

The Independent

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Brooke-Alvinston looking for a fire chief

Heather Wright
The Independent

There could be a new face at the helm of the Brooke-Alvinston fire department by the end of June.

A report to council says the contract of the current chief, Jeff McArthur, expires at the end of July.

McArthur came to the position in 2017 after the Ontario Fire Marshal's office investigated the Alvinston and Inwood departments. Officials found a laundry list of issues, many of which had to do with record keeping and training.

The OFM also recommended the two departments merge with one part time administrative chief overseeing the two stations.

Council agreed and Brooke Fire Rescue came into being. But it has been a bumpy ride.

The new chief faced opposition from Inwood firefighters as he pushed for more training. Firefighters were restricted from some duties at fires because their training was not up-to-date. The issue eventually led to the resignation of 16 Inwood firefighters and the municipality moving the equipment out of the community's fire hall.

The plan has been to build a fire bay at the local library, however Mayor Dave Ferguson has said there needs to be a conversation about the level of service needed in the municipality.

On Feb. 27, McArthur brought a report to council asking for support to maintain a presence in Inwood, but council didn't not commit to that.

During his tenure, McArthur also took on the role of part-time fire chief in Southwold Township, where his family lives and works.

Brooke-Alvinston Administrator Janet Denkers says McArthur is welcome to apply for the position, like other internal and external applicants, by mid June.

The Independent contacted the current Brooke Fire Rescue chief, however, he has not returned our calls.

LANCER STRONG



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

LCCVI Principal Greg Nemcek shows off some of the 200 signs made for the 2020 graduates. Teachers will be fanning out across Central Lambton Thursday to hand out the lawn signs to the 146 graduates and their families. The class of 2020's graduation should have been June 12 but it had to be postponed until the fall due to the restrictions around gathering during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Union head says trades are slowing returning to work

Heather Wright
The Independent

The head of the Sarnia and District Labour Council hopes most of his members will be back on the job come this summer.

Jason McMichael, speaking at a community conference organized by the City of Sarnia, says just before the COVID-19 pandemic was declared employment levels for the building trades in the Chemical Valley particularly had skyrocketed to nearly 95 per cent.

Nova Chemicals was one of the big employers as its \$2 billion expansion on Petrolia Line was humming.

But then, McMichael says, workplaces started shutting down.

"We went from 90 to 95 per cent employment down to 50 per cent and even 20 per cent," he says.

Nova alone laid off about 90 per cent of its construction workforce for a couple of weeks.

But recently, as the province begins allowing more workplaces to reopen using new health screening and increased sanitation on site, the trades are returning to the job site.

"We're up to 50 or 60 per cent employment now," says McMichael.

"And we are heading up with more and

more constructions sites being opened."

McMichael hopes by this summer, 80 per cent of labour union members will be back on the job.

"That's great news, more workers working means more people spending money in the local economy."

McMichael adds he's proud of his members who, while they were off the job, we out and volunteered. Trades members helped Bluewater Health build its field hospital at Lambton College.

And he says considering 10 per cent of the people in Sarnia-Lambton work in the trades, it is amazing only two workers have tested positive for COVID-19.

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CORUNNA	11AM-2PM	3PM-6PM	11AM-2PM	3PM-6PM	11AM-2PM	11AM-2PM
FLORENCE		2PM-6PM			11AM-2PM	
FOREST	12PM-6PM	12PM-6PM	12PM-6PM	12PM-6PM	10AM-4PM	10AM-4PM
MALLROAD	12PM-6PM	12PM-6PM	12PM-6PM	12PM-6PM	10AM-4PM	10AM-4PM
OIL SPRINGS	11AM-2PM			3PM-6PM		
PETROLIA	12PM-6PM	12PM-6PM	12PM-6PM	12PM-6PM	12PM-6PM	10AM-4PM
POINT EDWARD		3PM-6PM		3PM-6PM		11AM-2PM
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PURPLE PETROLIA PLANTINGS



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Town of Petrolia staff have been out planting in the last week. Recently, staff and some of the summer students were spotted at the bridge between Bridgeview Park filling the planters with purple petunias.

Open for business? Province may open regions

Heather Wright
The Independent

Lambton’s Medical Officer of Health says working out the specifics of reopening some parts of Ontario with lower levels of COVID-19 could be tricky.

There have been calls for a regional approach to reopening Ontario for some time as some northern communities have very few cases of COVID-19 yet hospital care is limited, family visits in long-term care homes are banned and businesses are still closed as the economy is faltering.

The premier had for some time said Ontario is in this together and it would be too hard to stop people from COVID-19 infected areas from moving into the rural areas of the province.

