment to students and are developing innovative practices to support families at this time. If students or families have any questions or need additional supports, we encourage them to reach out to the school," Board Spokesperson Heather Hughes said.

Two Petrolia men charged after guns pointed at dirt bikers

The Independent

Two Petrolia men are facing charges after an incident on Gypsie Flats Road. Lambton OPP were called to the area around 5:20 pm Wednesday after someone reported two people pointed

a firearm out of a vehicle at two people on dirt bikes. Police brought in the Emergency Response team and found a vehicle. Two people were arrested and police say they found two firearms inside. Blair Wilson, 47, and Mark Wilson, 42, both face three charges including point a firearm and possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose. Family members tell *The Independent* the dirt bikes were tearing up lawns and wheat fields on the edge of Petrolia.

TOWNSHIP OF WARWICK CANADA DAY CELEBRATION CANCELLED FOR 2020

In accordance with the Provincial Emergency Order, the 2020 Township of Warwick in person Canada Day Celebration has been cancelled.

The health and safety of community members, staff and volunteers is the top priority of the Township of Warwick. We must all do our part to help limit the spread of COVID-19.

For more information, please contact:

Amanda Gubbels
CAO/Clerk
Township of Warwick
P: 519-849-3926
F: 519-849-6136
E: agubbels@warwicktownship.ca



		3				1		8
1	9		7	4		5		
8	5		2			9		
	3	8						4
5		7	8	9			1	
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		1			2	8		
6	2	9	1		5			

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

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TO ADDRESS COUNCIL DURING AN ELECTRONIC MEETING



- during business hours, register by telephone with the Clerk's Department at Town Hall, any time prior to close of business on the meeting date;
- register by email with the Clerk's Department at Town Hall, up to thirty (30) minutes in advance of the meeting start time;
- all presentation materials, or correspondence to be presented to Council, must be provided in a written format, received by the Clerk no later than 4:30 PM the day of the Electronic Meeting.
- all persons registered to present verbally to Council, will be called upon by the Clerk during the appropriate portion of the meeting agenda. The Clerk will identify the presenters name an address and state "your line is open"

We encourage all those who wish to address Council during an Electronic Meeting, to do so pursuant to the process outlined above. Those that are not able to register in advance, will be granted an opportunity during the appropriate portion of the meeting agenda, only when called upon by the Head of Council

- once the Head of Council opens the opportunity, please state your name, address and topic, before proceeding
- if more than one person comes forward, the Mayor will note the order in which Council will be addressed;

All rules of decorum and process of addressing Council through the Mayor will remain in place.

Only persons registered in advance, will be able to present a letter or document to Council. This item is to be received in advance at the Clerks Office, by 4:30 PM the day of the meeting. All other addresses to Council are to be oral.

If You Would Like To Participate In The Council Meeting from your home or office, the following steps will help you participate

- Dial (toll free) 1-855-703-8985 Canada Toll-free
- Enter the Meeting ID: **For Mon., May 25/20 7pm only: 806 741 558#**
- Enter the Password: 695989#

You will now have access to the meeting. Should you wish to participate by video, please visit www.town.petrolia.ca for the link.

Note: it will be very helpful if you mute your microphone if possible until you are called upon to speak.

clerksoffice@petrolia.ca (519)882-2350

Advocates say families should return to nursing homes

Heather Wright
The Independent

Doctors told Brenda Casey she and her grandmother were like an old married couple, they were so close.

But when Lillian Batty came to the end of her life last week, Casey couldn't be there. Batty has been a resident of Meadowview Villa in Petrolia for five years and for the last two months of her life, she lived without the close contact of her family locked down because of COVID-19.

Casey grew up in her grandmother's Wyoming home. After her grandfather died, they stuck together and even worked together at the family's business - Lloyd's Paving.

As her granny aged, Casey would joke with her about the future "She just kept saying 'never put me in a home' I was like "Never Granny, don't worry."

But eventually Casey and her mother and two aunts could no longer care for Batty in her home. She agreed to go to Meadowview.

