

Lambton gets the green light

Heather Wright
The Independent

By Friday, people in Petrolia and Central Lambton will be able to get a hair cut and eat dinner on a patio.

Lambton will be able to move to phase two of reopening after being under COVID-19 lock down for 11 weeks.

Premier Doug Ford made the announcement Monday and the order takes effect Friday.

Stage two of the reopening of the province allows more access to restaurants and bars, outdoor amenities, hair salons and personal services.

Twenty-four regions reopened June 12. Lambton was not among those regions.

Local officials gathered data and presented its case saying Lambton met the benchmarks the province had set to begin reopening.

Monday, there was relief as a large part of Lambton's economy was given the go ahead to reopen.

"We're pleased to be able to move forward, as a large portion of the province has done already," said Lambton County Warden Bill Weber. "Residents and businesses have been patiently waiting for this news, and we ask for continued patience as businesses work towards reopening safely."

While many businesses, services and public spaces are allowed to reopen as soon as Friday, they have to follow public health measures for physical distancing and disinfecting. Tuesday, the province released more reopening guidelines for businesses hoping to make customers feel safe enough to return to businesses.

"Lambton Public Health supports the move forward based on lower transmission rates and cases in the community, and our current health system capacity," says Dr. Sudit Ranade, Lambton's Medical Officer of Health. "However, it's important not to feel pressured to open if businesses and services need to take more time to open safely with proper health and safety measures in place."

LIFE CHANGING MOMENT



MELANIE SCHALK PHOTO

Madelyn Schalk of Brooke-Alvinston smiles from ear-to-ear after winning the Canada's Luckiest Student contest. The LCCVI grad participated in online quizzes with the Student Life Network for the entire school year and then was randomly picked as the grand prize winner of \$50,000 in cash for school, living expenses and a trip to Europe. SLN came to her Petrolia Line home Saturday to tell her she had won. Her big win was unveiled Tuesday night online. For more on Schalk's story see page 9.

Nine years in prison for Lambton drug trafficker

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

A 23 year-old Lambton county man will spend the next nine years in prison after a drug bust in a Sarnia motel.

Brandon Mitchell, 23, plead guilty to the charge and was sentenced Tuesday to the lengthy sentence for drug trafficking after he was discovered with more than 340 grams of drugs during a police raid.

Even after factoring in time served, Mitchell will not emerge from prison until he is in his thirties.

Sarnia Police went into a motel on the London Line on Sept. 18. Mitchell and a

woman were found inside the unit. When officers tried to arrest Mitchell tried to flush evidence down the toilet before trying to grab an officer's taser gun.

Police were eventually able to subdue and arrest Mitchell after a struggle.

A massive amount of drugs was discovered in Mitchell's possession, including 234 grams of fentanyl worth more than \$117,000, and 110 grams of crystal meth worth more than \$11,000. A loaded crossbow was also found in the unit, along with a taser, pepper spray and brass knuckles.

Judge Deborah Austin agreed with the nine year sentence.

"His conduct up to this point is very troubling – his record really a relentless one that is extremely concerning...The sentence, though a serious one, is not crushing," Austin told the court Tuesday.

"I hope that this lengthy sentence is a constructive sentence for you, and really gives you an opportunity to make the changes in your life and receive the counselling and programming that will allow you to be released into the community with a successful rehabilitation.

"At this young age and stage you have a long and hopefully productive and happy life ahead of you after this sentence," she said.

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Lambton County’s homes ready for visitors

Heather Wright
The Independent

Father’s in Lambton County’s nursing homes may be getting visitors on their special day.

Jane Joris, the head of long term care for Lambton, says the three county homes are working hard to make sure families have a chance to visit seniors in homes under the Ford government’s new guidelines.

Premier Doug Ford announced Thursday family and friends will be allowed to visit people living in long term care one at a time, a minimum of once a week and only outdoors. The visitor will have to have a COVID-19 test to prove they are negative, wear a mask and keep two meters from the family member.

The guidelines say the visits may be a minimum of 30 minutes.

Families will have to sign up for the visiting times and a staff member will have to bring the resident outdoors.

That, says Joris, will make things tricky.

“You just have do the math to understand that at a home the size of Lambton Meadowview (in Petrolia), for instance, that would be 18 or so visit a day, half an hour long with cleaning in between,” she says.

“So, it’s going to be a bit of a challenge. But we’re working on it. We have a team of representatives from each home working on the plan.

“And we don’t have any plans to discontinue the virtual or window visits.”

Joris says in Lambton, they’ve set up areas for families where rainy weather will not stop a visit.

While in Lambton, staff members

are working hard at the county homes to prepare for the visits, Joris acknowledges it is going to take more staff to make sure families get their time together.

Joris says when the pandemic hit, the hours of the home’s activation staff ramped up to meet the demand of helping residents visit virtually with families.

Lambton County staff members who were laid off in places like libraries also went to work in the nursing homes to help with family virtual visits and disinfecting the home.

Joris suspects having staff members bringing 18 people to visits outdoors every day will require even more staff.

She’s hopeful the cost of that care will be covered by the province’s COVID-19 funding.

There has been criticism of the new guidelines. Long term care advocate, Dr. Vivian Stamatopoulos, Associate Teaching Professor, Ontario Tech University, calls the new plan an insult.

“The announcement from the Ford Government amounted to a publicity stunt disguised as a gift to quell the mounting public outcry against a cruel and unlawful visitation ban,” she says in a column published after the guidelines were released.

Stamatopoulos adds the outdoor visits, six feet from loved ones, “will do nothing to combat the deadly risks of isolation among residents.”

And she says, in homes where there are issues with patient care, families still won’t be allowed access into the home for months yet, leaving them wondering about their senior’s safety.

The protocols say families will not be able to come into long term care buildings until one week after the

province lifts the Emergency Act Measures.

Right now, they are extended to the end of June.

Then, one essential caregiver will be allowed inside and up to two people will be allowed scheduled outside visits. All visits will be scheduled and homes have to provide a minimum of one visit per week.

While Joris and many others in long-term care recognize the need for families to be reunited, opening up the homes again is worrisome.


“I can say it does cause me a bit of anxiety because, so far, we’ve been able to keep the virus pretty much out of our homes,” she says.

“But I think we now know the infection control practices that we need in place and so we should be able to manage this once we get the outdoor visit processes in place.

“We need to plan for indoor visits as well. So we’re working on that too. And I think the infection control practices for that will be more of a consideration.”

Joris expects the first visits to begin Thursday.

TO ADDRESS COUNCIL DURING AN ELECTRONIC MEETING

- 
- i. 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;
 - ii. register by email with the Clerk’s Department at Town Hall, up to thirty (30) minutes in advance of the meeting start time;
 - iii. 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.
 - iv. 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

- i. once the Head of Council opens the opportunity, please state your name, address and topic, before proceeding
- ii. 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

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 - 3. Enter the Password: 518774#
- 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.*

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Joe The Cat incident spiralled to drugs

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

Christopher Hammond’s life started spiraling out of control in 2014.

He was a teen and had been accused of animal cruelty in a case that gained national attention and while the charges were dropped, he was convicted in the eyes of the public. And that lead Hammond to a life of drugs and ultimately a confrontation with the OPP in Plympton-Wyoming last June.

That day officers pursued a Chevy Camaro being driven without insurance. The officers found Hammond and another woman in the car. He was laying flat in the backseat “sweating profusely and scrambling around.”

When police asked Hammond to show his hands - he pulled a knife.

But after the officer drew his weapon, the Sarnia man dropped the knife and was arrested.

Police found a cash of drugs in the car including crystal meth, heroine, marijuana, as well as break and enter tools. These were suspected to have been used in a string of recent break-ins in the area.

Hammond plead guilty in court on June 11 to drug trafficking, having break and enter tools, and carrying a weapon while on bail.

He also plead guilty to more charges

from May of this year, when he was found to be in breach of his curfew while also possessing a knife and methamphetamine.

“His record starts in 2014,” says defense lawyer Nick Cake. That was the year ‘Joe the Cat’ was found on the side of the road in Sarnia with multiple pellets shot into its head. Hammond was charged with animal cruelty in the case. And the public hounded him.

“The Joe the Cat incident lives large, and Chris has felt the backlash of the court of public opinion in relation to that for some time.

“In 2014 things were too much to deal with, he was not an individual who had ever signed up for something like that, he never expected to be protested or publicly shamed... and he turned to drugs and the drug subculture.”