But Friday, Doug Ford says the government will consider a regional approach for opening suggested by regional medical officers of health. As of Tuesday, Ford had not made an announcement about

a regional reopening approach adding it is “complicated.”

Lambton’s MOH, Dr. Sudit Ranade, says there are pros and cons to opening regionally.

“There is this sense that we are collectively in this and so the travels between different jurisdictions may have an impact on how the disease transmits...If you were to allow somebody just to move ... it would just move the disease from places where it’s more active to places where it’s less active.” But he admits, there are some very good reasons to let rural communities which have not been as hard hit by COVID-19 to begin to return to normal.

“This is one of those times where factors other than the pure kind of public health perspective or the science factor is important, because there are a lot of impacts on businesses, a lot of impact on people... that have to be considered in this approach.”

Ranade adds it would be difficult to manage a regional approach.



Dawn-Euphemia fined for meth possession

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

A Dawn-Euphemia man was fined for possessing methamphetamine.

Larry Moody, 59, of Dawn-Euphemia was arrested in September 2019 following a car crash on Hale School Road. Police found a car abandoned in a ditch at around 9:30 a.m., and while searching the

vehicle discovered a backpack containing Moody’s ID, along with 15 grams of methamphetamine and cannabis. Shortly after Moody was located at a nearby residence, where he was found to be in possession of more methamphetamine.

The judge agreed to a \$1,000 fine, noting Moody’s last conviction was not since 2013, he has not used meth since the incident, and has sought help for addiction issues.

Bluewater Power has bigger profits than expected

Petrolia and its neighbours are getting a bigger cheque from Bluewater Power than expected this year.

Each year, Bluewater Power calculates its profit and then redistributes some of it to the original owners of the utility companies. Sarnia receives the largest share, then Petrolia, Warwick, Brooke-Alvinston, Point Edward and Oil Springs.

Petrolia’s CAO, Rick Charlebois says 2019

was a much better year than anticipated with the town receiving \$143,531 - \$19,000 more than budgeted.

Warwick received, \$42,318, Brooke-Alvinston \$14,041 and Oil Springs - the smallest of the original utility companies 0 \$6,436.

In all, Bluewater Power shared \$1,950,148 with its municipal partners. Petrolia’s additional \$19,000 will go into a reserve.

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Canada

Opinion

Neighbour worried about biosolid fertilizer in town

EDITOR:

LaSalle Agri is a locally owned and operated agricultural company that specializes in providing farmers with premium pelleted bio fertilizer. Owner lives next door in Petrolia he put his product around his trees and mine close to his lot. I cannot sit outside from the smell or stand the smell in my house. This is town, not county. The old people across the street will not be able to sit outside now that it

rain the smell is stronger. I sure he and his family nose-dead to the smell. It makes you want to throw up, plus gives a migraine. When he was building and we could not even go outside friends didn't want to come here and my grandson could not go out side without using a puffer. Living one block west of Petrolia, it might be good for crops but not for people health . With this lockdown and lung

problems I stay at home now I can breath very good at home. This stuff should never be use near people homes very just sit in my laneway and put your windows down .
Jane Teskey
Petrolia, Ontario
Editor's Note: *The Independent spoke to Roger Buurma, the brother of the homeowner, who confirmed the product was being used. He added the product is also sold for use on residential homes.*

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Ombudsman to probe long-term care

Heather Wright
The Independent

Ontario Premier Doug Ford says he welcomes an investigation by Ontario's ombudsman into long term care in the province. The government watchdog announced Monday it would start investigating why nursing homes are bearing the brunt of COVID-19 and if they were properly prepared. The Ombudsman does not normally investigate health issues – that's the job of the Patient Ombudsman's office which was created by the last Liberal government and which Health Minister Christine Elliott once led. Officials in the Ombudsman's office says they routinely receive concerns about long-term care – including 100 complaints from the public in 2019, which are given to the Patient Ombudsman. Ombudsman Paul Dube says he is invoking his authority to investigate on his own initiative – without receiving complaints – in light of the grave concerns raised by COVID-19 outbreaks in long-term care homes across the province, and the report last week by Canadian military personnel that revealed shocking conditions in five such homes. "The Canadian Armed Forces report painted a stunning portrait of the situation in long-term care during this crisis; our investigation will look at the systemic issues that led to it, and will make constructive recommendations for corrective action," the Ombudsman said in a news release. "Determining the root causes of administrative