"The staff up there are wonderful. They are wonderful. They just don't have the time," says Casey.

So, family visited daily. Sometimes Casey would be there more than once a day.

Her granny's memory slipped, but Casey still went knowing it was important to be with her. As her condition worsened, Casey knew she had to advocate for her granny. And, when Batty's weight dropped to 107, family members would take turns going to feed her. Just before the province locked down nursing homes to stop COVID-19 from entering the homes, Casey's granny was back up to 122 pounds.

Casey, like many of the families of the 79,000 long term care patients in Ontario, grew frustrated as the lock down dragged on. She remembered what it was like when the home would be locked down for a week or so to stop a flu outbreak.

"She just seemed sadder... It's really hard, because you don't know what they're thinking."

Experts have been watching the now nearly nine week lock down of Ontario's nursing homes. The province, including Premier Doug Ford, have said a flat no to allowing family members back in saying it is too much of a risk.

COVID-19 has been devastating in Ontario's long term care homes.

Of the 1,919 people who have died as of Tuesday,

1,408 of them have been residents of long term care homes.

About 190 of the 626 publicly funded homes have had outbreaks, some with horrific consequences. Monday, a home in the Hamilton area was evacuated because the COVID-19 outbreak was ravaging the population there.

But Casey, and some long term care advocates, say the province-wide lock down needs to end.

Dr. Vivian Stamatopoulos, Associate Teaching Professor in the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities at Ontario Tech University. She says other provinces - Alberta and BC for example - have allowed families back into nursing homes, starting with those which don't have COVID-1. But Ontario doesn't even have a plan yet, she says.

"It's ridiculous," she says of the 68 days families have now been kept from their loved ones.

She says studies in France during that country's COVID-19 lock down have shown isolating the elderly, particularly those with cognitive problems, has long term consequences that are "arguably irreversible."

Stamatopoulos adds keeping families and patients apart for long periods of time is against the Long Term Care Act. "Certainly and especially for elderly residents who need to make decisions with a power of attorney, those with advance cognitive decline and issues with understanding...their family caregiver is crucial in giving consent...They cannot provide proper consent..if they do not have active involvement in their care."

The act also says patients have the right to adequate care, but without family members inside to see what is actually happening, issues such as the lack of personal protective equipment for staff, may never be known.

"How are they supposed to know exactly what conditions the residents are under if they (the residents) can't communicate how they are feeling?"

Stamatopoulos says the homes have become "pandemic prisons" for the elderly.

"They are treating the elderly worse than were treating prisoners at this point... I am horrified it has gone on this long, with no appreciation of how harmful this is."

The situation is made worse, she says, when the province calls in the army

or staff from school boards to come into the homes and keeps family at bay.

"They're treating the family members, who have the largest interest in keeping residents safe, treating them as a potential risk but allowing everyone else in - it doesn't make sense..."

"There is growing concern from families questioning whether this is to hide what is going on...Do you not want families to see this, are you afraid of potential family legal action?"

In fact families are raising concern. Jason Oliver is with the Patient Ombudsman's office. For the last four years, it has dealt with concerns about patient care in hospitals and long term care homes.

Normally, complaints about long term care comprise 10 per cent of their work.

During COVID-19, about half of the complaints are coming from family members and workers at long term care homes.

Oliver says last year there were about 200 complaints a month. Since early March, the number of complaints has almost doubled, with 250 complaints dealing with COVID-19 issues.

"Normally, people are a bit fearful to make complaints in long term care homes; it's their house...and they tell us they are fearful of reprisals that will affect the care," says Oliver.

"Now COVID-19 comes along and about 50 per cent of all of our COVID complaints are from long term care homes. It is definitely a shift but not surprising for anyone who is following the news."

The ombudsman, seeing what was going on, for the first time last month put out a plea for families and caregivers to speak out so they can find the problems in long term care.

Stamatopoulos agrees telling families to report everything so when the province's independent commission - announced by the long term care minister Tuesday - begins its work there will be lots of evidence about what is going on in nursing homes.

