

## THE FINAL DEPARTURE



MIKE WALTON PHOTO

The empty ferry Daldean heads south to Amherstburg as it pulls away from the Sombra crossing for the last time Tuesday. The Dalgety family, who owns Bluewater Ferry, has sold the vessel to Boblo Island Ferries. The Daldean carried passengers to Marine City, Michigan for 70 years. See more on page 6.

### Dawn-Euphemia may pull out of Inwood Fire deal

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Dawn-Euphemia may back out of its fire service agreement with Brooke-Alvinston for the Inwood fire station.

The township council will study if the northern part of the township could be protected by the local department. Currently, the Inwood department of the Brooke Fire Service is the first responder to the area but Inwood's role in fire protection is coming into question as Brooke-Alvinston looks at realigning its services.

In 2018, 16 firefighters resigned from the Inwood department, causing concern and political conflict. In January 2020, when the lease for the Inwood fire hall expired, the equipment used in the community was moved to Alvinston.

Recently, the municipality hired a consultant to look at what was needed to

protect Inwood in the long-term.

Firehouse 33 was contracted to study the situation and said a full station was not necessary in Inwood since the Alvinston department was handling all the calls without any issues. The consultants did suggest an emergency medical response team should be set up in the area.

In a report prepared for Brooke-Alvinston's meeting Wednesday, Fire Chief Jeff McArthur seemed to disagree, suggesting a presence is still needed.

"A continued fire presence in Inwood from a municipally owned fire station, with a downsized fleet, is the most effective way to protect the Inwood Response Area while ensuring all BFR firefighters are properly equipped with the proper tools and equipment needed," he writes in the report to council.

SEE BROAD PG 3

### Back-to-school options up in the air

Nicole Vanrabaeyns  
The Independent

Students will not know their September plans until August, since the Director of Education says they currently have three options.

Deb Crawford is the Director of Education with the St. Clair Catholic District School Board. In an interview with The Herald, she says their three options include all students go back to school full time, all students continue online learning, or students come on an alternating schedule with no more than 15 students in each classroom.

She says the Ontario government will make the call in early August, however they must prepare for each circumstance and plan out what each one would look like.

"We need to be planned by the end of July for all three. We have put together a planning process so we are in place to

put everyone back in either one of those options."

Crawford believes the students will be going back part time in cohorts - the same limited number of students staying together.

"The Ministry of Health is very much concerned that students remain in cohorts, the least amount of exchanges with teacher or other students, then they are able to contact trace in the quickest way possible." She says this year has been one for the books, as it has been intensely difficult making the three models.

"Our number one priority is health and safety for students and staff. Regardless of the model, we believe we can do this." The Catholic board is working closely with the Lambton-Kent public board, the French board, and local public health, and they will be the ones bringing the preferred models to the table.

SEE TEACHERS' UNION PG 3



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# Health Coalition says home care at risk

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

The Ontario Health Coalition is making a final push to stop the provincial government’s impending Bill 175.

The Connecting People to Home and Community Care bill is set to have its third reading in the provincial legislature this week.

The OHC says the bill would privatize home care treatment and effectively end any meaningful oversight in the industry.

“Home care is going to be fractured all across Ontario, with different providers providing different services,” says Shirley Roebuck, chair of the OHC’s Chatham-Kent/Sarnia-Lambton chapter. “The current home care bill has public oversight provisions but those are taken away in the new bill.

“Bill 175 ... has been hastily written and is being pushed through the legislature,” Roebuck says. “We hope that the government will see the error of their ways and withdraw this bill... and rethink home care and community care and have meaningful public input into it.”

But health coalition groups aren’t hopeful that will happen. Roebuck says despite repeated attempts the OHC has not received any response from the provincial government about its concerns. The Ford government has continually denied that Bill 175 will be a pathway to privatized home care.

“There’s no democracy at all. We’ve not had a response from the Ford government at all,” Roebuck says.

This includes a letter the OHC sent to the government two weeks ago asking for fixes to long term care issues. The letter was co-signed by 200 organizations representing more than two million Ontarians. The province didn’t respond to it either.

“There is a huge population telling Mr. Ford ‘we don’t want you to touch home care, we want you to fix the long term care problems.’ It isn’t just a local issue or a tiny number of people.”

The OHC says that the COVID-19 crisis has laid bare the existing issues in Ontario’s homes.

“Mr. Ford, when he gets up and talks about COVID-19 and the nursing

homes, he looks very concerned and his demeanor is appropriate. But the problem is that his words have not translated into actions,” says Roebuck.

She says despite all the information that has come to light regarding care levels in long-term care, such as staffing shortages and a lack of inspections, there has been no concrete action to address the problems. Only one long-term care home has had its license revoked in Ontario.

The province also expects a commission to begin studying the system in July.

“We are grateful for the support and protection they provided to our long-term care home residents in the midst of our fight against COVID-19,” says Health Minister Christine Elliott.

While the lack of care given in some homes revealed by the Canadian military shocked many, groups like the health coalition say there have been problems in long term care for decades. Just months before the pandemic was declared, the group was pointing to the lack of personal support workers in long term care which may have be part of the reason COVID-19 struck nursing homes so hard.

Almost 80 per cent of the people who died of COVID-19 were residents of long term care homes.


The conditions inside of nursing home have increased calls for the province to deal with the situation. It has also led to a number of lawsuits being filed against private corporation which run some of the hardest hit nursing homes.

That’s why another bill making its way through the provincial legislature is raising concerns for the health coalition.

The OHC, as well as legal experts and law professors, say Bill 161 - dubbed the Smarter and Stronger Justice Act - would limit the ability to bring class-action lawsuits against private companies in charge of long term care. Bill 161 is also up for a vote this week.

Roebuck still has hope the bills won’t pass. But either way she says the OHC will continue to fight for seniors’ care. “We will keep advocating for public health care, public health care services, and safe long term care. We’re going to be a watchdog for these supposed improvements they’re making.”