dysfunction and recommending practical solutions is what we do." The investigation will look at standards, polices and oversight of long term care homes. It will also look at the way complaints have been handled, how the ministry handled inspections, emergency planning and what happened during the COVID-19 outbreak. "The pandemic has strained public services immensely, but also demonstrated how vital they are," Dubé says. "Never has it been more important to ensure that these systems are working as they should. This is where we can help, as an independent, impartial expert in administrative systems. We are uniquely suited to investigate systemic governance issues and to propose solutions that enhance transparency, accountability, and fairness." Premier Doug Ford, welcomed the investigation. The premier has said there will be an independent commission looking into how COVID-19 was handled in long term care starting in July. He's rejected calls by opposition MPPs to hold a public inquiry. "I would welcome the ombudsman to come in here," Ford says adding he's already asked Ontario's chief medical officer of health, chief coroner and the OPP to look into what happened at the five homes the Canadian military was called into. All of those homes are under alternative management led by hospitals in the Greater Toronto Area. "I need answers. I want answers, we need to get this fixed and I want to get this fixed."

But Ford rejected suggestions other nursing homes should be taken over by the province. There are 19 homes the province has said are in the "red zone" and not meeting standards. Officials won't name which ones. When asked by reporters if more should be taken over, Ford says that may come later and then he added until the situation was under control, even families would not be allowed in to see what was going on. "It could be a month, it could be a couple of months, but we're working very hard with public health to see if there could be a time when people could go in and see their loved ones." In Lambton, Bluewater Health has stepped up to help Vision Nursing Home. The non-profit home has been struggling with a COVID-19 outbreak since April 23. As of Tuesday, 25 residents and 24 staff members contracted the virus. Eight residents have died. Nine residents of the home were moved to the hospital for care. Officials say removing the residents from Vision will help the home return to a more normalized state, return more staff and continue to enhance personal protective equipment and infection control practices with the help of the Bluewater Health . All Vision residents will be returning to Vision Nursing Home as soon as they are COVID-free. Lambton Meadowview Villa in Petrolia is also in a COVID-19 outbreak with one staff member diagnosed in mid-May. So far no one else has tested positive for the respiratory virus.

Plympton-Wyoming reclaims McEwen Park

Heather Wright
The Independent

While it is not signed, sealed and delivered - it's close. Plympton-Wyoming and the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority have reached an agreement to turn McEwen Park over to the municipality. The idea was raised in 2019 when councillors were looking at the fees they paid the conservation authority. Each member municipality pays a pair capita fee and then on top of that, they agree to pay for the maintenance of parks in their communities.

Many councillors, including the late Ron Schenk, suggested Plympton-Wyoming could do just as good a job maintaining the property for less money. So, they wrote to the conservation authority asking for the park to be returned to Plympton-Wyoming. And the board approved. It has taken some time, but the municipality and the authority board have now both approved the agreement, however the province has to sign off as well. With the current health crisis, officials in Plympton-Wyoming expect

that could take some time. So they've worked out an operating agreement with the conservation authority which allows Plympton-Wyoming to maintain the property. Chief Administrative Officer, Carolyn Tripp says the are not any big plans to make changes to the site now although some residents have been asking if a gazebo which was once on the property could be rebuilt. Tripp says residents in the area will get a letter informing them of the new management of the park, but shouldn't notice any other changes for sometime in the future.

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Warwick may charge development fees

Heather Wright
The Independent

Warwick Township is looking at the idea of charging development charges.

And not everyone is happy about it.

Administrator Amanda Gubels says previous councils decided not to charge fees to developers to stimulate growth in the residential, industrial and commercial sectors.

But she says the growth that has come places stresses on the existing infrastructure and staff resources.

So, the township is going to look at the idea of charging

fees, hiring Watson and Associates to study the idea and how communities the size of Warwick handle the issue.

Mayor Jackie Rombouts says the policy has been working but “as we see more and more development coming” she sees the benefit of having “growth pay for growth.”

Councillor Jerry Westgate disagrees. “The developer fees will hinder the development.”

Westgate points to communities like Shelbourne who have implemented fees and it slowed growth.

“I think that’s why were doing this study to see what a com-

munity our size can reasonably charge,” says Rombouts.

Councillor Todd White says a study is necessary. “In my mind, it is how we get to a fairness between our community supplementing new residents coming in.”

He adds the fees may not be implemented right away.

Treasurer Trevor Jarrett says the study will not only look at what surrounding communities charge developers but will also look at growth goals and targets in Warwick.

The municipality will pay \$50,000 for the study. It should be complete in September.

Shetland park may have more seasonal sites

Heather Wright
The Independent

Dawn-Euphemia is reopening Shetland Conservation Area to campers, but like many others, transient campers won’t be welcome.

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority, which works with the municipality on the park, is opening its grounds for overnight use for seasonal campers Friday.

Dawn-Euphemia councillors

agreed that was a good idea, but suggested it was unlikely people would be able to pay for a weekend stay at the grounds this year.