But now, Stamatopoulos says the province should start opening up the homes so families can be there to advocate for relatives.

"Start with homes that don't have outbreak. There has been zero reason from day one that they should not have been in there," she says.

Family, Stamatopoulos says, should have access to

personal protective equipment and at least one family members should be allowed into homes even in an outbreak.

Brenda Casey agrees. "They should be supplying PPE for one important family member, either the POA or another family member. Families need to go in because...you can't advocate for someone you can't talk to."

But not everyone agrees. Nalini Sen is the director of research for the Alzheimers Society of Ontario.

She agrees these are challenging times for people in long term care particularly those with Alzheimers or dementia. She says the changes in socialization - the lack of family visits and fewer activities in the home itself - has a "direct impact on their mood."

That places a lot of stress on health care workers who are trying to stimulate residents while doing their regular duties.

She says for health care workers, it is "challenging."

"They are spreading themselves thin. One-on-one attention has increased now - where group setting would have provided relief to health care worker."

But Sen doesn't believe



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Lillian Batty died at Meadowview Villa during the lock down to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Some advocates are calling for an end to the lockdown.

that automatically means family should go back into the homes - yet.

"Safety is paramount," she says. "What we do know is this virus is fast spreading what we don't know is when it will be finally contained"

"Isolation and placing those types of restrictions is better than not" particularly when some seniors recover.

Sen advocates a gradual return as research shows the best way to protect vulnerable seniors.

Premier Doug Ford has also been blunt about the issue saying he doesn't believe families should return to long term care homes yet.

And he gave no timeline for when it may be the right time.

For Casey, the only time she was able to return was as her granny was dying at Meadowview. Staff helped her put on personal protective equipment and she sat with her grandmother for a half hour, telling her it was okay to go now. "She never really woke up...I uncovered her feet and put my hand in her shirt...thinking maybe it would be cold and she would wake up. She did open her eyes and there was nobody there."

Lillian Batty died hours later, alone.

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Brooke Central teachers lend a hand in Alvinston

Local elementary school teachers took a page from a big food drive in Chatham-Kent on Saturday and walked through Alvinston collecting donations for the local food bank while saying hi to some students from a distance



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS

Breanna Dew hand her Grade 4/5 teacher, Scott Whyte, a card she had made for him. The whole Dew family came by to donate to the food drive Saturday in front of the Alvinston Library and to say hello to some of their teachers. Later, teachers including Principal Chad Brown and Educational Assistant Trish Westgate, walked the streets of Alvinston picking up food left on porches. The town donated enough food to fill the back of a pickup truck and an SUV.



Golf, camping ready to go in St. Clair

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

St. Clair Township has given the okay to play golf but campers had to wait a bit longer.

The municipality runs the St. Clair Parkway Golf Course and several parks.

Friday, St. Clair councillors decided the golf course will be the first thing to get rolling, with close to 200 members signed up to tee off Saturday.

“The course is definitely rested and well ready because there hasn’t been any play. We have everything organized,” said director of community services and golf course superintendent Kendall Lindsay, outlining safety measures that have been put in place including those involving the clubhouse washrooms.

Only club members will be allowed to take the course at this time. Staff will be controlling traffic coming in and out of the course to ensure a smooth flow of tee times. Only one person will be allowed to travel per cart.

Lindsay is encouraged that the links will be operating, but cautions that everyone coming to play needs to be smart and safe if they want the course to remain open.

“We’ve got one shot at it, and if we screw it up and get complaints the health inspector will be out,” Lindsay said.

“We’re taking it very seriously. We want to make sure we do it right, the last thing we want to do is for it to be our fault that we’re shut down.”



FILE PHOTO

Mooretown Campground was set to open Wednesday.

Campers will have to wait a few more days for the season to start though, as council decided not to open their trio of campgrounds until Wednesday. The decision was made to allow staff at the Branton Cundick, Cathcart and Mooretown sites more time to prepare for the arrival of members

Council debated whether to allow anyone in this weekend to prepare their trailer for the year. Ultimately it was decided that nobody will be allowed in for any reason until May 20, citing the difficulty of having to monitor everybody who may enter.