Cake says Hammond is looking for a fresh start in a new city. “He comes before the court offering no excuses, but just wants the court to know where he’s coming from,” said Cake.

“At age 25 there definitely still is a chance for rehabilitation. He can still do it, and he wants to do it. Hopefully the resolve is still there when he’s released to better himself.”

Hammond was sentenced to 11 months in jail and will have to take substance abuse counselling, provide a DNA sample, and is banned from owning a weapon for 15 years.



Tasting death, he bitterly realized 'success', had ruled his soul,
The harsh gods of 'power' and 'materialism' had taken their toll.
The true character wasn't built, on the rock, of God's seed,
His thin veneer of goodness, driven by recognized deed.

If the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly appear, that day?
Allegiance to Jesus, assures Eternal peace, to 'all' who obey.
One irrevocable breath, determines destinies reward, for each one,
Repentance and Forgiveness are found 'only', in God's Precious Son.

How will you be remembered, with consistent 'faith', to the end?
Or you may become more 'famous' for your downfall, regrets without mend.
God's Word says, "Let's labour therefore to enter into that rest",
One 'trashing' at 'death's' grip, or a worshipper, here lies the test.

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.
Romans 10: 13

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, I find myself separated from you.
I want my life's focus to be found in you.
Please forgive all my sins and unforgiveness towards others.
I invite you into my heart, to be the Lord and Master, of my life.
I will serve and live for you, thank-you for the assurance
Of an Eternal Home in Heaven, with you. Amen

Grogan Watford

KERBY STREET RESCUE



DAWSON CURRIE PHOTO

A Kerby Street resident had to be pulled from their smoke filled home early Saturday morning. Petrolia/North Enniskillen firefighters were called to the two storey home around 1:30 am after someone reported the building was on fire. Crews forced their way into the home and removed the only person inside from the smoke filled home. A dog was also removed. The resident was taken to hospital by paramedics and released. Officials say unattended cooking was the cause of all the smoke.

Community spread low in Lambton

Heather Wright
The Independent

Lambton’s Medical Officer of Health says there is almost no way to tell if COVID-19 is not circulating in the community. Dr. Sudit Ranade made the comments Monday. The week leading up to his remarks there had been just six cases of COVID-19 reported, two in a long term care outbreak at Vision Nursing Home in Sarnia. The others can be traced to other cases. Ranade says the numbers are very positive, but he would not say the virus is no longer in the community. He says Quebec felt there was no community spread of COVID-19 and reopened daycares and schools only to have more people become infected. “I would I would probably say it low rather than saying zero because I think that we need to go through the next several weeks ... as restrictions ease, as people could do these social bubbles, as more and more people get together at weddings,” Ranade says. And he says public health has the recent Black Lives Matter protest that drew about 3,000 people in Sarnia from across the region, on their COVID-19 radar. “That’s one of the things for example, on

our radar to keep in mind for the next two weeks or so, but it’s hard to say for sure whether or not we would get case that relate to that.” Meantime, Lambton’s long-term care homes reached a grim milestone. Statistics released by Lambton Public Health show more people at Vision nursing home tested positive. In all, 26 residents and 28 staff members – 10 have died. There have now been 100 cases in Sarnia-Lambton’s long-term care homes since the pandemic started – about 37 per cent of the cases in the region. Sixty-four per cent of the 28 deaths have been linked to the outbreaks in long term care here. There is some positive news. Bluewater Health’s COVID-19 unit is empty. The hospital discharged its last patient this Monday at 9:30 am. The last person discharged was a resident of Vision Nursing Home. Nine people were taken to the hospital from the home to allow staff there a chance to get on top of the COVID-19 outbreak there. Bluewater Health will continue to help Vision in its ongoing efforts to control the virus with weekly audits and some staff on site.

Plympton-Wyoming declares council seat vacant

The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming has declared the seat once occupied by Councillor Ron Schenk vacant. Schenk passed away in May after a battle with cancer. He had been a councillor in the community for 14 years. Chief Administrative Officer, Carolyn Tripp, says when a sitting councillor dies, the Municipal Act says council must declare the seat vacant in two weeks. But it doesn’t have to appoint someone right away. Council has 60 days to decide whether to hold a

by-election or appoint a member to fill the seat. That could be done by selecting a candidate from the last election with the most votes or taking applications. Tripp says since Plympton-Wyoming was formed in 2001, there have been four instances where a seat was declared vacant. “In all cases that I am aware of, they went with the person who had the highest number of votes from any position...regardless of the position they ran for.” Tripp says if council does that again, Ben Dekker would be the person appointed since he had most votes in the 2018 election.

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Editorial

During COVID-19 hold government to account

Many Lambton residents are breathing a sigh of relief as we begin the long, slow process of putting our economy back in gear.

Monday, the province agreed Lambton is ready to move into the second stage of reopening. That allows more access to restaurants and bars, outdoor amenities, hair salons and personal services.

Twenty-four regions reopened June 12. Lambton held back, mostly officials said because we are a border region and one of our long term care homes was still in outbreak.

The reasoning was skeptical. The number of COVID-19 cases was mostly confined to the outbreak, the hospital had lots of room for new patients, if need be, and public health officials could track down anyone linked to a positive COVID-19 case in 24 hours.

Local officials gathered data and presented its case saying Lambton met the benchmarks the province had set to begin reopening.

The argument was convincing enough, that Lambton can now begin reopening Friday.

But the episode shows these decisions aren't solely about science.

While the province set standards "based on the best medical advice," it used the arbitrary reasoning that Lambton was a border city to say it wasn't prepared to reopen - even though the border is closed to almost all traffic.

There is a real need to return to some sort of normal - businesses need income, families need to work to put bread on the table. And continuing to severely restrict movement does more harm than good - that from the Lambton medical officer of health who worried Lambton would be suffer "undue harm" if the restrictions continued while other regions started to reopen.

But the province has to measure everyone with the stick and have good reasons for whatever measures it takes and we have to hold them accountable if they don't. We're long past to point of giving officials a break for questionable decisions because everything is "unprecedented."

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

During the annual Petrolia Old Boys Reunion, the baseball team reunited. This photo is from 1908.

We have lost our humanity as we out run COVID-19

You can get a hair cut. You can go camping. You can get an ice cream cone. You can have a nice meal on an outdoor patio.

Ontario started revving up its economic engine this week with restaurants given more room to serve customers, and personal services, such as hair dressers and barbers, allowed to take clients in the sheer their now scruffy locks.

All of the things have restrictions - there are masks and sanitizing at the barbers and hair salons and patio parties are asked not to dwell over their food - since the owners have little opportunity to turn a profit if you linger, as you used to, they will be open but still in debt.

Daycares are slowly opening but what children will experience is yet to be seen. The government has strict rules such as keeping the same 10 kids in one room all week and "removing

toys which might carry germs."

Families yearning to see their seniors in long term care will get really just a glimpse - a weekly visit for one member of the family for 30 minutes. Outdoors. Six feet apart.

Parents with children in group homes are told not to hug them and if they can't 'control' their child from doing what comes naturally, they shouldn't visit.

Our world has changed so much in the last three months. It would be unthinkable three months ago to ask a child not play with toys or families not to embrace their loved ones - but here we are.

In my mind, it is still unthinkable. We know COVID-19 is lurking ready to take hold again, and medical advice has helped us move through this uncharted waters without overwhelming our medical system and tens of thousands of deaths. But, we have lost

our humanity.

We now know enough about the virus that we shouldn't have to stop families from embracing or children from playing as they normally would. We should be taking precautions like wearing masks and allowing human touch which essential to comfort and love.

I fear we do just as much damage or more as the virus by ignoring how important family is for emotional health. To deny a mother or a child, a husband and a wife that basic and vital human interaction is inhumane.



Heather Wright

The Independent
Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton

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Canada

June 18 is one memorable day for the Coles

Heather Wright
The Independent

It's not surprising that this June 18 is memorable for Bob and Betty Cole. The Petrolia couple is celebrating 65 years of marriage.

Betty remembers their big day like it was yesterday. They married on Betty's 18th birthday.

"It was a disaster. It was 95 degrees in the shade," she says as she sits next to Bob at their kitchen table.

While it was hot, the day went well and Bob and Betty started their life in the Chatham area.

Their first child, Mark was born six weeks early - on their second anniversary - June 18. "He was born on our anniversary, almost to the hour," says Bob.

As the family grew, the Coles moved to their home on Petrolia Line. Bob worked for the railway and driving long-haul trucks. Eventually, he became a school custodian and could be home every night with Betty and the two kids.