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## Charlotte’s Corner

### Gradual Re-introduction of Services Begins in Petrolia

With warmer temperatures and a gradual opening of services in the community, we’re also re-establishing some tests and procedures at Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital (CEEH) of Bluewater Health.

To be tested for COVID-19 please contact the Assessment Centre at the Central Lambton Family Health Team (519-882-2500) for an appointment. Do not go the Emergency Department specifically for testing.

We appreciate your patience as we made changes to improve how people move through the hospital while ensuring physical distancing. Patients in Ambulatory Care, Physiotherapy, the Eye Centre and family practice clinics will use the Dufferin Street entrance. Patients for the Emergency Department, Diagnostic Imaging and the Lab will use the Emergency Department entrance. Appointments, arranged through your primary care provider, are now required for X-rays at the Petrolia hospital so we can manage the number of patients within public health guidelines.

As we are still in a pandemic, we will continually assess conditions in the hospital and community and adapt accordingly. The hospital’s current visitor and family policy is on our website. We are temporarily limiting visitors and family members of patients to prevent transmission of the virus. There are exceptions to allow one essential support person identified during the appointment booking.

Things to consider to make your trip to CEEH smooth:

- Arrive 10 minutes before your appointment time. If you arrive earlier, you may be asked to remain in your car so we can safely keep six feet apart inside the building.
- Enter the visitor lot off Dufferin Street to park – parking is free right now
- A greeter will welcome you as you enter
- Hospital staff will ask you to provide appointment information, and about any new cough, fever, shortness of breath or directions to self-isolate over the last two weeks
- You will be given instructions about how to safely move through the hospital
- If you have a mask, please bring it with you. If you don’t, we will provide one. You will be expected to wear a mask for the entire time you are in the building.

Please continue to follow the recommendations from Lambton Public Health even as more activities and services are available, and protect yourself, your loved ones and your community.



NEWSPAPER

# This Old Newspaper?!

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“This Old Newspaper?!” challenges participants to use newspapers to create whatever they can dream up: clothing, art, furniture – the possibilities are endless!

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- Participants must re-purpose newspaper into something creative and/or functional (anything goes – ball-gown, basket, lampshade) and submit it to their local community newspaper. *Note: While a piece created 100% of newspaper is ideal, we recognize that other materials may be necessary for framework and stability. Therefore, a piece MUST consist of at least 70% recycled newspaper. Of course, it must also be appropriate for the public to admire.*
- In addition to a brief description about the participant’s creation, they must submit a series of photos or videos taken during the construction process to show how the piece was developed.

## Judging Categories

- Open
- Junior under 12
- Family

## Deadline: August 20

Submissions sent to [news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)





## DIGGING DEEP



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Crews from COPE construction workers were high and dry Monday as they worked on Wingfield St. but the street was filled with water earlier. On July 3, crews were working on installing the temporary waterline when the main waterline burst. Mike Thompson, director of operations for the Town of Petrolia, says the situation was quickly brought under control and no damage was done.

## Broad surprised by increases

### CON'T FROM PG 1

McArthur suggests a pumper truck should remain in the area.

Brooke-Alvinston council may set a direction on whether to allow the Alvinston station to continue covering the Inwood Fire Area Wednesday. And while the future of fire protection in Inwood is in debated, Dawn-Euphemia is being hit with a larger bill to pay for services.

Mayor Al Broad told council Monday, Brooke-Alvinston recently passed its budget which included passing along some of the cost for the fire chief.

“It wasn’t until June that we were notified we were going to pick up the wages for the fire chief....it was a surprise to us,” says Broad.

Brooke-Alvinston is now charging Dawn-Euphemia \$47,000 for the Alvinston department to cover some of its area and \$18,400 for the Inwood Fire Area - an almost \$7,000 more than 2019 or a 13.4 per cent increase.

That prompted Broad,

and the Dawn-Euphemia Fire Chief, Don Ewing, to take a look at the area covered by Inwood.

“Do we really need Alvinston to look after that Inwood Fire Area,” Broad asked.

“The fire department is very confident they can handle that area,” says the mayor pointing out that in the last four years there has been only one call per year in the geographic area the Inwood department covers. “It’s pretty low, pretty low maintenance for the most part.

“We could save some money there,” Broad said adding over the years, Dawn-Euphemia has paid extra for capital assets like fire trucks. If it withdrew from the fire service agreement, the municipality would be entitled to get its money back as Enniskillen did when it withdrew from a contract with Inwood two years ago.

Staff will study the issue to bring an recommendation back to council for discussion.

## Few concerns for new seniors’ apartments

The Independent

There doesn’t appear to be any opposition to a new 10 unit seniors complex planned for Petrolia’s downtown.

Planner Rob Nesbitt told Petrolia Council during a zoning meeting Tuesday the planned seniors building matches the town’s plan to bring more senior’s living downtown.

Two neighbours on King Street did

express some concern about drainage from the property. The pair say there isn’t a lot of area for rain to drain from the current Albany Retirement Residence and they wanted to be assured the new seniors apartments, developed by Albany’s Doug Simpson, Ray Dobbin and Travis Bouma, would take care of that before anything was built. Council will discuss allowing the zoning change at its next meeting.

## Teachers’ union worried about plan for September

### CON'T FROM PG 1

“If you listen to Doug Ford, he is speaking a lot on regional differences. I know when the province comes out with model, a lot of it will be left up to local conditions. A rural school is different in Lambton than a school in the City of Toronto. We have been guided by local needs and conditions and have great advice from the local health units. We expect they will be working closely with us and make sure our kids are returning safely to school.”

That’s what the union representing elementary public school teachers wants as well.

Laurel Liddicoat-Newton, the president of the Lambton-Kent Elementary Teachers’ Federation of Ontario, says whatever days students go to school, their health and safety has to come first.

ETFO says that should include signs on the door reminding people about the basics of COVID-19, a partial return to classes, including some students going in the morning and others in the afternoon, making sure each room has adequate ventilation, the use of masks when physical distancing isn’t possible and smaller class sizes to accommodate physical distancing.