“I don’t want to have our staff policing anybody. I don’t think that’s fair to them, and I don’t want them to have to be the COVID cop running around the campground,” says Mayor Steve Arnold during discussion on the matter.

Campers returning from the United States may quarantine at the site, but they would have their site designated as a quarantine zone, and be subject to check-ins by Canadian Border agents.

St. Clair’s 39 transient campgrounds will remain closed by provincial order, and will converted to seasonal camp sites for this year.

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Sports

Flags go virtual for year-end awards

Max Steeves has won the Most Valuable Player award for the Mooretown Flags of the Provincial Junior Hockey League. The Sarnia product led the Stobbs Division this past season with 23 goals and 42 assists for 65 points in 38 games. He had 17 multiple point games including a season high seven points against Dresden late in the regular season. “He’s something special to watch,” said Flags General Manager John Baker. Steeves, who is eligible to return for a final season in 2020-21, joined Mooretown after two seasons in the Ontario Junior Hockey League. Baker said the list of winners is “impressive”. The Flags held their annual banquet online late last week. The list of winners is below: Ross McCormick Trophy MVP – Max Steeves Orville Druett Trophy Best Defenseman – Garrett Miller Robbie Beaton Trophy Rookie of The Year

– Brody Genyn Clarence “Slash” Evans Trophy Most Sportsmanlike – Blake Howard Garry McDonald Trophy Coaches Award – Greg Hay and Brock Perry Bill “Gunner” Guinness Heart and Soul Award – Jake Wilkins and Dawson Vautour Ron “Pork” Laur Scholarship Award – Brock Barber Meantime, Baker is uncertain how the coming season will unfold. He says teams can typically begin to sign players on June 1, but he suspects that fence post will likely be moved back. Mooretown had an overall record of 41-7 and was scheduled to begin a Stobbs Division championship series against the Lakeshore Canadiens when the season was called off a little more than two months ago because of the pandemic. “This year’s Mooretown Flags were a very special group,” said Baker. “They were a family; a close-knit group both on and off the ice.”

Petrolia woman Sting Volunteer of Year

Kristin MacFarlane, the fundraising chair for the Lambton Junior Sting, is the winner of the Volunteer of the Year award for the 2019-20 season. She was recognized for fundraising. “It goes without saying that fundraising is a very important and essential part of the success of the organization,” said the Junior

Sting in making the recent announcement. “Kristin puts in countless volunteer hours for the organization and the fundraising success is a direct result of her hard work. MacFarlane, from Petrolia, was “shocked” by the honour, saying she is only one of many who volunteer for the love of youth hockey.

Alvinston Aces season remains in limbo

There’s still no word on if or when the season will begin for the Alvinston Aces of the Southwest Middlesex Men’s Fastball League. The Aces typically begin their regular

season in mid-May but the . Meantime, Softball Ontario has extended its COVID protocol into early next month. All softball activities are now on hold until at least June 2.



FILE PHOTO

Opening day at Dresden Raceway last year.

Dresden Raceway hopes to open in June

Heather Wright
The Independent

The horses could be back on the track in Dresden June 7. The raceway was supposed to begin its season May 11, however restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic meant the races until now were cancelled. Thursday, the premier announced a number of businesses would be allowed to open, including horse racing. Dresden Raceway Spokesman Gary Patterson says unfortunately, the racing will begin without fans present, however they will be able to watch the events livestream and place their bets.

There will also be restrictions on the horseman. Patterson says only one person per horse will be allowed in the barns. And everyone will have to wear masks. The raceway had to work with the Health Unit to come up with a plan to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 and gave approval for the racing to move ahead. Patterson says qualifying races will be running May 31 with the first races June 7. He adds the track is hoping to run the Mark Austin Pacing series on June 29, July 5 and July 12. And he hopes at some point in the season, fans will be able to come to the raceway to watch live racing. That will depend on the provincial plans to reopen the economy.