“It can’t be a seasonal but this year with the way things are,” says Mayor Al Broad who has a campsite in St. Clair Township.

“We’re there for the whole season now.”

Broad suggested Dawn-Euphemia consider renting out the additional spaces at the park as seasonal camp spots to avoid

travellers moving in and out.

And Administrator Donna Clermont campers will have to use their own bathrooms and arrange to have the grey water removed from the campsite at some point in the summer.

“In order to open they require access to hydro water and use of their own washroom facilities because the public washrooms are still not open,” she says adding because the camp is opening only two weeks late, the rates will not be reduced.

Local leader says municipalities need more

The Independent

At least one Lambton county councillor says it is not enough.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says municipalities across Canada will be getting some financial help to deal with the effects of COVID-19.

The prime minister announced Monday the federal gas tax funding would be released

early in one payment instead of two. That works out to a \$2.2 billion injection into municipal governments.

Municipalities use the cash to build infrastructure.

But it is a far cry from the \$10 to \$15 billion the Canadian Federation of Municipalities has been calling for. Many of the services most affected by COVID-19, including long term

care, paramedics, recreation and transit are run by municipalities.

Trudeau realizes more will be needed but it has to be a joint effort with the provinces.

Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley says compared the funding to a “payday loan scheme...It’s really disappointing. We need to know now, not later what the federal government intends to do.”

ROCK GLEN SPILL



LAMBTON OPP PHOTO

A climber had to be rescued after falling down an embankment in Rock Glen.

Lambton OPP and Lambton Paramedics were called to Rock Glen Road in Akrona around 7:30 Saturday night after someone called saying a hiker had fallen down an embankment.

Lambton Shores firefighters repelled down the embankment and pulled the hiker out of the area. The climber was taken to hospital by air ambulance with what police say are non-life threatening injuries. The name of the person involved was not released.

Brigden man who inspires community dies

The man who inspired Brigden to reach out and showed they cared has passed away.

Chris Brown, who was brought home for his birthday on May 17, passed away May 27.

Neighbours had been rallying

around the family after hearing of Brown’s cancer diagnosis.

May 17, paramedics brought him home to visit with his sons who had not been able to visit in hospital due to COVID-19 and to allow about 100 friends to drive by on his big day.



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The more things change, the more they stay the same

Lambton historians look at Spanish Flu outbreak

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

We live in a time many call unprecedented. Children aren't in a classroom, businesses are closed, church members don't gather on Sunday, all because of a global pandemic. But a study by Lambton historians shows what's happening today during the COVID-19 pandemic isn't much different than what occurred over 100 years ago when the Spanish Flu swept across the globe killing hundreds of thousands of people. Members of the Heritage Sarnia-Lambton Museum network came together May 28, to discuss their research into Lambton's handling of the disease. The Spanish Flu of 1918-19 was one of the deadliest pandemics the world has ever seen, claiming the lives of tens of millions of people around the world. Ontario was not spared from the casualties, suffering around 300,000 cases and about 10,000 deaths. Lambton County fared better than most in Ontario during the pandemic. After reporting their first death from the disease on Oct. 11, 1918, public spaces were closed Oct. 13, with libraries following suit a few days later. Much of the medical advice remained largely the same as today: self-isolate, rest, eat good food, avoid travel if possible, and wear a mask if you worked as a caregiver. And the people in Lambton were also subject to "fake news" in 1918. There were also instances of doctors taking out ads for questionable home 'cures' in the local newspaper, as well as erroneously suggestions those living close to Lake Huron would see the contagion dispelled by the strong breeze. One noticeable difference between Spanish Flu and COVID-19 is the age of their victims. While COVID-19 has disproportionately affected seniors, Spanish Flu victims were mostly 20-40 year olds. Dana Thorne of the Lambton Heritage Museum believes this age group had not been exposed to an earlier, less deadly strain of

the virus, and failed to build up any immunity. Public health officials today are warning of a second wave of COVID-19 - likely in the fall. That knowledge is largely based on what happened in the Spanish Flu pandemic. The first wave of Spanish Flu was not the deadliest. A second wave hit much harder in terms of casualties, with third and fourth waves also proving costly as the virus spread into 1920. More parallels between COVID-19 and Spanish Flu came in public attitudes about how serious the Spanish Flu actually was.



Myrtle Dunham was a 32 year- old Arkona resident, who in early 1919 assisted a local family afflicted with influenza with the birth of their child. Dunham contracting influenza, and she passed away soon after.