ETFO also wants to prohibit parents from coming into the school. Liddicoat-Newton says “when looking at the big picture of limiting who enters schools proactive measures can curb the possibility of a exposure and contamination.”

Liddicoat-Newton says health and safety committee should be able to help with the plan.

What ever the plan for September looks like, Crawford is hopeful it will mean students in a physical classroom - but that isn’t certain yet. “We are building a plane while we are flying a plane,” she says regarding online learning.

Her ideal model would be there would be a vaccine and all students can go back to the classroom. “They need other children, it’s a wonderful time when all the students are in the classroom. That’s what we really want for kids.” Crawford did say even if they cannot do full time in the classroom right away, the second they are allowed to bring the students back in, they will.

Meantime the board is looking at a survey of last year’s online learning. Crawford says they’ll use the information to set up learning for September.



## Helping our Neighbours & First Responders



Grogan Lincoln is donating \$5,000 to Watford Fire Department to honour their work in protecting the people of Watford, Ontario. These funds were originally slated for a team celebration, but instead the Lincoln Team choose to forward the money into their community by donating to their local Fire Department heroes.

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Grogan is proud to be a part of the Watford community and thrilled to be able to make this contribution to the Watford Fire Department.



# Editorial

## School options should be decided now

We are beginning to wonder if the coming school year will be any better than the disaster that was 2020. In March, the school year was disrupted, as was the rest of life for so many people, when a global COVID-19 pandemic was declared. The Ontario government first shut schools for three weeks, and then a few more, until educators were told to get some sort of online learning ready for May. Working on short time frames and with little experience, teachers cobbled together lesson plans to keep students busy. Some of the learning was engaging - some was not. Some students enjoyed the at home experience, many did not. We’ve heard estimates that as many as 85 per cent of high school students in some classes simply quit attending any online classes. It didn’t matter after all, since the government guaranteed students passing in March would pass at the end of June. Without anytime to take a summer break, school officials across the province are now trying to figure out what classrooms will look like in September - if there will be students some of the time, all of the time, how many people there will be in a classroom and what types of classes should be online. The head of the Catholic school board says they’re preparing three options because the Ford Government won’t tell local boards what direction it is going in until August.

That creates a whole lot of uncertainty, not just for educators, but for parents. If your children are in school only part time and you work full time, what will you do? Will you be able to find child care for your youngest children? Will the rules around child care because of COVID-19 stop you from finding a space? What if your child has autism? How will they handle the new environment? Will they even be able to go to school? What about special education? Sports? Music and the arts? There are no easy decisions here, but there has to be decisions made sooner rather than later. The uncertainty is hurting our children and we’re convinced its damaging their education.

## Letters to the Editor

The Independent welcomes Letters to the Editor. Our preferred methods to receive letters are via email to [news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca) (please use Letter in the subject line) or through our website [www.petrolialambtonindependent.ca](http://www.petrolialambtonindependent.ca). You can also deliver letters to The Independent at 4156 Petrolia Line, Petrolia or drop them in the mail at The Independent, Petrolia, ON, N0N 1R0. The Independent reserves the right to edit letters for brevity and clarity. All letters need to be signed and must have a phone number for verification.

## Our Story



FROM THE DAVE BURWELL POSTCARD COLLECTION  
This is a photo of Carrother's General Store in Camlachie, in likely the 1940s. The store also served as the post office and was across the road from the current Camlachie Canada Post outlet. Recently, the building was demolished.

## Vacations - a good rest or just more work

I have just returned from a week away and while I enjoyed myself, I find myself asking the same question I have asked for most of my working life - is a vacation really restful or just more work in the long run. I'll admit, when I was a kid and my mom was packing up for vacation, I never understood why she was grumpy. Brave was the Kok child who asked mom a question during the packing process on Saturday morning. Then, when coolers had been stuffed full and clothing had been neatly packed away - and when mom was sufficiently frustrated - dad would come home, joyfully load everything in the back of the boat and whisk us all off on vacation. Usually there was a little steam coming out of mom's ears. What I didn't understand then, I understand now - vacations just don't

happen, unless of course you are a multi-millionaire with minions surrounding you to pack and complete tasks that must be done. Vacation usually sneaks up on me. Three days before it is time to, I usually get excited because vacation is coming. Three minutes later, I realize everything that has to be done before vacation happens. There is the traditional vacation-y things that need to be completed; pack, put out the garbage - also known as cleaning out all the vegetables in the fridge that you let rot in the past week - and get the dog to her destination. There is also the work things that have to be done. I'm thankful to have a very hard working and helpful group of people surrounding me. I really don't worry

a lot about what is going on at The Independent while I'm away. I worry more about what I forgot to tell them. That's usually where the problem lies. By the time I'm done writing stories and lists and making sure deliveries and the Canada Post paperwork is complete, I can barely see straight. And, like my mom, there is usually steam coming out of my ears by the time I leave. Thankfully, I have a week to cool down.



Heather Wright

[www.petrolialambtonindependent.ca](http://www.petrolialambtonindependent.ca)

# The Independent

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# Opinion

## Wearing a mask is a simple consideration for others

**EDITOR:**

After reading your column in the July 2, 2020 edition of *The Independent* on the wearing of masks, I find myself having to respond which is something that I never do.

You do make some very good points, and I do generally agree with you in most of your editorials, however I cannot agree with you on some of your points in this one.

Yes, I too have seen the person driving in a vehicle wearing a mask. I have been one of those people. I was travelling from one store to the next one and to save possibly contamination or having to use a new mask, it is

much easier to just leave the mask in place.

I believe you mentioned that in your article later on with regard to incorrect removal and reuse of masks. Unless you know the circumstances as to why they are wearing the mask, it is not fair to judge.

In the grocery store, yes, at times, there is the ability to keep distance, however, I have been “surprised” more than once by someone coming around the corner at the same time as I am, and, being Canadian, we are both apologizing at the same time to each other. There is definitely not six feet between us at that moment and there is

no intent, but it happens.