PUBLIC NOTICE - HERBICIDE USE

County of Lambton

- Township of Brooke-Alvinston

 - County Rd #4 - ALL
 - County Rd #8 - ALL
 - County Rd #79 – ALL
 - County Rd #80 – Road 79 West

Township of Dawn-Euphemia

 - County Rd #2 – ALL
 - County Rd #8 – ALL
 - County Rd #15 – ALL
 - County Rd #21 – ALL
 - County Rd #26 – ALL
 - County Rd #79 – ALL

Township of Enniskillen

 - County Rd #4 – ALL
 - County Rd #8 – ALL
 - County Rd #14 – ALL
 - County Rd #21 – ALL
 - County Rd #26 – ALL
 - County Rd #80 – ALL

Municipality of Lambton Shores

 - County Rd #5 – ALL
 - County Rd #6 – ALL
 - County Rd # 9 – ALL
 - County Rd #12 – ALL
 - County Rd #18 – ALL
 - County Rd #79 - ALL
 - County Rd # 7 - ALL
- City of Sarnia

 - County Rd. # 7 - County Rd 26 West to Telfer Road
 - County Rd #20 – ALL
 - County Rd #26 – ALL
 - County Rd. # 27 - Hwy 402 North to Blackwell Road
 - County Rd #31 - ALL

Town of Plympton-Wyoming

 - County Rd # 7 - ALL
 - County Rd # 8 - ALL
 - County Rd #11 – ALL
 - County Rd #12 – ALL
 - County Rd #14 – ALL
 - County Rd #21 – ALL
 - County Rd #22 – ALL
 - County Rd #26 - ALL
 - County Rd #30 - ALL

Township of St. Clair

 - County Rd #1 – Marshy Creek – East to Hwy #40.
 - County Rd. #2 – ALL
 - County Rd #4 – ALL
 - County Rd #20 – ALL
 - County Rd #26 – ALL
 - County Rd #28 – ALL
 - County Rd #31 – ALL
 - County Rd #36 – ALL
 - County Rd #80 – ALL

Township of Warwick

 - County Rd # 8 – ALL
 - County Rd # 9 – ALL
 - County Rd # 12 - ALL
 - County Rd #22 – ALL
 - County Rd # 39 –ALL
 - County Rd # 79 - ALL

The Corporation Of The County Of Lambton intends to control noxious weeds under the Health or Safety, Public Works exception within its jurisdiction along its rural County Roadsides using Clearview Herbicide, which contains the active ingredients, Aminopyralid present as potassium salt and Metsulfuron-methyl. PCP Registration Number 29752 in combination with Hasten NT Spray Adjuvant, which contains active ingredients Methyl and ethyl oleate (esterified vegetable oil). PCP Registration Number 28277.

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<http://www.lambtononline.ca/home/residents/publicworks/roads/Documents/2020%20Lambton%20County%20Weed%20Ad.pdf>

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Green Stream- Steve Ford Contact:
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Death Notices

May 11 to May 19, 2020

MONDAY, MAY 11

KENNY, Kim
Age 54, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

GEORGE, Stewart
Age 62, of Stony Point
Denning's of Forest

HUTCHINSON, Richard
Age 68, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

TAYLOR, Cheryl
Age 75, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

KEARNS, Jim
Age 88, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

NICHOLS, Roy
Age 88, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

TUESDAY, MAY 12

MONTALBAN, Osciell
Age 79, of Sarnia
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

BURDETT, Gary
Age 80, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

AINSWORTH, Maxine
Age 83, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

WEVER, Anson
Age 90, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

ROCCA, Pompillo
Age 94, of Sarnia
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

BARR, Paul
Age 81, of Point Edward
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

COURTNEY, Barbaree
Age 94, of Plympton Township
Denning's of Forest

WATSON, Dorothy
Age 95, of Forest
Denning's of Forest

THURSDAY, MAY 14

ELLIS, Stuart
Age 70, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

STRYDONCK, Elisabeth
Age 87, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