Citing local newspaper reports from the time, Nicole Aszalos from the Lambton County Archives showed that "many members of the public took this threat seriously, while others disregarded recommendations to discourage the spread of the disease. "Even then, others still viewed the disease as not contagious, and this was



Both of David McLean's grandmothers contracted the Spanish Flu, but were able to overcome the disease.

a perspective that some members of the community maintained even as the Spanish Flu was ravaging the community around them." Like today, there was also a rush to blame a foreign power for the devastation. "Is German agent spreading influenza in the city?" read a newspaper headline following a surge in cases during October 1918. People believed German agents were spreading the virus in children's candy bars, as Canada entered the final days of World War I against the European nation. While this turned out to be nothing more than rumor, the number of Spanish Flu cases surged after large public celebrations to mark the end of the war in November.

When schools were closed, there was an outcry. Many cited the fact that more people died from scarlet fever or chicken pox, and felt the precaution was overblown. "Many of our citizens are disinfecting their homes and taking other steps to minimize the disease, but others are showing an apparent indifference that cannot but have a bad effect," a local reporter observed in late 1918. While 2020 saw runs on toilet paper and food, different services were at the forefront of customer demand in 1918. One of these was the druggist, who was the only retailer who could sell alcohol in prohibition-Canada - unless you visited the local bootlegger. Telephone companies also became overwhelmed. Bell pleaded with people to limit use of their phones as their operators were either becoming sick or overwhelmed operating the switchboard. The impact the Spanish Flu had on local First

Nations communities is not as clear according to Glenn Stott of the Arkona Lions Museum. First Nations were affected heavily by the Spanish Flu, although records are largely incomplete as doctors did not keep detailed specifics of First Nations deaths, often not even listing a name for the deceased. Stott says the population of the Sarnia Reserve dropped heavily as the virus spread. Concerns about the border also played into the Spanish Flu pandemic. Unlike today,



Dr. Charles William Sawers treated patients in the Watford-Warwick area, but tragically lost his wife Catherine to the illness. "She was a model wife and mother of an exceedingly affectionate disposition, bright and winning in her ways." Both their young daughters survived though, Edith living until 93 and Ruth to the age of 105.

Nations communities is not as clear according to Glenn Stott of the Arkona Lions Museum. First Nations were affected heavily by the Spanish Flu, although records are largely incomplete as doctors did not keep detailed specifics of First Nations deaths, often not even listing a name for the deceased. Stott says the population of the Sarnia Reserve dropped heavily as the virus spread. Concerns about the border also played into the Spanish Flu pandemic. Unlike today,

officials left the border open to US traffic. A period of heavy ferry crossings from Lambton County may have played a role in cases spiking across the St. Clair Lake in Michigan however, although the Port Huron Medical Officer of Health resisted calls to shut down the crossings. Local historians found that like today, the pandemic forced officials to look at how the health system was operating to see if more could have been done to prevent the deaths of

thousands of people. In the long-term, the inability to prevent the spread of Spanish Influenza led to a major shift in Canada's public health approach. The federal Department of Health was established in 1919, while the Ontario Provincial Board of Health was replaced with the Department of Health. Disease prevention was given an increased emphasis, in addition to disease management.

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Sports

Two decades later Gray remembers game and story behind it

Barry Wright

The Independent

It was 20 years ago this week that Brett Gray was part of a whopping 25-strikeout game for the London Werewolves of the Frontier Baseball League.

It was the second highest strikeout total in a nine-inning game in the history of professional baseball. But the script that the Wyoming resident had planned for that Saturday evening at venerable Labatt Park on June 3, 2000 had nothing to do with him getting all the attention.

“The coolest part of the whole story is that I had planned with my manager before the game that regardless of when I got pulled from the game that my

dad (London pitching coach Bruce Gray) would come to the mound and pull me instead of my manager,” said Gray.

“And the reason was that I was going to ask him to be my Best Man in my wedding that September.

“I just thought it would be a cool little thing that we could always remember.”

However, when it became evident that he might pitch a complete game, Brett Gray told his skipper to have his dad come to mound with two outs in the ninth inning so the plan could be finalized.

Bruce Gray resisted, according to Brett, but eventually sheepishly made his way to the hill where the two embraced after he asked

his dad to be part of his wedding party.

As for the game itself, Brett Gray didn’t feel anything special in the wind that night. In fact, the opposite was true because his pre-game bullpen session was longer than normal. “It was opening night and it was ring ceremony night from our 1999 championship season with the Werewolves,” he said. He told his manager that he had about three innings in his arm that night due to the length of the championship festivities. He estimates that he threw about 100 pitches in the bullpen prior the contest and then another 150 during the game.

“I was so out of gas when

it was over. I think I basically fell into my catcher’s arms.”

Gray remembers the evening with fondness, but doesn’t dwell on his professional accomplishment. For him, the game was all about family and bond between him and his father.

“It was the (Best Man) story behind the whole night that made it really special,” he concluded.