I can speak for myself and for most of the people that I have spoken with that choose to wear a mask in public; we are of the same mind. It is that we are genuinely helping (not just feeling we are helping). Not one of us would want to be responsible for passing on this virus unknowingly to anyone family, friend, or stranger. If just simply wearing a mask lowers that chance even 10 per cent it is worth it.

It is not out of fear, it is simply consideration for others.

**Barb Dawson  
Dresden, ON**

## Petrolia resident asks whose property is it anyway?

**EDITOR:**

As a first-time homeowner in today’s housing market, things can become exciting and scary all at the same time. One thing is for sure, we want to do things right; at least that was my intention.

I made a phone call to the senior planner with the County of Lambton in hopes that I would be informed of how and where I can build a solid wood fence on my property. I had to make this call because the Town of Petrolia’s fence bylaw might as well be written in Pig Latin. I was informed by the senior planner that my side yard is in fact my “front lot.” Confused? Me too.

Turns out, I have now constructed a fence in my front yard, which is the side of my house, and I had to fight to try and keep it. The outcome of my short, yet exhausting fight for my fence, is that I have been granted “permission” to build a fence as long as it complies with certain rules.

As a homeowner, how much are we really allowed to do to our own property?

I have come to realize that I may have purchased the home with my hard-earned money, I pay land tax, and I am required to maintain my property in a pristine way, but I do not have control over most of it.

So, who really “owns” my home and property? Because I feel as if I don’t.

Want to make changes? Better ask for permission. Want privacy? You better be prepared to fight for it.

And to add more to the nonsense that I learned, apparently the road allowance on every street in Petrolia is different. Meaning, you might have a six-foot road allowance, but mine is about 30 feet. I don’t get as much usable property that is available to me.

Yet, I am still required to maintain the grass on it and make it look nice, I just can’t utilize it in any other way. I can’t even plant a cedar tree without

the town getting their feathers ruffled.

Oh, and another thing, the sight triangle, for those of you that don’t know, starts at the intersection of your own property lines, and then extends 30 feet in both directions.

This is the most excessive sight triangle I have ever heard of.

That means at my corner lot, people have 60 feet of my property alone to see around the corner. I’m pretty sure most, if not all of us, do not need that much.

In my eyes, the town is being unfair. Petrolia, it’s time to make some changes to bylaws; they need to make sense and to be fair to the residents.

Don’t make us exhaust ourselves trying to get your support, don’t belittle us, and loosen up on the reigns. And that open air burning bylaw... can’t we just enjoy a fire without cooking?

**Jessica Haarer  
Petrolia, ON**

## Tribute to a Petrolia family doctor who cared and inspired

**EDITOR:**

Throughout the pandemic, it has become increasingly apparent how invaluable family physicians are, especially in rural communities.

Ever since I was born, I have had two family doctors who successively became rooted in my community, and part of my life. Dr. Philip Dee was an exceptional individual who took a keen and genuine interest in his patients. His unrushed, kind and quiet demeanor was always sincere.

His wife, who also acted as his office manager, greeted everyone with a welcoming smile and New Zealand accent. They were a great team.

When Dr. Dee retired, Dr. Susan Mather took over his practice. As she is preparing to retire, I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere

gratitude.

When my children were little, Dr. Mather always went above and beyond and would personally call home to check in on us. She would both tend to our medical conditions and inquire about what was happening in our lives. I will never forget when she came home from London with a set of scrubs for my daughter who constantly pretended to be her, complete with a pretend stethoscope and doctor bag in tote. She has inspired my daughter and I am grateful.

If it were not for Dr. Mather, I do not believe my brother, Tim Brown, would still be alive. Years ago, he contracted an infection and went septic. Dr. Mather intervened and saved his life. An image of his young daughter, curled up in his bed with her head on

his chest, will forever be etched in my mind. Our lives would look very different without Dr. Mather’s efforts and expertise.

I will never forget when Dr. Mather received a call that my father, Eldon Brown, had passed away. She drove straight to the hospital, hugged my mother, and told her that no one could have taken better care of my dad. She wept with us, shared in our grief and left a lasting impact on our family.

As Dr. Mather prepares to enter a different stage of life in her retirement, I hope she understands the lasting impact she has had on our families and community.

Congratulations and forever thank you.

**Krista Mueller  
Petrolia, ON**

## Dr. Mather encouraged college student to follow her medical dreams

**EDITOR:**

When I was 2 years old, Dr. Susan Mather bought me my first set of scrubs. I would “play doctor” at home and just last year compiled side-by-side images of that first medical inkling to my first day observing surgery as an undergraduate job shadow. I wrote the Medical College Admissions Test two weeks ago

and, after posting a celebratory skydiving video, received a message from Dr. Mather, saying how she also remembered writing the MCAT and later skydiving... I knew I always wanted to grow up to be like her. I have looked up to Dr. Mather, as a person and as a professional, since before I can remember and hope to someday impact patients’ lives

similarly to how she has inspired and influenced mine. Thank you for your time, dedication, passion, and service to others. You exemplify what it means to be a lifelong scholar, healer, and teacher. I am grateful for the opportunity to call you my mentor and now friend.

**Marissa Mueller  
Petrolia, ON**

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# The end of an era as Daldean sails out of Sombra

**Pam Wright**  
The Independent

It is the end of an era; the “Daldean” — fondly known as the “Sombra ferry” — sailed away to its new home in Amherstburg Ontario. The sale of the iconic boat spells the end of a family business for the Dalgetys that spanned five generations. It also marks the unofficial close of international ferry service at the Sombra, Ontario-Marine City, Michigan crossing. Some form of marine service has existed at the St. Clair River site for more than 200 years. A handful of residents gathered on the riverbank at first light to watch the Daldean embark on its southbound journey. The Sombra location, which once housed a well-tended bustling Canada Customs office, is now overgrown with weeds. The raised causeway, which carried cars and pedestrians to the boat, is now completely underwater, accessible only to the birds and fish that swim amongst its crushed depths. Ferry service in Sombra came to an abrupt halt in January 2018. A perfect storm of wind, river currents and heavy ice — said to be aggravated by aggressive ice breaking by the federal government — wiped out the causeway connecting the ferry to the mainland. Icebreaking is a responsibility under the umbrella of the Ministry



MIKE WALTON PHOTO

The Daldean sails out of Sombra for the last time, heading to its new home in Amherstburg where it will be put to work shuttling card to Boblo Island.

of Fisheries and Oceans. However, icebreaking on the St. Clair River has been dogged by controversy. In recent years, the government has endeavored to keep the river’s shipping channel open as opposed to the historical practice of halting ship traffic when thick ice blocked the channel. The Dalgety family launched a \$6 million lawsuit against the federal government, which remains before the courts. The suit contends the icebreaker, the Samuel J. Risley, was speeding at the time of the incident.