BATTY, Lillian
Age 88, of Watford
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

FRIDAY, MAY 15

SCHENK, Ronald
Age 58, of Plympton-Wyoming
Smith Funeral Home

WELSH, George
Age 65, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

GALLAWAY, Bonnie
Age 71, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

MOORE, Stuart
Age 85, of St. Clair Township
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

DAWSON, Marlene
Age 79, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

ECONOMOU, Byron
Age 83, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

ALLAN, George
Age 85, of Sarnia
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

SATURDAY, MAY 16

DAWSON, Nancy
Age 58, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

HAMILTON, Gregory
Age 70, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

McLEAD, Lynda
Age 70, of London
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

HOEKSTRA, Jantje "Jennie"
Age 92, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

Le CONTE, Howard
Age 97, of Brigden
Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels

CARD, Ellen
Age 99, of Petrolia
Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels

HERMANN, Dustin
Denning's Of Forest

SUNDAY, MAY 17

WHITE, Alice
Age 83, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

MONDAY, MAY 18

POWERS, Betty Jean
Age 94, of Brigden
Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels

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

Obituary



STRYDONCK
Elisabeth

Elisabeth Strydonck (nee Derikx) died peacefully at Trillium Villa Nursing Home, Sarnia on **Thursday, May 14, 2020**. Elisabeth (Liz) has been called home in her **87th year**. She will be deeply missed by her children Mary Lane, Judy (Dan) Rowland, and Lisa Hassenstein; and her grandchildren Ryan Lane, Travis Lane, Michelle Lane, Ashley Rowland, David Rowland, Kayla Hassenstein, and Stephen Hassenstein. She is survived by her sisters Hendrina (the late Cor) Vandermuren, Mary (Rinus) Lips, Nellie (the late John) Willemse and her brothers Pete Derikx, Joe (Therese and the late Bernice) Derikx, Harrie (Pierette) Derikx, Albert (Margie) Derikx, John (Celina) Derikx, her sister-in-law Georgette (the late Gerard) Derikx, and several nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her husband Emile (2018) sister Alda Derikx (1941) and her parents John (1976) and Maria (1999) Derikx. Her big friendly smile and warm hugs will be greatly missed. We are comforted to know she has joined our dad in heaven where they can once again be together. **A private service will be held at Hillsdale Cemetery. A public service will be held when it is safe to do so.** As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made by cheque to the Alzheimers Society (alzheimers.ca/en/sarnialambton) or the C.E.E. Hospital Foundation (for Continuing Care) (www.ceehf.ca). Memories and condolences may be shared online at www.needhamjay.com.

Notice

Petrolia Farmers' Market - The open-air Petrolia Farmers' Market, scheduled to open Saturday, May 16, 2020, has been **delayed** while staff work with vendors to make changes to safety protocols. A new starting date will be available soon, residents are thanked for their patience.

Obituary



CARD
Ellen

CARD, Ellen Lucretia (nee Shephard) – **Age 99**, Passed away peacefully on **Saturday, May 16, 2020** at Fiddick's Nursing Home, Petrolia. Beloved wife of the late William Card. Loving mother of Patsy (late Jim) Sharpe, Joe (Bev) Card, James (Janet) Card, Nancy (late Bruce) Jackson, the late Bill (Mary) Card and the late Ellen Arlene (George) Sharpe. Proud grandma of 23 and great grandma, great great grandma of many. Missed by many nieces, nephews and friends. Predeceased by parents Orville and Bertha (Graham) Shephard. **A private Family visitation and service was held at STEADMAN BROTHERS FUNERAL HOME, Brigden. Interment at Riverside Cemetery, Sombra.** Sympathy may be expressed through donations St. Joseph's Hospice or charity of choice. Memories and condolences may be sent online at www.steadmanbrothers.ca. Steadman Brothers 519-864-1193.

WANTED

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

In Memory

BRIDEKIRK - In loving memory of a dear mother and grandmother, **Ethel L. Bridekirk** who passed away **May 19, 1994**.