As Mark grew up, he and Cheryl started dating. After he proposed, he floated the idea of getting married on June 18. Cheryl agreed. "We just thought it would be a unique thing."

But then, Mark's sister, Judy, decided to remarry. When she told Bob and Betty, she announced the wedding would be June 18. "My sister said it best; she said, 'My God, that number can't be that bad.'"

The family, Betty says, has always been close - "close and nosey are sometimes the same thing" says Mark teasing his mom. But when grandchildren started getting married, the Coles were still pleasantly surprised by their choice of wedding date.

Bob remembers when grandson, Curt, shared his news.

"I was yakking about something and he said 'Bobby, listen up ...we're gonna join the June 18th club.' Okay, fine, I thought, so we'll go have a hot dog party in the back just like usual," he says starting to smile. "And then



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Bob and Betty Cole will celebrate 65 years of marriage, Betty's birthday, their son, Mark's birthday and four other anniversaries June 18.

Katie comes round the corner and shows us her ring. Then yeah, then we caught on."

And Mark and Cheryl's daughter Miranda also got into the act, marrying her husband, Aric, on Sunday, June 18, just to keep the tradition.

The Coles say they often celebrate the day together, although with the COVID-19 restrictions, they're trying to figure out how the whole family can get together for a 65th anniversary bash.

In the meantime, Bob and Betty continue on, Bob cutting the lawn each week and Betty keeping the house spotless with some help. They spend a bit of time apart each day - Betty says it is good for their marriage to have some alone time.

So, what is their secret to a long marriage - Betty says the loyalty that grows out of love.

And it's give and take.

"It isn't perfect, believe me, Betty laughs "No marriages are."

Albany prepares to build new retirement apartments

Heather Wright
The Independent

The owners of Albany Retirement Village are taking the first steps to build more seniors housing in downtown Petrolia.

Doug and Helen Simpson purchased the former Oil Rig Restaurant shortly before Helen passed away. On July 4, Doug Simpson will ask Petrolia Council to rezone the property from general commercial to residential to allow for the redevelopment of the property for a single-story apartment building ac-

cording to the notice from the town.

Simpson says until the rezoning is in place, he's not prepared to say a lot about his plans. However, he has been thinking about what is needed and what is affordable in a post COVID-19 era.

"I just don't know what people are going to be able afford to rent and we designed this and we have covered parking - everybody wants but they can't afford to pay for it?"

And he says the building he's planning will have ways for seniors to remain isolated from others when

necessary.

"It has a common hallway that goes to a little room for socialization, but with the new way things are going to be done, is there going to be much socialization in the building?"

"So what we've done is it's going to have your own separate entrance to your unit, but also have an entrance to a common hallway."

The zoning hearing begins at 4:30 pm and will be held virtually. The information to watch the meeting can be found at the Town of Petrolia's website under agendas.

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Here's How It Works:

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

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The Lancer Leger



'This has made you stronger and able to handle anything:' Nemcek

I would like to take this opportunity to thank The Independent of Petrolia and Central Lambton for allowing this graduation insert for our 2020 grads.

It is my pleasure, as Principal of LCCVI to extend a sincere congrats to all of our grads.

During my second year returning as a Lancer I have been overwhelmed by the pride and commitment that is evident in this school. The staff, the students, and the community have all worked together to make LCCVI a great place to be.

Grads, your energy and enthusiasm during your four or five years at our school is to be commended.

For me it has been a great source of inspiration.

From the beginning of the year we had things rolling well such as: Grade 9 Frosh Week, Homecoming, Student teacher Hockey game, Canned Food Drive, many field trips, athletic events, and music events, just to name a few: LCCVI is a school with remarkable spirit and pride thanks in large part to you.

Then March 13 came, and we left for March Break wondering what would happen next.

Was this just a three-week break or would it be longer. Who knew that we would not return to our school to see our friends and teachers?

We all went into the online

world of learning which was a challenge both for you and your teachers.

But I commend everyone for staying Lancer Strong and getting through this tough time.

We know that many of you were working long hours at your part time job that may have turned into full time job, helping your families and trying to social distance from all your friends.

Thank goodness for Zoom, Google Meets, etc.

I know that this changed world we now live in has made you stronger and able to handle anything thrown your way.

Individually, you have added your mark on this very prestigious educational institution and for

that we thank you, but now it is time for you to explore, to dream, and to discover your future.

However, at this time I would be remiss if I did not remind you as you finish high school to remember that you are not alone....your parents, friends, family, teachers, and many others are with you as you reach for the next stage in your life.

Never forget the part they have played in your achievements and remember to take a moment before you move on in your future to thank them.

In our complex world people tend to give and take things away from us. I can assure you that your Diploma is something no one can ever take from you. Be



very proud of it.

Finally, on behalf of all LCCVI staff, Mr. Watson and myself, I would like to congratulate each of you and to wish you the best in your chosen paths. Thank you and take care.

Gregory Nemcek
Principal, LCCVI

Student co president address: Once a Lancer, always a Lancer

Hey Lancers; it's been a while since we've all been together, hasn't it?

We definitely are not the first people to say that this is not quite the senior year we had in mind, but nonetheless, we've all managed to continue trucking along, staying Lancer strong all the way through.

With all of this time we've had on our hands, we've been able to look back and do some reminiscing about our time as Lancers.

It seems like we all remember the feeling of Grade Nine more than what actually happened in Grade Nine. We remember the overwhelming panic of standing in the middle of a hallway that you've never seen before more than we remember all the notes we took in our Grade Nine science class.

But that's kind of what high school is about in a sense, isn't it?

People always tell you that you won't remember the classes you had, but you will remember the clubs you were involved in, and the friends you made. But we also will remember the feelings associated with high school, both the good and the bad.

As our time as Lancers went on, we've all known a few of the same feelings. That feeling of dread as the word 'exams' is said, or when the gym teacher tells you that you're running the mile/mile and a half today. Or the feeling of anticipation that builds while we sit on the sidelines watching our Lancer teams on the field or court. That unexplainable feeling whenever we all hear the song 'Sweet Caroline'... a song that none of us will ever hear the same again. Ever.

The feeling of the smile spreading on your face as you pull in the parking lot

to see it filled with tractors instead of cars, or when we all see Mr. Campbell turn his baseball hat backwards. The feeling of joy when you walk past the vending machines and see that there are new drinks, or find that they're filled with cookies and candy for a change!

There are so many more feelings that are unexplainable when it comes to high school, but there is one massive one that we all have definitely felt... pride.

As Lancers, we all take immense pride in our school. The proud feeling of walking out on the field or court with the Lancer logo and number on your back is one that we'll never forget. The same feeling applies when we all wear our Lancer reds and whites as we dress up for Homecoming and spirit days. The pride you feel with your teammates in a game as you hug and

high five one another. The feeling of accomplishment as we all finish our performance in our Grade Nine music class for our parents on Music Night.

The pride that we all feel as we walk our track together, lit by the lights of our Relay For Life luminaries.

The feeling when you can hear the school cheering together, or singing along with our teacher band, or singing a farewell to the tune of 'Sweet Caroline'. No matter the circumstances, we all have had moments where we can look back and feel proud of our school. We did some pretty cool things in our time as Lancers.

There's a new feeling that we seniors have come to know all too well over this last little bit, but there's not really a word to perfectly describe it.

By now we all should have a few more memories

under our belts; pictures to show from our prom, laughs that were shared together on graduation night, funny moments spent together on our senior ditch day outings, ribbons and trophies to show from our final track and badminton seasons as Lancers.

But instead we are to be socially distancing from our friends, family, and loved ones.

No hand shakes, no high fives and no hugs. We understand this time will soon pass and we will be once again be reunited with our peers, but it's a difficult thing to be able to look further into the future sometimes.

In times like these, it is crucial that we are there for one another, as a family of Lancers.



As our time at LCCVI comes to a quick end, we want to say a heartfelt congratulations to everyone in our graduating class of 2020. We wish you all the best on all of your future endeavors in life, Lancers. Stay safe, and remember. Once a Lancer always a Lancer.

Student Presidents
Maddie Nemcek
Kevin McGrail

CONGRATULATIONS on your GRADUATION

Best wishes for your next adventure!



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Community Employment Services



Lambton College
Youth Job Connection



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lambtoncollege.ca/CES

The Lancer Ledger

Operation Graduation




While COVID-19 sidelined plans for an in person June Graduation, the teachers at LCCVI wanted to make sure everyone knew about the graduating class of 2020. So, they packed up lawn signs and headed out to the home of each LCCVI graduate early in June. Here are some of the deliveries to the graduates. Officials are planning an in person graduation in the fall if conditions permit.