As well, pleas by politicians at all levels lobbying for funding to reopen the crossing fell on deaf ears in Ottawa. Historical records from the Marine City Pride and Heritage Museum show that a wide array of boats and owners — both American and Canadian — served the crossing. The ferry business was purchased by Morgan Dalgety and Dean Dalgety in 1948, initially serviced by the ‘Lowell D.’ The 12-car ‘Daldean,’ which was built in Chatham, began its maritime service in Sombra in 1951.

## Elderly Sarnia woman spared jail after hitting child

*Child run over three times by woman who had just passed driving test for people over 80 in October 2018*

**Alex Kurial**  
The Independent

A Sarnia woman, who says she has not intention of ever driving again, has been given a three-year driving ban after pleading guilty to running over a four-year-old child multiple times. “The circumstances involving this matter are truly tragic,” Justice Anne McFadyen said while sentencing Anne Thompson, 84, in court on June 29. “A four-year-old child has undergone extensive medical intervention to deal with the consequences of the motor vehicle accident.” The accident occurred on an October morning in 2018. The child and her pregnant mother pressed a crosswalk button along Exmouth St. and began crossing the road to get to school once the walk signal appeared. Thompson was driving eastbound along the street and did not stop or adjust her speed for the crossing light as she struck both mother and child. The four-year-old was thrown 25 meters down the road by the impact. Her mother was knocked to the ground. Thompson, who the prosecution described as “oblivious” to what was going on,

continued driving and once again rode over the child, who was now lying unconscious in the street. Other motorists attempted to get Thompson’s attention and get her to stop. She instead shifted into reverse and drove over the child a third time before stopping the car. The child was rushed to hospital in London. Her injuries included a fractured pelvis, fractured femur, lacerated spleen and subdural brain bleed. The mother suffered injuries to her legs. There were no injuries to the child she was carrying. The little girl will suffer life-long physical consequences from the accident. “In addition to physical injuries, it is quite clear there will be emotional scarring that will have to be dealt with by this family well into the future,” says Justice McFadyen. “There’s also been a financial impact on the family, given the need to transport themselves to out of town appointments and lost employment. “It truly is a tragic situation.” Crown Attorney Suzanne LaSha says normally this offense would call for jail time. But the “rare and exceptional” circumstances of this case - given the offender’s age - meant the maximum driving ban was the most appropriate punishment. McFadyen agreed that jail time would usually be necessary, but felt the joint submission of a three-year driving ban “addresses the primary issue that Ms. Thompson should not be driving a motor vehicle for a significant period of time.” The court heard that Thompson had passed the over-80 driving test shortly before the incident.

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO REPEAL DESIGNATION BY-LAW UNDER SECTION 32 OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O 1990, C.0.18

#### Public Notice

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Petrolia intends to repeal by-law 57 of 2002, which designates the Blanche House, also known as the Blue House located at 4281 Discovery Line “Petrolia Discovery” in the Town of Petrolia, County of Lambton. WHEREAS the Petrolia Heritage Advisory Committee and the Council of the Town of Petrolia passed resolutions on June 22, 2020 endorsing the Heritage Designation provided to the “Blue House” also known as the “Blanche House” through by-law 57-2002 be repealed in entirety, enabling the salvage opportunity to proceed at request of the Petrolia Discovery Board of Directors.

The proposed By-Law to repeal 57 of 2002 will come before Council for consideration at its regular council meeting to be held on the 10th day of August, 2020, at 7:00 PM. Through electronic means under s. 7.0.1 of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.9, the Province of Ontario adopted on March 19, 2020 the Municipal Emergency Act, 2020

Written notice of objection, along with a statement of the reasons for objection and all relevant facts may be provided *within thirty (30) days of this notice*, addressed to the Clerk of the Municipality:

Mandi Pearson  
Clerk  
Town of Petrolia  
411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia ON N0N 1R0  
[mpearson@petrolia.ca](mailto:mpearson@petrolia.ca)

NOTE: the intent to repeal the existing Designation By-Law is a process initiated by the Petrolia Heritage Advisory Committee, and Petrolia Discovery Board to facilitate a salvage opportunity and assist the Petrolia Discovery with future conservation of cultural heritage education and buildings located at the Petrolia Discovery Property.



Dated this 26th day of June, 2020

Mandi Pearson  
Clerk/Operations Clerk  
Town of Petrolia



## NEED A BREAK



Need to get out for errands, a day with friends or work?

### Need a Break Child Care Can Help

Lauren is now offering hourly, daily or weekly babysitting services starting July 6th for families who are trying to fill some gaps in their child care in the Town of Petrolia.



Call 519-312-5380 for details or to book child care. References provide on request





# An Unusual, Happy Canada Day

PHOTOS BY ALEX KURIAL, MARCY FREER  
AND TARA JEFFREY



With masks and family bubbles, and makeshift parades, people in Petrolia and Central Lambton feted their country. At the top, the Easter Bunny was greeting kids during the Tour de Petrolia. The Freer family was out on the St. Clair River, Members of the Petrolia Legion served up a drive by breakfast and families visited the fire department. Neighbours on Oil Springs Line in St. Clair Township held an impromptu parade with tractors, lawn mowers and motorized picnic tables. And in Petrolia, Mayor Brad Loosely, his wife, Wendy, and led the flag raising at town hall.