*May the winds of Heaven blow softly
And whisper in your ear.
How much we love and miss you
and wish that you were here.*

Lovingly remembered by
Marie, Dorothy, Sandi and family

Obituary



McLEOD
Lynda Mae

LYNDA MAE McLEOD died peacefully at Victoria Hospital in London on **Saturday, May 16, 2020**, at the age of **70**. Born in Petrolia, the daughter of the late Walter (2013) and Jean (2013) McLeod, was resident of London and was formerly of Toronto and Sarnia. She will be missed by her son John Sauve and his wife SunYoung of Brampton, her grandchildren, Amber and her husband Mohamed, Isabelle, Jade, and Katherine, and her great granddaughters Lylah and Sarah. She was predeceased by a son Jimmie Sauve. A private graveside service will be held at Hillsdale Cemetery in Petrolia. As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to your local Humane Society. Arrangements by Needham-Jay Funeral Home. Memories and condolences may be shared online at www.needhamjay.com.

WANTED

TO RENT - Senior Woman looking for an apartment in Petrolia. I have no pets and am a non-smoker. Very good credit rating. Would prefer a 2 BR but will look at a 1 BR. Ground floor with room to park one car. Would like laundry facilities. Must be well kept. **Call 519-869-2761**

In Memory



John DUFFY
May 22, 2016

In Memory
of our loved son
"John"
and brother to
Myrna Duffy

Why...


Ever since you went away,
The days go slowly by,
And the hardest thing to cope with,
is never knowing why...

That I don't understand
and maybe never will,
questions left unanswered
now your voice is still.

To lose you was unbearable,
and time and time again
I've tried to look for reasons
that no one can explain.

Life & Death holds mysteries
But one thing is for sure,
We loved you then,
We love you now,
and will forever more.

*Love always,
Mom & Dad, Sister Myrna*

**Deadline**

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

COVID-19

IN LAMBTON

Local events that have been cancelled or postponed because of the coronavirus outbreak.

CANCELLED EVENTS

DATE	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
May 27	Petrolia	Petrolia Library's free workshop for legal advise regrading Landlord & Tenant Board	
May 29	Sarnia	ARLANXEO Retiree Dinner Committee	
May 30	Corunna	Corunna Legion Open Jam Session	
May 30	Sarnia	Sarnia 3 on 3 Street Hockey Challenge	
May 30	Sarnia	Bluewater Anglers "Kids Training Day"	
Jun 5	Petrolia	Victoria Playhouse Petrolia 2020 Theater Season	
Jun 5-7	Sarnia	Refined Fools Brewing Co's June Classic	
Jun 12	Alvinston	Alvinston & District Optimist Youth Dance	
Jun 12-14	Grand Bend	MOPAR Canadian National Superbike Series at the Grand Bend Motorplex	
Jun 19-21	Sarnia	Sarnia Kinsmen 2020 Ribfest In Canatara Park	
Jun 21	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions Fathers Day Breakfast &	
Jun 21	Petrolia	Petrolia Discovery Car Show	
Jun 21	Watford	Watford Annual Yard Sale Day	
Jun 9-10	Petrolia	Art in The Park Petrolia	
Jul 10	Florence	Florence Truck & Tractor Pull	
Aug 7-8	Bothwell	Bothwell Car Show & Optifest	