Cam Hackett and Jaelyn O'Hara receive their graduate sign




Brad Perry, Emma Bulgin, Alexandra Findlay (and her dog) and Karina Pakalnis and Barrett Hext all receive their Graduate signs from LCCVI staff members






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You have to believe in yourself, that's the secret.

- Charlie Chaplin



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Congratulations

Graduates of 2020

Dear Graduates,



On behalf of the Council of the Town of Petrolia we would like to extend our warm congratulations as you begin a new and exciting chapter in your life!

Your academic successes, your learned skills, your athletic, music and club involvement and your hours of volunteerism in your communities will have all helped shape you to excel in your future endeavors and to help you play important roles in your community.


Your brilliant achievements are remarkable. May all your dreams come true. Good luck and congratulations!

Sincerely,

Mayor R. Brad Loosley
& Council



Phone: (519) 882-2350 • Fax: (519) 882-3373
411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia, ON, N0N 1R0
town.petrolia.on.ca



The Lancer Ledger

Virtual Tractor Day at LCCVI



Students at LCCVI were not going to let a pandemic ruin a time-honoured tradition - Tractor Day. Students sent in photos of their tractors for a virtual event hosted online early in June.



And the *Adventure* begins

2020

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congrats

YOU DID IT CLASS OF 2020

Congratulations Class of 2020

On behalf of the County of Lambton, I would like to extend my congratulations to the Class of 2020!

Your hard work and perseverance have paid off, and the fall will bring new, exciting challenges and adventures. While celebrations may look different this year than they have in the past, know your accomplishments are being celebrated by family, friends and the entire community. Congratulations, and best of luck in your next endeavour!

COUNTY OF LAMBTON

Bill Weber
Warden, County of Lambton

Discoveries That Matter

CONGRATULATIONS

Class of 2020

You make Brooke-Alvinston Proud!

Mayor Dave Ferguson & Council



The Lancer Leger



Lancer grad is Canada’s Luckiest Student

Heather Wright
The Independent

Friday morning, Madelyn Schalk was wondering how she was going to manage university. The Brooke-Alvinston teen is finishing up her senior year at LCCVI and plans to go to Western University to become a history teacher.

But, like almost every graduate, her plans hit a bump in the road when COVID-19 derailed school and her plans to pay for tuition. Schalk is a lifeguard and with community pools closed for the pandemic, she has no way to earn money for tuition.

“On Friday, I started kind of panicking a little because like, I was thinking about, oh, how am I going to pay for tuition and this and that, and I’m probably going to need to get like a new computer because I need a Chromebook. Is what I currently have going to be compatible with like what I have to do for university. And I was just really overwhelmed with how am I going to afford this? Oh my goodness, I don’t know what I’m doing. And I was just really panicked and the fact that I haven’t been able to work too,” says Schalk.

But her mom, Melanie, knew her grad didn’t have to worry. The organizers of the Canada’s Luckiest Student contest had called. Madelyn had won the grand prize worth \$50,000 - \$20,000 for tuition, living expenses and food, gift certi-

ificates for electronics and a trip to Europe.

For the past year, Madelyn had been answering trivia questions to be entered into the nationwide draw and her name was picked. The film crew was coming Saturday to surprise her at her home.

So Melaine convinced Madelyn to dress up in her prom dress and go to Watford for a while to take graduation photos. When they came home, she told her grad, there would be a drive-by salute.

When they rolled down Petrolia Line, there were signs greeting them saying ‘Madelyn Schalk, your life is about to change.’

The Student Life Network met her in the driveway and stunned her and some of her favourite teachers with the news.

“It was insane,” she says. “I was kind of overwhelmed. I don’t know how all my answers came out. (SLN was filming the event to stream it on Tuesday.) I’m not sure how well that turned out because I was in awe.

“It was wild because like, I had no idea, not even like the slightest indication.”

Madelyn’s mom says while the win was completely random, her daughter has worked hard and she’s glad she is receiving this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

“She works really, really hard,” says Melaine.

LCCVI Principal Greg Nemcek agrees saying Madelyn is a dedicated student.

“She’s in the band and she’s there all the time...that takes a lot of determination for a kid to get out - I’m sure she’s got to get up at 4:30 or five to be at the school by seven so that she could do band and everything,” he says.

“And she worked very hard in her classes. Her academic achievements are in the top 10 percentile of the school like she’s very, very smart and works very, very hard at her classes. Extremely hard.”

Madelyn says the cash for tuition eases a huge burden for her. But she’s also very excited about winning a trip to Europe.

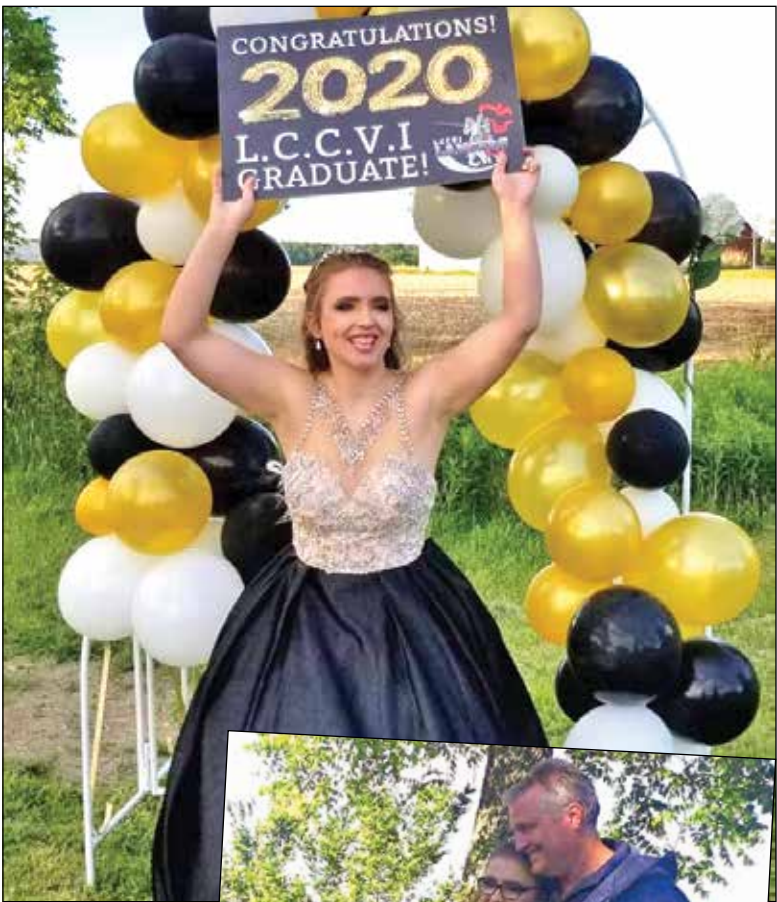
“I’m really excited for when COVID restrictions lift, because I always wanted to like go to the Netherlands, because that’s where my grandparents came from.”

Schalk expects the Europe trip will likely have to wait until next summer, but she’s okay with that.

And she’s marvelling how her life changed from worry on Friday to joy and relief on Saturday.

“On Saturday when I found out it’s just like, I can’t believe it. Just that morning, it really was like a normal day, I had finished up an assignment. I spend like a few hours on it that morning and enrolled in my classes for Western. And then that afternoon I’m like, wait a second what?

“It almost doesn’t seem real at this point in time,” says Schalk. It’s not anything I would have ever expected.”



SHELLEY SCHALK PHOTOS

Madelyn Schalk poses in her lawn with an LCCVI graduate sign and then hugs her dad, Michael, after learning she’d won the Canada’s Luckiest Student contest.



Congratulations

On behalf of council and staff for the Township of Warwick it is my great honour to congratulate all of the graduates in the 2020 LCCVI graduating class and to wish you all the very best in years to come. As you move into this new chapter in your life remember to embrace the challenges, learn from your mistakes, allow them to help you grow into the people you are meant to be and through it all, do it with kindness for yourself and for those around you. Always be proud of your roots here in Lambton County and return to us someday, because there is nowhere better to live, work and grow than rural Ontario!

Jackie Rombouts - Mayor
Warwick Township

Congratulations! Graduates!

Decide in your heart of hearts what really excites and challenges you, and start moving your life in that direction. Every decision you make, from what you eat to what you do with your time tonight, turns you into who you are tomorrow, and the day after that. Look at who you want to be, and start sculpting yourself into that person.