COMMUNITY CORNER



ALEX KURIAL/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Parents for Parks got a boost on Monday toward their goal of a new playground at Greenwood Park. They were presented a cheque for \$2,000 by the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire Margaret Stokes Chapter at Victoria Hall. The money came from the raffling of a quilt made by the IODE. “This presentation comes at a good time for us because we’re just getting ready to gear up again after taking a hiatus during the COVID outbreak.” says Emily Denham Weed of Parents for Parks. “We plan to be making a stronger presence in the community again come July and August.” Pictured here are in the front row: June, Ada and Laurel Kittmer. Middle Row: Dawn McNally, Emily Denham Weed. Back row: Erin Hawryluk, Maddy Hayes, Joanne Brand, Wendy Loosely.

Alvinston training officer is new Brooke chief

The Independent

Along time Alvinston firefighter will be the next chief of Brooke Fire Rescue. Brooke-Alvinston council in a pri-

vate meeting June 25 gave approval to make trainer Steve Knight the new part-time chief of the department. His appointment becomes official Thursday during a council meeting. Knight has been a firefighter and

trainer for many years. He’s also a professor at the Lambton College Fire School. Knight succeeds Jeff McArthur who will be the part time chief at his home department in Southwold Township.

Doing a ‘life sentence on an installment plan’

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

“The accused is doing a life sentence on the installment plan.” This is how Crown attorney David Rows describes the path of Devin Pullman. The 46 year-old Sarnia man was in court on July 2 pleading guilty to 10 charges committed over nine months. Pullman has 23 property related convictions alone since 2013, along with numerous bail breaches. The most recent charges stem from Pullman’s frequent theft of heavy metals at a local Hydro One property. Pullman was convicted of breaking into the company’s Sarnia compound in May 2018. In September 2019 he was busted breaking into the same compound in the middle of the night. Police arrested Pullman as he attempted to steal a pair of 50-pound boxes of brass fittings. Pullman would go on to be arrested three times for breaking the curfew rules of his bail. This included a 10 day stretch in June where Pullman was spotted breaking curfew by the same Sarnia Police officer. Both times Pullman attempted to flee on his bicycle. He escaped the first time, but in the second encounter

the officer was able to corner and arrest him in the parking lot of a car dealership. In addition to the Hydro One thefts and bail breaches, Pullman plead guilty to multiple charges of resisting arrest and having break and enter tools. “It’s getting to the point... where we’re focusing more on separating the accused from society than on the rehabilitative aspects,” says Rows, though he did acknowledge that there is hope for everyone. Rows and the Crown asked for a nine month sentence to cover all of the charges. “He is not a good candidate for probation at this point, given his inability or unwillingness to comply with terms of release,” Rows says. “Drugs destroyed his life,” says Pullman’s defense lawyer Terry Brandon, specifically crystal meth. “It destroyed his career, his housing stability, friendships and relationships.” Brandon asked for a seven month total sentence. She requested it be served at the Southwest Detention Centre in Windsor, which offers substance abuse programs that the Sarnia Jail does not. “He might be able to use his time in custody wisely to try to get some

programming and courses, and also a period of sobriety while he’s incarcerated so that he can think more clearly,” says Brandon. “He doesn’t want to continue to live this lifestyle but... he continues to do so and he needs education and training and quite frankly a way to change his thinking.” Justice Krista Leszczynski sided with the Crown on sentence length, noting Pullman’s lengthy criminal record. “Those offenses and the repeated nature of them demonstrate to me that one of the primary goals in sentencing you today... is denunciation and deterrence. And as Mr. Rows had indicated, separating you from society,” Leszczynski says. “Because you clearly haven’t received the treatment that you need, and you are continuing to commit offenses when you are not in custody.” Leszczynski said she would recommend Pullman serve his nine month sentence in Windsor, but that it will ultimately be up to the correctional system where he does his time. “This is an opportunity for you to receive some substance abuse assistance. For your sake sir, I hope you get that opportunity and you take advantage of it.”

Plympton Wyoming Truck & Tractor Pull Committee  
is holding a fundraiser with a DRIVETHRU TAKEOUT

# Chicken Dinner

**SAT JULY 25<sup>th</sup>** 4<sup>30</sup> - 7<sup>00</sup>pm

**\$20 ADULTS** **\$10 KIDS** (12 & Under)

**WYOMING FAIRGROUNDS**

**Deadline to order is July 23**

**PRE-PURCHASED TICKETS ONLY NO WALK-INS ACCEPTED**

**3 pcs Broasted Chicken**  
Baked Potato, Coleslaw  
Baked Beans, Roll & Butter  
Dessert

**Kids Meal**  
2 pcs Broasted Chicken, Baked Potato, Baked Beans, Roll & Butter, Dessert

**519-384-4098**  
**getmychicken.weebly.com**

## HOW TO SORT YOUR COMPOST

### TWO SEPARATE BINS ARE AVAILABLE

**YARD WASTE**  
(leaves, grass, flowers and plants)

**TWIGS, VINES & BRANCHES**  
(less than 4" diameter)

**Please do your part to sort your materials at the Compost Depot.**

**Accurate sorting will ensure that the program remains available.**

**For Depot hours and dates please visit**  
**www.town.petrolia.on.ca/residents/waste**  
**or call (519)882-2350**

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

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!

Level: Beginner

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# Sports



## Mueller wins prestigious high school honour

The Independent

Matt Mueller has capped off an impressive high school career at LCCVI by capturing the Stefanko Award as the top graduating male athlete in Sarnia-Lambton.

The award, which his sister, Marissa, won in the female category three years ago, combines success in both athletics

and academics.

The 18-year old is best known for his exploits on the tennis court, but he also played badminton, volleyball and basketball for the Lancers. He was chosen as Male Athlete of the Year, Most Valuable Player in Senior Boys Volleyball and Most Improved Player in Senior Boys Basketball at the recent virtual athletic awards at LCCVI.

Mueller will begin his post-secondary education this fall at Western, but his athletic career will have to wait as the OUA has shuttered all sports until at least the end of the calendar year because of COVID-19.