Flyers sign four new players for coming season

The Petrolia Flyers of the Provincial Junior Hockey League have added four players to the dotted line for the 2020-21 campaign.

Daniel Gibson, Bailey Moffatt, Jake MacLean and Cameron Hackett all signed with the team Monday.

General Manager Dennis

Meston and Head Coach Dale Timmermans are “very pleased” to add the quartet to the roster.

Hackett has affiliated with the Flyers the past two seasons. He wore the C with the Petrolia Midgets. He joins older brother, Jack, who is entering his final season with the team.

Gibson has also affiliated with

the Flyers the past two seasons and led the Petrolia Midgets in scoring this year.

Moffatt has spent the past two seasons with the Petrolia Midgets after coming back from AAA in Lambton.

MacLean played for the Lambton AAA Major Midgets and Elgin Middlesex Chiefs.

Three minor organizations cancel ball

The Independent

Three minor ball organizations have cancelled the 2021 season.

But all are not ruling out a shortened season for the kids.

Wyoming, Alvinston and Corunna all said the planned 2020 season won’t move ahead because of uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We will continue to monitor the current COVID-19 situation and announcements pertaining to play. If it becomes possible later this summer, a model could be developed to get back on the diamonds,” says Matt Helps, president of minor ball.

Corunna Minor will continue to discuss the possibility of implementing some training in late summer as the government allows, but its main efforts will now be focussed on your refunds and planning the 2021 season.

Alvinston Minor Ball reserves the right to create a shortened season, if possible, with a new registration payment structure that is fair for all families and registrants.

Officials say a come as you are “once a week baseball model,” could be developed for later in the summer, for kids to show up to have a fun game with kids in their age group, as we strive to come back stronger as an association in 2021.

Sinclair wins US leadership award

Cami Sinclair has been honoured with the Rev. Norbert Huetter Award as the Female Athlete at the University of Detroit Mercy who best exemplifies attitude, leadership and dedication.

Sinclair, a senior from Oil City, was part of the 2019 Horizon League softball champions and was a dedicated and instrumental leader of the program. As one coach put it

“Cami would do anything for her team, she would run into a brick wall for her teammates and that attitude helped us to reach our goal.”

Sinclair’s father, Tom, says Cami missed most



PHOTO COURTESY OF DETROIT MERCY

Cami Sinclair on the mound at Detroit Mercy.

of her Senior year at Detroit Mercy. She had overcome some injuries and was hopeful for a strong comeback year, but the virus had other plans.

Sinclair, one of three sisters who has excelled in softball, is a product of the Enniskillen Express program.

Mental Health in Agriculture Workshop

Gain a better understanding of mental health and wellness and **learn strategies** to help support your well-being and those around you.

Date:

Time:

Location:

How to Register:

Thursday, June 25, 2020

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Free Online Webinar

Call: 519-344-7858

or **Email: laurenvanewyk@gmail.com**

or **Online: www.lambtonfederation.ca/June25**

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 Events



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Sales Representative
519-878-5981

Coming Events

Wyoming Lions

554 Main Street

Reception Hall Rentals

Weddings
Anniversaries
Funerals
Business Meetings






Up to 150 seating capacity
Fully licensed by AGCO
Bookings and information
call: (519) 845 0011 or 845 3333

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.

Notice



The Corporation of the Township
of Dawn-Euphemia

The Township of Dawn-Euphemia intends to control weeds along the following roadsides for the health and safety of its residents and the traveling public:

Dawn Valley Rd., Cuthbert Rd., Robinson Rd., Marthaville Rd., Tramway Rd., Esterville Rd., Pantry School Rd., Gould Rd., Huff’s Corners Rd., Hale School Rd., Oakdale Rd., Naylor Rd., Mawlam Rd., Forest Rd., Florence Rd., McAuslan Rd., McCutcheon Rd., Davis Rd., Burr Rd., Kerry Rd., Dobbryn Rd., Smith Falls Rd., Annett Rd., Downie Rd., Johnston Rd., McCready Rd., Cameron Rd., Watterworth Rd., Kent Line, Lambton Line, Euphemia Line, Fansher Rd., Langbank Line, Bilton Line, Haggerty Rd., Bentpath Line, Edys Mills Line, Mossie Line, Aughrim Line, Aberfeldy Line, North Dawn Rd., Driessen Rd., Elliott Line

within the Township of Dawn-Euphemia

using the pesticide Clearview Herbicide, active ingredients aminopyralid (present as potassium salt) / Metsulfuron – methyl, P.C.P. # 29752 and Gateway Adjuvant, PCP. No. 31470, under the Pest Control Products Act (Canada)

Commencing on June 15, 2020, weather permitting and ending July 15, 2020.