POSTPONED EVENTS

DATE	LOCATION	EVENT	DATE
Mar 16	Petrolia	St. Paul's United Church Irish Dinner & Concert	TBD
Mar 26	Wyoming	Wyoming Wee Ones Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser	TBD
Mar 29	Petrolia	Petrolia Optimist Run for the Groceries Draw/Event	TBD
Apr 8	Petrolia	Petrolia Community Theatre production of "Sandy Toes & Salty Kisses" NOW Postpoined until 2021	
Apr 11	Alvinston	Alvinston& District Optimist Club Triva Night	TBD
Apr 18	Alvinston	The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston Large Item Day – Moved to Fall	
Apr 17	Petrolia	Town of Petrolia Large Item Collection	TBD
May 1	Petrolia	Town of Petrolia Large Item Collection	TBD
May 1	Wyoming	Plympton & Wyoming Agricultural Society Annual Salad Luncheon New Date TBD 519-845-3161	
May 2	Sarnia	Sarnia School of Irish Dance presents "A Celtic Eveing"	TBD
May 2	Oil Springs	Oil Springs Rabies Vaccination Pet Clinic	TBD
May 6	Sarnia	Sarnia The Stampeders - Celebrating 50 Years	Oct 26, 2020
May 22-30	Sarnia	Theatre Sarnia Presents "Grease"	TBD
May 23	Enniskillen	Enniskille Rabies Vaccination Pet Clinic	TBD
Jun 17	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions FREE Senior Picnic BBQ	TBD
Jun 19	Sarnia	LiUNA "Do it for Sarnia" Block Party	Sept 11& 12, 2020
Jun 19-21	Alvinston	Alvinston Pro Rodeo has been moved to August 28, 29 & 30, 2020 www.alvinstonprorodeo.com	
Jun 21	Alvinston	Alvinston & District Optimist Club's Cowboy Breakfast has been moved tio August 30, 2020	
Jun 21	Oil Springs	Oil City Cemetery Decoration Day Service	TBD

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

Wyoming Lions

554 Main Street

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5	6	7	8	9	4	3	1	2
2	1	4	3	5	7	6	8	9
7	8	5	4	3	6	2	9	1
3	4	1	9	7	2	8	6	5
6	2	9	1	8	5	4	7	3

the co-operators

A Better Place For You

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Church

DIRECTORY

Christ Church Anglican

414 Oil Street, Petrolia

All worship services in the Anglican Diocese of Huron are suspended until further notice. Please continue to hold one another and our communities in your prayers.

Rev. Michelle Collins-Wongkee

Church Office 519-882-1430

christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

416 Queen Street, Petrolia (Behind the Post Office)

In this time of Social distancing we invite you to join a virtual congregation and watch the Sunday morning worship at Knox Presbyterian Church in Thedford.

9:30am Service - Live

www.kpcthedford.com

www.standrews-petrolia.ca

St. Paul's United Church

4169 Petrolia Line at Centre Street

We invite you to join a virtual congregation and watch the Sunday morning worship on our Facebook Page & Website. Please Stay Safe!

Rev. Susan Cameron

10:30am Service

Church Office: 519-882-1390

stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net

First Baptist Church

418 Greenfield Street, Petrolia

SERVICE SUSPENDED until further notice in compliance with Ontario Corona Virus meeting guidelines

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

Wyoming United Church

730 Second Street, Wyoming

Due to the COVID-19 virus will be closed until further notice. We will keep you updated about any changes.

Join Us for Worship - All are Welcome

Church Office 519-845-3963

Find us on Facebook



Business & Service Directory

BOURQUE RENOVATIONS

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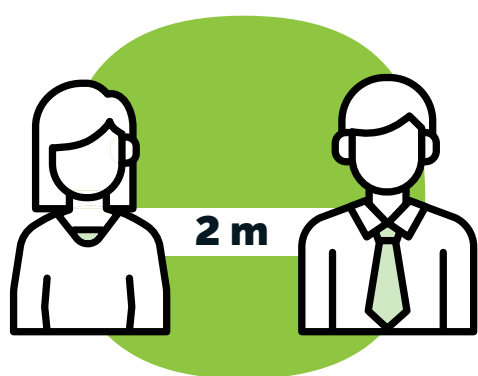
gbexc@brktel.on.ca

gbexcavating.ca



We're Making a Difference to Keep Each Other Safe from COVID-19

As businesses begin to reopen, we all need to continue our efforts to protect each other.



Practice physical distancing.
Stay two metres away from others



Wear a face covering when physical distancing is a challenge



Wash hands thoroughly and often

Inside or out, stay safe. Save lives.