The Stefanko female winner is Brianna Fraser. The Brights Grove resident is a star wrestler at St. Pat’s and will attend Brock University.

## Ready for the Jr C season - it’s just a matter of when

The Independent

The Petrolia Flyers and Mooretown Flags of the Provincial Junior Hockey League are in a holding pattern as they wait for next steps to be announced for the 2020-21 hockey season.

Both Dennis Meston and John Baker, the GMs of the Petrolia Flyers and Mooretown Flags say it depends on

when more restrictions are eased by the province.

Baker says the league has several scenarios that involve different start times for the new campaign, but he said those discussions are not yet for public consumption. Another league source has said he doesn’t expect the season to start before January.

Meantime, the Greater Ontario Junior

Hockey League says it plans to holding a 2020-21 season, but it too does not have any idea when. “We fully understand that there are still a number of factors to be determined and approved by our Provincial Government and Public Health authorities before we can return to the ice in full capacity.”

The league says it will continue to provide updates as the situation evolves.

## Western Counties Senior Baseball cancels 2020 season

There’ll not be any Raiders patrolling Petrolia or Giants trudging through Corunna, or Pirates pillaging Port Lambton this summer. Following a decision by Baseball Ontario to cancel all provincial championships

this season, the Western Counties Senior Baseball circuit has followed suit and brought the curtain down on the 2020 campaign. The WCBL says in a statement that teams are free to schedule exhibition games if and when

restrictions are eased further in the area.

Meantime, Softball Ontario continues to extend its moratorium over two-week intervals. The next deadline is this Saturday.

## Holbrough continues to coach his favourite sports

Steve McGrail  
Special to The Independent

Brad Holbrough grew up in Brigden and attended school at Brigden Public School. In elementary school he participated in all sports and when he attended LCCVI for high school Holbrough played on Lancer hockey, football and rugby teams.

Growing up Holbrough played Petrolia Minor Hockey before advancing to play AAA with the Lambton Lightning organization. He returned to Petrolia to play midget and won an OMHA and Silverstick Championship in back to back years. Holbrough also laced up his skates for one season with the Petrolia Squires.

Holbrough played with the Minor Sarnia Pacers starting at four playing soft lacrosse. He played through the ranks and scored a remarkable 55 goals in his midget season.

In one season with the Jr. B Sarnia Pacers, Holbrough finished second in the league in scoring with 30 goals and 66 assist for 96 points in 18 games. He wasn’t afraid of the rough stuff taking 76 minutes in penalties.

Holbrough was drafted 3rd overall in the Ontario Jr. A draft to the Peterborough Lakers. Before the season even started he was traded to the Brampton Excelsior’s. He won Rookie of the Year that season. He played five seasons with Brampton and was selected to the Jr. A All Star team in his final season.

After his Junior eligibility was up he headed to play for the Sr. A Brampton Excelsiors but came home to the St. Clair Storm to spend a summer playing at home. Holbrough finished the season in the Top 10 in Assists, Points and Penalty Minutes.

After that season Holbrough was invited to the Chicago Shamrox NLL camp and went through 10 weeks of a very tough training camp until getting the call that he made the active roster.

He spent one season in Chicago.

There was a labor dispute and players were locked out the following season and the league lost a few teams.

So, Holbrough moved out to Vancouver with his girlfriend Naomi (now wife) and played for the Langley Thunder in the WLA for five seasons. His team made it to the Western Finals and eventually to the Mann Cup where they lost to the Peterborough Lakers.

Holbrough then moved back to Ontario and played for the Peterborough Lakers and a few different Sr. B Lacrosse teams. He played Semi Pro in two leagues, CLAX for the Brampton Inferno where they lost in the finals. He then played in the ALL for the Whitby Steelhawks where they won the championship.

Holbrough finished out his playing days with stops with the Sr. B Sarnia Beavers, Brooklyn Merchants, and Peterborough James Gang.

Holbrough is now the assistant coach for the Sarnia Jr B Pacers.

He has also coached in the minor lacrosse system of Sarnia for the past four years and won an Ontario Championship with the Tyke Jr. Pacers team.


He has also coached in the Petrolia Minor Hockey Association for the last four years as well.

Aside from Holbrough’s athletic career he attended Lambton College for Fire Science. He also opened up a CrossFit gym with his wife and friend, Travis Joy. He then entered the Nursing Program at College but in year two he got in to the Pipefitters union, Local 663. He is married to Naomi for 12 years and together they have three children.

Holbrough currently lives in Wyoming and his children play lacrosse in the summer and hockey in the winter just like he did.

- Steve McGrail is an elementary teacher with a passion for sports with a Facebook page Wyoming/ Petrolia Area Athletes

### 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**

1. Dial (toll free) 1-855-703-8985 Canada Toll-free
2. Enter the Meeting ID: **For Mon., July 13/20 only: 812 4394 9006#**
3. Enter the Password: 518515#

You will now have access to the meeting. Should you wish to participate by video, please visit [www.town.petrolia.ca](http://www.town.petrolia.ca) for the link.

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

[clerksoffice@petrolia.ca](mailto:clerksoffice@petrolia.ca)(519)882-2350



## Holiday Lawn Care

Heading out on vacation but worried about your lawn?

Holiday Lawn Care can ease your mind.

Holiday Lawn Care Waters Flower Beds Too!



John is now booking single lawn maintenance appointments in the Town of Petrolia.

Call 519-402-3734 for booking and pricing!



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

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Solution

Answers to this week's


Sudoku

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



Deadline

for all classified ads is

Monday at 12 noon

for the paper that prints and distributes Wed-Thurs

In Memory

GASCO - In loving memory of our dear Father, Grandfather and Great Grandfather **Raymond** who passed away July 5, 1994 and our dear Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother **Vivian** who passed away July 17, 1998.

If memories bring us closer,  
Then we are never far apart,  
For you are always in our thoughts,  
and forever in our hearts.

Lovingly Remembered by  
Bob & Gloria  
Marilyn  
Lloyd & Donna  
& families

In Memory


IN LOVING MEMORY OF A WONDERFUL HUSBAND, DAD AND GRANDPA.