Previously groomed, and areas in front of homes will not be treated.

Residents wishing not to have the road allowance sprayed in front of their lands, must contact the municipal office by noon, Thursday, June 11, 2020.

For more information call:
Veg–Tek Agri Inc. (Applicator) 519-809-4812
Township of Dawn-Euphemia 519-692-5018 (Collect Calls Accepted)
Paul Dalton, C.R.S.S.
Public Works Superintendent

Coming Events



Thank you for the much appreciated expressions of sympathy, including flowers, cards and telephone calls following the death of my mother, Phyllis Sutherland, age 96, from Nova Scotia, on April 29, 2020.

Beverly and Earle Woolaver and Family

Coming Events

In loving memory
of a dear husband, father & grandpa


John F. Hyatt

who passed away 5 years ago, June 3, 2015.

*This month comes with a sad regret
Brings back a day we will never forget
The blow was great, the shock severe,
We never thought the end was near
And only those who have lost can tell
The pain of parting without farewell.*

*No one knows the grief we bear
When the family meets and you’re not there.
You left so suddenly, your thoughts unknown
But you left us memories we are proud to own.*

Lovingly remembered and sadly missed by
Elaine, Shane, Trevor,
Jenna & Bob, Jayde,
Logan & Natalie.




Notice

RELAY FOR LIFE - Relay For Life has changed this you into Relay At Home — a fun, interactive way to Relay online and keep our communities safe during COVID-19. For over 20 years, Relay supporters have helped us change the lives of people with cancer. And now more than ever, we’re committed to supporting all those affected by cancer across the country. On **June 13 from 7-9 p.m. EST**, Relay participants from across Canada will come together to Relay At Home. Together, we will show our communities that no one has to face cancer alone. For more information or to join go to: **relayforlife.ca**

Notice

The Waste Management off-leash dog park in Watford is open for public use. With these park amenities opening, the Township is reminding the community that health measures remain in place to stop the spread of COVID-19 in the community. While using these spaces, please continue to practice all health guidelines in these spaces.

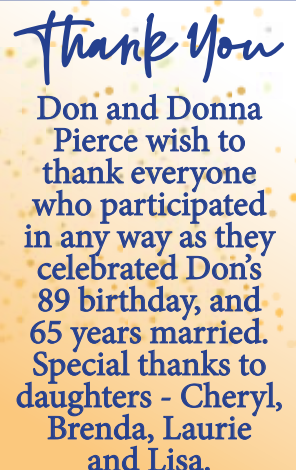


for all classified ads is

Monday at 12 noon

for the paper that prints and distributes Wed-Thurs

Coming Events



Don and Donna Pierce wish to thank everyone who participated in any way as they celebrated Don’s 89 birthday, and 65 years married. Special thanks to daughters - Cheryl, Brenda, Laurie and Lisa.

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, cups & saucers. **Call Chad Howlett 519-639-9102.**

Coming Events

PERENNIAL SALE - Watford Warwick Horticultural Society is holding a perennial sale **June 6 & 7** at the **corner of Confederation Line and Centennial Ave., Watford.** Self serve - all plants will be labelled and prices posted. Please remember to practice social distancing.

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**

Help Wanted

BLUEBERRY PICKERS - Wanted part time/full time blueberry pickers \$14.00 per hour, production incentives offered early July - Late August; will train, no education required. Please apply in writing to Parks Blueberries 14815 Longwoods Rd, Bothwell ON N0P 1C0.

Death Notices

May 25 to May 31, 2020

MONDAY, MAY 25

DEVRIES, Joan
Age 76, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

TUESDAY, MAY 26
BRESSETTE, Dylan
Age 25, of Kettle Point
Denning’s of Forest
BROWN, Chris
Age 55, of Brigden
Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels
STEVENS, Paul Andrew
Age 61, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home
LAMBLEY, Stephen
Age 76, of Sarnia
McCormack Funeral Home
FARR, Donna
Age 82, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home
ROBINSON, Ronald
Age 85, of Sarnia
Gilpin Funeral Chapel
GRANT, Charles
Age 92, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Chapel
DUNN, Sally
Age 95, of Sarnia
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27
LANG, Malgorzata
Age 58, of Sarnia
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home
ORME, Rosemary
Age 75, of Sarnia
McCormack Funeral Home
TRACY, Nona
Age 90, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home
WILCOCKS, Lola
Age 93, of Arkona
Gilpin Funeral Chapel
THURSDAY, MAY 28
WOLF, Susanna
Age 66, of Glendale Beach
Denning’s of Forest
BROWN, Robin
Age 72, of Lambton Shores
Gilpin Funeral Chapel