- Chris Hadfield

MP Marilyn Gladu

Sarnia-Lambton

519-383-6600 • marilyn.gladu@parl.gc.ca
www.marilyngladu.com

Congratulations!
GRADUATES
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"What we learn with
pleasure we never forget!"
- Alfred Mercier

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congrats
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We're cheering
you on Lancers,
and looking
forward to
wherever life
takes you next!

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The Lancer Leger

Class of
2020
CONGRATS GRADUATES!

Class of
2020
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"Don't Listen to what
they say. Go See."
-by Anonymous
Congrats Grad

"Success is the ability to go from
one failure to another with no loss
of enthusiasm."
-Winston Churchill

Class of
2020
Congratulations
We're proud of all the
accomplishments of our LCCVI
students and we can't wait to see
what you do to make Enniskillen and
the world a better place.
From The Mayor & Council

CONGRATULATIONS

**Lambton Central
Collegiate & Vocational
Institute**

Graduates 2019 - 2020

Class of 2020

B. Allen	S. Anderson	Z. Baron	K. Barry	A. Belli	E. Bulgin	L. Burdett	M. Burnard	B. Burns	E. Busby-McEachen	E. Cran	D. Currie	J. Dailey	T. Dam	K. De Turse	E. Den Boer
K. Denkers	K. Dolbear	J. Douglas	Z. Drury	C. Duncan	N. Dunlop	A. Edgar	M. Egan	A. Findlay	A. Frew	K. Fulton	A. Garcia	D. Gibson	C. Graham	M. Greer	S. Gudtz
C. Hackett	M. Haves	J. Hendra	B. Hext	S. Hoven	J. Jamieson	J. Jarvis	K. Jenkins	E. Kerby	M. Kernohan	C. King	W. Knight	Z. Lalonde	N. Land	S. Lapierre	J. Lefebvre
C. Lester	S. Livingston	M. Lumley	E. Lypko	K. McGrail	S. McKay	S. McKellar	T. McKinlay	A. Meredith	L. Meston	B. Moffatt	C. Moffatt	M. More	M. Mueller	M. Nemcek	Z. Nolan
A. Quimbao	G. Robinson	A. Rops	H. Rops	D. Rust	S. Sanders	M. Schalk	B. Sinclair	V. Smith	L. Stanley	R. Tayler	H. Thompson	D. Tucker	H. Varsava	M. Verstraten	G. Wemple
S. Wiens	R. Wilkinson	A. Williams	S. Williams	H. Willis	C. Wilson	P. Wilson	R. Winter	A. Withers							

The Lancer Ledger

Lancers in the community



The Class of 2020 made a mark on Petrolia and Central Lambton. Brooke Sinclair won a prestigious scholarship from the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, the whole school took part in a can brigade to restock the Petrolia Food Bank, seniors from the music class visited local schools including Queen Elizabeth II in Petrolia and the entire student body, participated in the annual Terry Fox Run at LCCVI.




Congratulations

CLASS OF 2020

“Graduation is not the end; it’s the beginning.”


- Senator Orrin Hatch



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Congratulations

graduates


CLASS OF 2020



Plympton-Wyoming is proud of your accomplishments and all you do in our community. We can't wait to see what you do next. We're proud of you all.

Lonny Napper and Council

546 Niagara Street | Box 250 | Ontario | N0N 1T0
Tel: 519-845-3939 Toll Free: 1-877-313-3939





The Lancer Leger

CONGRATULATIONS
CLASS OF 2020

Honouring LCCVI's graduating Athletes



Jett Jarvis, Matt Mueller, Grace Robinson and Catilin Wilson are being honoured as LCCVI's top athletes in the Class of 2020. Mueller and Robinson were named the top Male and Female Athletes of this school year, while Jarvis, Mueller and Wilson were named the top graduating athletes at LCCVI.

Graduating Athletic Award Winners

- Volleyball**
Sr. Girls MVP: Grace Robinson
Sr. Girls MVP: Jozlin Jamieson
Sr Boys MVP: Matt Mueller
- Tennis**
Francesco DiCosta Campo
- Basketball**
Sr. Boys Most Improved: Matt Mueller
Sr. Girls MVP: Grace Robinson



Sr. Girls Basketball

- Hockey**
Girls MVP: Carlie Duncan, Hannah Thompson
Boys MVP: Cameron Hackett

- Wrestling**
Boys MVP: Eduardo Olaya



Eduardo Olaya

- Lancer Letters**
Carlie Duncan, Matt Haves, Jett Jarvis, John Lefebvre, Kevin McGrail, Matt Mueller, Ashley Podolinsky, Grace Robinson, Daniel Rust, Sarah Sanders, Hannah Tompson, Malcom Verstraten, Caitlin Wilson

- Four year athletes**
Emma Bulgin, Avrie Edgar, Aiden Frew, Kaegan Fulton, Matt Haves, Ali Holmes, Niah Land, Megan MacDonald, Sage McCarthy, Madeline Nemcek, Jaelyn O'Hara
Haleigh Rops, Stephanie Williams, Rebecca Winter



Senior Boys Volleyball Team

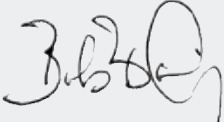
To the Grade 12 Graduates of Lambton Central Collegiate & Vocational School (LCCVI):

On behalf of the Province of Ontario, I would like to personally congratulate you on your upcoming high school graduation. With the current circumstances in the world, it is more important than ever to recognize and celebrate this momentous occasion in your life. Each and every one of you should be proud of your accomplishments and cherish every moment as you move forward to the next stage of your life, wherever that may take you.


In these times of great adversity, I hope you are able to find the strength and resilience to overcome the current challenges we are all facing. By building on those tribulations, you will most certainly become a better, stronger person, one whose versatility, creativity and resourcefulness will inspire you to become a true community leader.

I wish you all good fortune and success for your future. Stay strong and stay true to yourself as you face the road ahead. Make us proud and, more important, make yourself proud as you explore the new and challenging world that awaits you. Do great things!

With sincere best wishes,



Bob Bailey, MPP
Sarnia-Lambton



The Lancer Ledger

Lancers show their spirit during special events



LCCVI is a place of learning but there is a lot of other things mixed in including a student OPP basketball game, Homecoming, Remembrance Day, the Christmas Assembly, and career days. Pictured are: Mercedes Greer at Remembrance Day and Brett Anderson giving Mr. Mueller a cake face wash.



Special Thanks to LCCVI's Yearbook Staff



CLASS OF 2020

Congratulations from your people in Student Services! You've succeeded despite adversity and you will be better for it in the long run. Continue to set your goals high, work hard to achieve them and you will never be disappointed in the outcome!

LCCVI Student Services



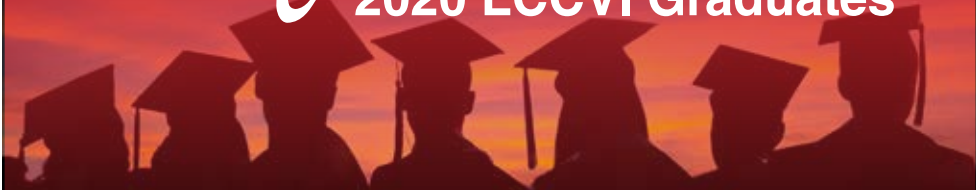
Class of 2020

Develop your talents and skills to share with the world! Each is important and should be valued. Don't be afraid to shine where you shine best, and respect and appreciate everyone's gifts.

*I can do things you cannot,
you can do things I cannot.
Together we can do great things.*
- Mother Teresa

Go shine! Congratulations and best wishes from the Co-op department!

Congratulations 2020 LCCVI Graduates



On behalf of all of us on Council, our Staff and the Residents of St Clair Twp, I offer my heartfelt congratulations and positive hope for the future for all the 2020 LCCVI Graduating Students.

It is an exciting time to be entering the next phase of your life journey with so many opportunities to make the world better, stronger, more positive, as well as an environmentally cleaner place for the generations following you.

Whether you go directly into the workforce, or attend post secondary education, do it with a positive attitude, showing love for your community and those that live in it and do try to make a positive difference, keeping a gentle spirit in all you do.

Know also that there are many that are here to support you, always remember, there is no one quite like you and have the talents that you do....good luck.

Mayor Steve Arnold
St. Clair Township



Salute to L.C.C.V.I. Graduates



LCCVI Class of
2020!

*You're about to enter into a world
where no one's grading you.
Stop completing things and start
living them.*

From the LCCVI Drama Department *- Jon Stewart*

Congratulations LANCER Graduates!

One, two, congrats to you!
Three, four, out the door.
Five, six, feelings are mixed.
Seven, eight, let's celebrate!
Nine, ten, come see us again!

From your Business and Mathematics Teachers!

CLASS OF 2020
Congratulations Graduates

We are so proud of you!
You've learned about Canada and the world in our classes; now go out and explore them and make a difference in them!

LCCVI CANADIAN & WORLD STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Dear Lancer Graduates,

We understand that having a school closure is not the way you imagined spending your final semester at high school.

Congratulations on all of your accomplishments earned while at LCCVI!

We wish you all the best in your personal and professional lives. We are very proud of you.

The Visual Arts Department

CONGRATULATIONS

"Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think."

"Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school"

-Albert Einstein

Now go out and do great things. Congratulations Graduates!

The Science Department

Dear Lancer Graduates,

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."

Mark Twain

Sending you off with Love from The LCCVI English Department

CONGRATULATIONS TO LCCVI GRADUATES OF 2020

"THE MOST REWARDING THINGS IN LIFE ARE OFTEN THE ONES THAT LOOK LIKE THEY CANNOT BE DONE."

-ARNOLD PALMER

FAMILY STUDIES DEPARTMENT

WAY TO GO LANCERS !

"Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can."

-Arthur Ashe

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020

LCCVI PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Félicitations!

Prenez ce que vous avez appris pour faire du bien dans le monde!

Take what you have learned to do some good in the world!

Le Département de français à LCCVI

Congratulations!

CONGRATS!

LCCVI GRADUATING CLASS OF 2020!

THE SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Congratulations, Class of 2020

We are so proud of you and we wish you all the very best!

Live your truth. Express your love. Share your enthusiasm. Take action towards your dreams. Walk your talk. Dance and sing to your music.

- Steve Maraboli

The Staff & Students of The LCCVI Music Department

Congratulations GRADUATES

"Whatever good things we build end up building us"

Lancer Technology Department

A grad to remember

Heather Wright
The Independent

Jillian de Boer isn't likely to remember her graduation from St. Patrick's High School. The Wyoming teen and her fellow graduates made the best of a bad situation with COVID-19 restrictions and had a drive-up graduation Saturday. Students were assigned a time to be at the school, they came out of their car as their family watched, sanitized their hands, walked to a podium to pick up their diploma, moved to a mock stage for a few quick pictures and then headed back to their car and back home. It was a bit of a blur, says de Boer adding "It was it

was really windy so I was more focused on not losing my cap." Like most of the Class of 2020, this wasn't what de Boer expected, but she says the St. Clair Catholic District School Board did a good job of making the day memorable. "I was a little disappointed that prom was canceled, but there is enough people in my house that we could pretty much do prom." de Boer's seven siblings dressed up and had a dance party on prom day. "I honestly wasn't disappointed there wasn't grad because I had been to three so I kind of know how it works ..but they did a good job of creating new grad given the circumstances."



DEBORAH DEBOER PHOTO

Hand sanitizer and masks were the order of the day as Wyoming teen Jillian de Boer joined her fellow St. Pat's students in a drive-by graduation ceremony Saturday.

Alvinston man lets the wrong person in the door

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

An Alvinston man will be spending 20 days in jail after pleading guilty letting a man into visit him. Brendan Recker, 32, had plead guilty at the end of May to nine different charges taking place over the last four years. This included a high-speed police chase through Petrolia and a break-in at a Dawn-Euphemia farm in the span of less than a month last year. Recker was sentenced to six months of house arrest to be followed by six months at home observing a curfew, along with two years of probation. He also had several people to stay away from. But it took just two days before he broke his parole

conditions. On May 30, Recker was visited by another man who Recker had been told to avoid contact with. He allowed him into his home, unaware that the other man was being watched by a member of the Lambton OPP. After arresting the other man, police attempted to arrest Recker as well, but he refused to open the door. Several days later a warrant was obtained for Recker's arrest, and he was taken into custody in the early hours of June 4. "That condition was very obviously and flagrantly breached just two days after Mr. Recker received what I would submit is a very generous sentence given the crimes that he was convicted of," Crown

attorney David Nicol said of the breach. "In order for that sentence to have the effects it's supposed to of denunciation and deterrence, there have to be consequences for breaching that sentence." Nicol suggested that Recker should face 30 days in jail for the breach. Defense attorney Elizabeth Ferris argued for 15 days. "This period back in custody has really shaken him. It's caused him a lot of distress, and he really recognizes and understands the importance of complying with all terms of the order." Justice Deborah Austin – who had sentenced Recker just 12 days prior – decided on 20 days in jail. Recker's conditions will remain the same as the original sentence.



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: **Thursday, June 25, 2020**

Time: **1:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

Location: **Free Online Webinar**

How to Register: **Call: 519-344-7858**
or
Email: laurenvanewyk@gmail.com
or
Online: www.lambtonfederation.ca/June25

Happy Father's Day

No Tiger King in St. Clair Township

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

The next Joe Exotic or Carole Baskin likely won't be coming out of St. Clair Township after council passed an exotic animals ban. The new bylaw covers animals such as tigers, lions and other big cats, primates, bears, alligators and crocodiles, snakes more than three metres long, and more. The decision mirrors a similar

bylaw passed in Lambton Shores last year, which was enacted after big cat owners said they would be opening a big cat park in the town. Following the new bylaw, the animals were ordered out of Lambton Shores in a court decision earlier this year. Council made sure that the wording of the new St. Clair bylaw closely followed that of the Lambton Shores bylaw, since it held up through the court case against the big cat

owners. One change to the original drafting of the bylaw was to allow for mink farms, which produce fur. There is the potential for owners of exotic animals to apply for an exception "should they [council] be convinced the animal will not create a safety concern for any residents or visitors to the area." The consultation process would involve any neighboring homes.

New Enbridge pipeline ready for action in a week

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

The Line 5 pipeline will be up and running on June 25 as work nears completion on the Enbridge project. Petroleum products will begin flowing through the new line one week.

The \$20-million project began earlier this year to drill a new crossing deeper in the riverbed than the existing one. The line originates in Superior, Wisconsin, and travels more than 1,000 kilometres through Michigan before arriving in Sarnia. It was built in the 1950s

Meantime, Enbridge was given the go-ahead in Michigan Superior court last week to begin the construction of a tunnel replacing the pipeline's crossing at the Straits of Mackinac. It was part of a deal which saw the replacement of Line 5 in St. Clair Township.

WE'RE OPEN TO ALL OUR PATIENTS

We are Adjusting to Keep You Safe

WHAT WE ARE DOING TO PROTECT YOU

STRICT CLEANING

Introducing strict standards in clinic sanitation and frequently cleaning high contact areas.

SCHEDULING

Using intelligent scheduling to maintain physical distancing while still providing exceptional care.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Wearing face mask and other protective equipment thought the clinic and during treatments.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Contact your chiropractor to learn about the new physical distancing and safety measures to follow before your visit.

BEFORE YOUR VISIT

If you're experienced cold or flu-like symptoms in the last two weeks, please postpone your appointment.

PRE-SCREENING

Pre-screening patients and encouraging physical distancing in waiting rooms.

LIMITED HOURS

Monday 2-6pm; Tuesday 1-6pm; Wednesday 10am-2pm; Thursday 1-6pm; Friday Closed; Saturday 10am-12noon; Sunday Closed

Our hours of operation may be altered due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Please call to confirm.

www.lambtonchiropractic.ca

431 King Street, Petrolia
519-882-1880

Dr.Storozuk

Dr.Martyniuk

Fair’s 170th postponed

Heather Wright
The Independent

Something you can’t see or predict has shutdown the largest fair in Lambton County. The 170th Brigden Fair has been postponed until 2021. “The Moore Agricultural Society does not feel that they can successfully hold such an event without compromising the safety of the volunteers, exhibitors, staff, judges, vendors, sponsors, community, and patrons that are relied upon. Enhancement of both rural and urban life is central to the mission of the Moore Agricultural Society, and because of the way this year has progressed, the possible benefits of moving forward with the fair are outweighed by the risks involved,” says President Malcolm Rogers in a news release. Rogers says this seems to be the first time in the fair’s 170 year history that they’ve had to

postpone the event. “I’ve tried to go back as far as I could. I can’t find anybody who’s still around from the first one, obviously, but looking at all the people who are historians, we’ve got two people who’ve gone and studied history around us ever since they were children. Nobody ever remembers the fair being postponed or canceled. “We’ve gone through two world wars, and we went through a recession. And it was never cancelled and it has been 170 years,” Rogers adds. “Something we can’t see, we don’t know, and you can’t try to put your finger on you might say, has closed us down because the uncertainty that goes with it and what can happen and what couldn’t happen.” Rogers says the society hopes to have some small events throughout the year when government guidelines allow it and it will host the 170th anniversary celebration in 2021.