SHAW, Lynne
Age 73, of Alvinston
Van Heck Funeral Home
RONDEAU, Denise
Age 74, of Sarnia
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home
ALLEN, Dyllis
Age 80, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home
HINCHERGER, Helen
Age 81, of Sarnia
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home
PAVEY, John
Age 91, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home
REEVE, Shirley
Age 93, of St. Thomas
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

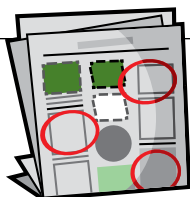
FRIDAY, MAY 29
GEORGE, Viv
Age 91, of Kettle Point
Denning’s of Forest
QUAN, Norman
Age 77
Denning’s of Forest
VANBORMEER, Wilhelmus
Age 88, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home
BROWN, Marilyn
Age 90, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home
PRIESTLEY, Kathleen
Age 91, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

SATURDAY, MAY 30
PLAIN, Ada May
Age 82, of Amjiwnaang
Smith Funeral Home
VAUGHAN, Hazel
Age 96, of Sarnia
McCormack Funeral Home

SUNDAY, MAY 31
CAMPBELL, Bruce
Age 89, of Plympton-Wyoming
Smith Funeral Home

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

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

COVID-19 IN LAMBTON

Local events that have been cancelled or postponed because of the coronavirus outbreak.
**PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM
DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

CANCELLED EVENTS			
DATE	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
Jun 5	Petrolia	Victoria Playhouse Petrolia 2020 Theater Season	
Jun 9	Sarnia	Bluewater Anglers General Meeting	
Jun 12	Alvinston	Alvinston & District Optimist Youth Dance	
Jun 13	Sarnia	Kids Funfest 2020 at Clearwater Park	
Jun 13	Sarnia	Bluewater Anglers Shoreline Cleanup	
Jun 14	Oil Springs	St.James Cemetery Annual Decoration Day Service	
Jun 14	Wyoming	Wyoming Public Cemetery Annual Decoration Day	
Jun 21	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions Fathers Day Breakfast	
Jun 21	Petrolia	Petrolia Discovery Car Show	
Jun 21	Watford	Watford Annual Yard Sale Day	
Jun 21	Sarnia	34th Annual Fundraiser Run/Walk/Skate/Bike for The Huron House Boy's Home	
Jul 1	Alvinston	Brooke-Alvinston Canada Day Celebration and Fireworks	
Jul 1	Watford	2020 Township of Warwick in person Canada Day Celebrations	
Jul 9-10	Petrolia	Art in The Park Petrolia	
Jul 10	Florence	Florence Truck & Tractor Pull	
Jul 24	Dresden	Southwest Ontario Tractor Pullers Association Dresden Pull	
Aug 7-8	Bothwell	Bothwell Car Show & Optifest	
Aug 14-16	Forest	2020 Annual Western Ontario Steam Thresher Reunion	
Aug 22	Alvinston	Alvinston Arts & Music Fest	
Aug 22	Wyoming	Plympton-Wyoming Truck and Tractor Pull	
Sept 4-6	Petrolia	Petrolia Enniskillen Fall Fair	
Sept 5	Lambton	Annual Lambton County Plowing Match	
Sept 11	Petrolia	Southwest Ontario Tractor Pullers Association Petrolia Pull	
Sept 18-20	Wyoming	2020 Plympton Wyoming Fall Fair	
Sept 25-27	Forest	150th Forest Fall Fair	

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 Postponed until 2021	
Apr 11	Alvinston	Alvinston & District Optimist Club Trivia 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	Camlachie	The Plympton-Wyoming Museum's 2020 Season Opening 6745 Camlachie Rd	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 to August 30, 2020	
Jun 21	Oil Springs	Oil City Cemetery Decoration Day Service	TBD
Jul 18	Wyoming	Plympton-Wyoming Agricultural Society Broasted Chicken Diner	TBD

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 Prebyterian 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
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
[f](https://www.facebook.com/WyomingUnitedChurch) Church Office 519-845-3963
Find us on Facebook

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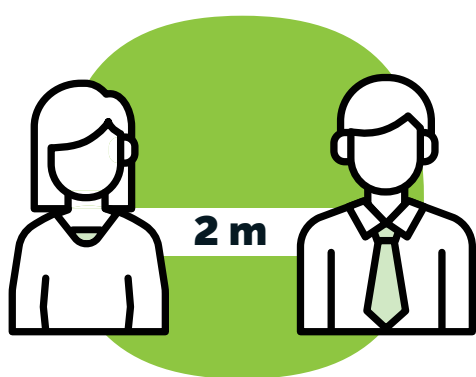
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We're Making a Difference to Keep Each Other Safe from COVID-19

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.