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO
Petrolia’s Phil Hodgetts, right, was one of about 200 workers from Bluewater Health demonstrating in Sarnia Wednesday.

Hundreds of workers feel forgotten

Heather Wright
The Independent

When Phil Hodgetts goes to work at the lab in Petrolia’s Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital, he works side-by-side with nurses and doctors. So when the provincial government heaped praise on frontline workers and offered pandemic pay, and left out professions like lab technicians, Hodgetts was frustrated. June 10, he and about 200 members of OPSEU Local 125 stood side-by-side but six feet apart on the sidewalk in front of Bluewater Health in Sarnia to draw attention to the fact his job is not considered essential – at least not for the province’s pandemic pay hike. “In a small rural hospital, you have constant interaction with patients, outpatients, emerge patients, inpatients and the government says well,

that person standing beside you working their is front line because they’re dealing with the patient at the same time you’re beside them and being told that no, you’re not front line because you don’t deal with patients is very frustrating,” says Hodgetts. The Vice President of OPSEU Local 125 June Weiss agrees. She says a broad range of professions have been left out of the \$4 per hour increase including people in labs and pharmacies. “They’ll be working side by side with a registered nurse who is getting the pay, they’re also exposed. They’re also frontline, but they are not getting it. So, it’s caused some dissension.” Weiss wants the public – and the government – to know her members have been playing a key roll in the fight against COVID-19. And they should be recognized as front line workers, too.



Show Us Your Canadian Pride

We want to know how you are celebrating Canada Day!

Send us your photos om our website
www.petrolialambtonindependent.ca
We’ll publish as many as we can in the pages of The Independent and our website. Send in your photos by **Monday, July 5, 2020.**

DISPOSE OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COUNTY OF LAMBTON RESIDENTS ONLY (Commercially Generated Hazardous Waste Will NOT be Accepted)



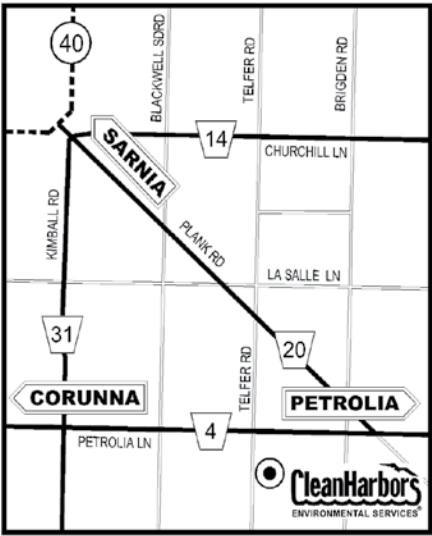
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|--|--|--|--|
| CORROSIVE
Batteries
Drain Cleaners
Oven Cleaners | TOXIC
Pesticides
Rat Poison
Pharmaceuticals
Cleaning Fluids | REACTIVE
Pool Chemicals
Ammonia
Bleach
Aerosols | FLAMMABLE
Gasoline, Paints
BBQ Starter
Oils, Solvents
Propane Cylinders |
|--|--|--|--|

2020 PROGRAM CHANGES

The events scheduled for March, April, and May of this year were cancelled due to concerns surrounding the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Given these cancellations, the County of Lambton and Clean Harbors expect these next two events will be very well attended. In an effort to reduce wait times, we ask that residents, if possible, to select their event date based on their residential address as outlined below:

- Saturday, June 20 - all residents with an odd numbered residential address;
- Saturday, June 27 - all residents with an even numbered residential address;

- Additionally, in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, event attendees are asked to follow physical distancing protocols, including the following:
1. Package materials in disposable containers (i.e. cardboard boxes) as they will not be returned;
 2. Place materials in the trunk or back of their vehicle to maximize distancing for event staff when collecting items; and
 3. Remain in their vehicle at all times, as event staff will be removing materials from their vehicle.



ALSO ACCEPTED: Sharps (Hypodermic Needles)
NOT ACCEPTED: PCB’s, commercial, industrial or radioactive wastes, tires, explosives (flares, ammunition), electronics.
PLEASE NOTE: For safety reasons, residents are asked to segregate lithium batteries from all other battery types prior to drop-off.

2020 Household Hazardous Waste Depot Schedule		
June 20	September 12	October 17
June 27	September 26	October 31
9:00am - 2:00pm		
4090 Telfer Road, St. Clair Township, ON		
Services paid for by the County of Lambton. Waste management collection services provided by Clean Harbors Canada Inc.		

PERMANENT HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DEPOT at Clean Harbors Canada, Inc., 4090 Telfer Road, St. Clair Township, Ontario



For more information call the
County of Lambton
Public Works Department at
519 845-0801 /1-866-324-6912
or visit www.lambtononline.ca



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

Obituary



LEWIS
Beverly

Died peacefully on **Tuesday, June 9, 2020** with her family by her side at Bluewater Health, Sarnia. BEVERLY LEWIS (nee Burr), of Petrolia, was **80 years of age**. She was the loving wife of 44 years to the late Francis Lewis (2005). She will be missed by her children Sharon and Rob Mair, Ray and Deb Lewis, and Wayne Lewis and Lucy Couto-Lewis. She was a beloved grandmother to Robbie (Amanda) Mair, Matthew (Ellen) Mair, Lauren Mair, MacKenzie (Rachel) Lewis, Ryan (Alanna) Lewis, Erin Lewis, Josh (Jessica) McNally, Kaitlyn (Corey) McNally, Jordan (Hailey) Lewis, and Chelsea (Chloe) Lewis, Marisa Campbell, and Justin Campbell and was a great grandmother to Adaline Mair, Jensen and Lincoln Lewis, James Lewis, and Macy and Millie McNally. She will be missed by her sisters Kay (the late Ken) Campbell and Shirley (the late Jack) Douglas and her brother-in-law Doug (the late Helen) Dew and her many nieces and nephews. A teacher who retired to raise her family and spent many years farming with her husband on the Lewis family farm. **A private service will be held, with interment at Hillsdale Cemetery Petrolia.** As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made C.E.E. Hospital Foundation (www.ceehf.ca) or the Canadian Cancer Society (www.cancer.ca). Memories and condolences may be shared online at www.needhamjay.com.

Obituary



VANVLIET
Frank

It is with great sadness that Frank VanVliet on **June 10, 2020** in his **83rd** year passed away peacefully at Bluewater Hospital. Special thanks goes out to the palliative care team at Bluewater Hospital. Beloved husband of Patricia VanVliet (Herron), son of predeceased Hendricus and Margaretha VanVliet, dear father of Steven (Pam), Robert (Bonnie), Sharon (John), Melissa (Jeff), Cherished grandfather of Brent (Alyssa), Adam (Alicia), Samantha, Ashley (Rob), Alexis, Ryan and great-grandfather of five. Dear brother of Gerda DeBruin, Sida Slot, Greet Vianen, Corry en Jan VanVliet and Joop VanVliet. Frank was born in Holland on December 31st, 1937, he came to Canada in 1960. He worked at Imperial Oil for 30 years and once retired he enjoyed vacationing down south with his family. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Canadian Cancer Society or charity of your choice. **A Celebration of life to follow at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to Life Transitions Burial and Cremation Service Inc. www.lifetransitions.ca**

Obituary



WILSON
Louise Marie

Peacefully, at St. Joseph's Hospice in Sarnia, Louise Marie Wilson passed away on **June 13, 2020** at the age of **66**, after a hard-fought battle with cancer. Survived by her brother Larry Wilson of Oshawa and loving friend Debbie Hands of Sombra. Remembered dearly by Dolores, Diane, and Darlene and their immediate families. Preceded by her mother Margaret (1996) & father Leonard Wilson (2001) of Oshawa, Ontario. Born in Oshawa, Ontario, Louise later moved to Sarnia, but spent most of her life living in Petrolia. Louise grew up playing high level of Fastball and Women's Hockey in Oshawa before moving to the Sarnia area. Anyone who knew Louise knew that she was a competitive athlete. This was apparent in all the sports that she played. She enjoyed playing Fastball, Ball hockey, Women's Hockey and Broomball, and eventually played Two Pitch well into her adult life. She remained close with her "sports friends" and always looked forward to their many get-togethers. Larry & Debbie would like to personally thank Louie's dear friends for all the support during her illness. Special thanks go out to Penny & Janice for their priceless window visit to Louie at the Hospice! A special thanks to the comprehensive health care team that took great care of Louise in her final year & half: Oncology Doctors, Dr. Yoshida & Dr. Lilly, BWH Palliative Dr. Kim and LHIN staff, Nurse Melissa for her weekly visits and the St. Joseph's Hospice team. **Cremation has taken place and Interment will be held in Thornton Cemetery, Oshawa. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.** In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to St. Joseph's Hospice of Sarnia (www.stjosephshospice.ca), would be appreciated, to help continue the exceptional palliative care provided in the Sarnia Lambton community. Arrangements entrusted to Needham-Jay Funeral Home Inc. (519)882-0100. Messages of condolences and Memories may be sent online at www.needhamjay.com.

Obituary



BURGER
Jacob "Jake"

Jacob "Jake" – Passed away peacefully after a brief illness at London Health Sciences Centre – Victoria Hospital on **Sunday, June 14, 2020** at the age of **74**. Loving husband of Karen (White) and special friend of Buddy. Brother-in-law of Bill (Janice) White of Plympton-Wyoming, Bob White of Petrolia, Sharen (Dave) Willson of St. Thomas, Maureen (late Bob) Yaskovic of Mooretown. Also survived and loved by several nieces and nephews. Predeceased by his parents. Jake immigrated to Canada in 1968 to build silos for Fred McCormick, later became a licensed mechanic at Ron Clark Motors for over 30 years. Jake was a long-time member of the Petrolia Lions Club and an avid sports fan of Nascar and Hockey. Cremation has taken place. **Due to Covid-19 a celebration of Jake's life will be held at a later date when it is safe for everyone to gather. Sympathy may be expressed through donations to the Petrolia Lions Club or charity of your choice.** Memories and condolences may be sent online at www.steadmanbrothers.ca. Arrangements entrusted to STEADMAN BROTHERS FUNERAL CHAPELS, Brigden 519-864-1193.

Celebration



Card of Thanks



Card of Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for the expressions of sympathy in the passing of our mother, Betty Powers. We appreciated the flowers, cards, telephone calls and food.

A special thanks to the staff of Babcock's and Meadowview nursing homes and Dr. Daniel's for mother's care.

A celebration of Betty's life will be held at a late date.

- The Powers Family

Card of Thanks



Thank You

I would like to thank all of my friends and neighbours for all the food, cards, flowers and prayers, as well as to the care from The Bluewater Health Staff following my accident and subsequent surgery.

I feel so blessed, and appreciate all the support given to my family and all that loving energy has enhanced my healing journey.

- Janet Bradley

Celebration



A Family Affair

Judy & Bob 2010 Mark & Cheryl 1988 Bob & Betty 1955 Curtis & Kate 2016 Aric & Miranda 2017

65th Anniversary
June 18, 1955
— Bob & Betty Cole —

Bob & Betty Cole are celebrating their 65th Wedding Anniversary. Over the years their children have chosen to follow in their footsteps and chose to use June 18th as their wedding date as well.

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**



The Corporation of the Township of Enniskillen

Requires An **Equipment Operator** for the Roads Department

The Equipment Operator will be required to:

- carry out a variety of duties in connection with road maintenance and road construction within a rural municipality
- operate a motor grader, dump trucks, sand/salter, backhoe

Qualifications:

- must have a current DZ license (prefer AZ)
- must have experience operating road maintenance/construction equipment

Wages:

- Competitive wages with benefit program

Applicants must submit a resume and cover letter by **12:00 (noon) Friday, July 3rd, 2020** addressed to Mike Cumming, Road Superintendent mcumming@enniskillen.ca

The Township is an equal opportunity employer which values diversity in the workplace. Please inform us if you require any accommodations to ensure you can participate fully and equally during the recruitment and selection process. In accordance with the Municipal Freedom Information and Privacy Protection Act, all information collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001 and will be used only during the selection process for the subject of this posting.

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.**

For Sale

PLANT SALE - Tomato Plants, Rose of Sharon Bushes. **458 Ignatigna St., Petrolia. Self Serve.**

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

**7051 Elizabeth St.**
Warwick Village



Charming 2 storey home located on a quiet street. 4-bdrm, 1½-bath property has had many updates; 2pc. bath, carpeting, stair rails, carport ceiling & covered front porch. The full basement is awaiting your ideas and development. Large lot, minutes away from Warwick Conservation Area & the 402, low electrical costs & high-speed internet. Only 20 minutes to Sarnia.


\$350,000 **MLS#243945**

SHANAHAN REALTY INC. BROKERAGE
7963 Egremont Road, Watford • 519.849.6783 www.shanahanrealty.com
Leo Shanahan Sales Representative
Direct: 519-878-5981 • leo@shanahanrealty.com • Fax-519.849.6683

Solution

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Brought to you by:
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Give yourself peace of mind with the right coverage for you.
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7	9	2	8	5	1	3	4	6
6	3	1	2	4	7	9	5	8
8	4	5	3	6	9	1	7	2
5	6	3	9	2	4	8	1	7
9	7	8	5	1	3	6	2	4
2	1	4	7	8	6	5	3	9
1	5	7	6	9	2	4	8	3
4	2	6	1	3	8	7	9	5
3	8	9	4	7	5	2	6	1



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Rental

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

Death Notices
June 8 to June 14, 2020

MONDAY, JUNE 8
NEWMAN, Joanne
Age 79, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Home
HURKMANS, Mia
Age 87, of Forest
Denning's of Forest
MINIELLY, Donald
Age 90, of Plympton-Wyoming
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

TUESDAY, JUNE 9
BURWELL, Audrey
Age 70, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Home
DENLEY, Michael
Age 70, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home
KIRBY, John
Age 73, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home
LEWIS, Beverly
Age 80, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home
KLAGES, Hilda
Age 99, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10
RANKIN, Judy
Age 63, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Home
STINSON, Donald Lloyd
Age 74, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home
ACTON, Jame Latimer
Age 88, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

HODGINS, Thomas
Age 89, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Chapel
DI MUZIO, Geraldine "Gerry"
Age 97, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

THURSDAY, JUNE 11
BARBOSA, Fernando "Frank"
Age 61, of Sarnia
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home
CHIVERS, Paul George
Age 71, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Home
PITFIELD, Tenaya
Age 78, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

FRIDAY, JUNE 12
STEWARTSON, Alvin Carl
Age 81, of Forest
Denning's of Forest
ZNOTINS, Mirdza Veronica
Age 95, of Sarnia
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

SATURDAY, JUNE 13
WILSON, Louise
Age 66, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

SUNDAY, JUNE 14
BURGER, Jacob "Jake"
Age 74, of Brigden
Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels
CLYSDALE, Geraldine "Gerry"
Age 60, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

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



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

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

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



COVID-19

IN LAMBTON

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

CANCELLED EVENTS

DATE	LOCATION	EVENT
Jun 21	Oil Springs	The Oil Springs Cemetery Father's Day Decoration Day Service
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 4	Sarnia	The Tragically Hits at Imperial Theatre
Jul 5	Mooretown	Model Train Event at The Moore Museum

Business & Service Directory

GB Excavating
Excavating/Septic
Steve Greer
Owner



4396 Nauvoo Rd.
Watford ON
NOM 2S0
519-494-1855

gbexc@brktel.on.ca
gbexcavating.ca

**BOURQUE**
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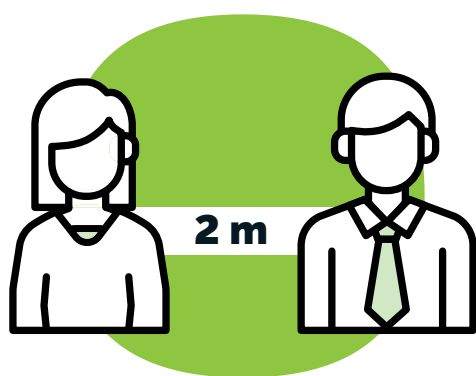
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Kitchens & Baths
Trim Work • Custom Carpentry

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www.bourquerenovations.com

519-882-3344

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.