John F. Hull

who passed away 2 years ago on  
July 12, 2018.

A beautiful memory dearer than gold,  
of a father whose worth can never be told.  
There's a place in our hearts.  
No one can fill.  
We miss you dad,  
and always will.  
You are loved,  
and greatly missed.

With much love  
Myrtle, Kathy & Paul  
and Grandchildren



Celebration

60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Murray & Mary Marsh

Love:  
Kevin & Jen,  
Brian & Shelley,  
Brenda & Jim,  
& Families



Card of Thanks

thank you

The family of the late John (Jack) Edgar would like to extend their thanks to family, friends and neighbours who showed their kind support at this difficult time.

Thank you to Reverend Cameron of St.Paul's United Church for the lovely service. Thanks to Janet for providing the music.

Also thank you to Steven and the staff at Needham-Jay Funeral Home for their care and guidance.

We would also like to thank Dr. Butler and his staff for Dad's care in dealing with his COPD and some severe bouts of pneumonia.

We have lost a great and caring Dad, Grandpa and Great Grandpa who always looked out for his family. We find much comfort in knowing that he is reunited with Mom.

Sincerely,  
Sharon, Linda, Richard, Dianne and Families

Obituary



**MOERGELI**  
James Bryant

On Wednesday **July 1, 2020**, at his residence, with his wife and cats by his side. James was the beloved husband of Diana for 14 years. Much loved son of Delbert and Joan Moergeli of Windsor, his sister Trish Riedel (Kyle) of Sevierville, Tennessee, Uncle of Ashley Davey of Gibraltar, Michigan, and her children Jada and Lucas, and his nephew Trent Riedel of Riverview, Michigan, and his Auntie Carol and Uncle Bill Johnson of Dexter Michigan. He will be fondly remembered by his brother in law Tom and Kathy Luedtke of Illinois, their children Jenny Busse (John) and their children Sam, Henry, and Oliver, and Jamie Reder (Mike) and their children Addison and Tycho, and his other brother-in-law David Luedtke, also of Illinois. James was a teacher with the Lambton-Kent School Board for 24 years and taught North Lambton Secondary School and Northern Collegiate Institute & Vocational School in Sarnia. James was an avid traveller, hiker and was a foodie. **Cremation has taken place. Remembrances and condolences may be expressed to the family online in "James Guestbook" at mccormackfuneralhomesarnia.com.** If desired donations to the Sarnia Humane Society would be appreciated.

Card of Thanks

60<sup>years</sup> anniversary

Thank you for helping us celebrate our 60th!

What an exciting, surprising day starting at 8:30 a.m. with signs and balloons on the front lawn, wedding dress display, horn honking, phone calls, flowers and cards, drop in visits and concluding with a font yard drive around. It was great!

To all our great guys, our daughter-in-law, neighbours and wonderful longtime friends we couldn't have asked for more!!!

Many Thanks,  
Bev & Carol Boyd

Obituary



**SIMPSON**  
Jean Elizabeth

SIMPSON, Jean Elizabeth (nee Lloyd) - It is with broken hearts that we announce the passing of our much loved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Jean Elizabeth Simpson at the age of **77**. Jean will be greatly missed by her daughter Kerry Jacklin and son-in-law Roy, grandchildren Karli and Brad Brooker, Kristi Jacklin, Kati Jacklin, Brad Jacklin (Natalia) and great-grandchildren Ethan and Alexis Brooker. Jean was predeceased by her loving husband Lorne (2012) and three children: Terry (1959), Lynn (1962) and Paul (1981). Jean was born in 1942 to the late Morris and Susan Lloyd. She was the beloved younger sister of Ray Lloyd and his wife Marjorie. Jean will be missed by her sisters-in-law Kay (Lorne) Burke, Sharon (Steve) Smith, and Jackie Simpson. She was predeceased by her brothers-in-law Grant Simpson and her sisters-in-law Carol (Ed) Farmer and Beth Simpson. She is survived by many nieces and nephews. Jean had many happy years spent on the farm, on vacations with friends and visiting the cottage in Kettle Point. She was always able to find humor in any situation and could easily match wits with the best of them. She will be remembered forever by all those who knew her. **A private family service will be held at STEADMAN BROTHERS FUNERAL CHAPELS, Brigden. Marie McNally officiating. Interment in Alvinston Cemetery.** Sympathy may be expressed through donations to Cystic Fibrosis Canada (www.cysticfibrosis.ca). Memories, pictures, and condolences may sent online at **www.steadmanbrothers.ca.** Steadman Brothers 519-864-1193.

LOST ITEM

LOST & FOUND - I have lost a small silver camera, I believe it is an Advantix near the pond in the east end park, North side (Petrolia). If you have found it please call me at 519-882-2494

Apartment for Rent

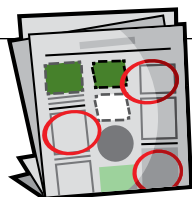
413 ENGLAND AVE Petrolia - 1 bdrm, balcony, storage room, coin-op laundry. Additional monthly fee for pets, available Sept 1. \$590. plus utilities. Call 519-383-4404

For Sale

PLANT SALE - Perennial plants, Rose of Sharon Bushes. 458 Ignatiffa 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](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)

## Death Notices

June 28 to July 4, 2020

<b>SUNDAY, JUNE 28</b> <b>MORTON, Judy</b> Age 67, of Forest Gilpin Funeral Chapel	<b>LEMAY, Marcel</b> Age 85, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home
<b>MONDAY, JUNE 29</b> <b>JAMESON, Bruce Gordon</b> Age 95, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home	<b>BROWN, Helga Berta Martina</b> Age 93, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home
<b>TUESDAY, JUNE 30</b> <b>CARSWELL-ALEXANDER, Pat</b> Age 61, of Brigden Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels	<b>FRIDAY, JULY 3</b> <b>MCINTYRE, Timothy</b> Age 44, of Brigden Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels
<b>MACKINNON, Malcolm</b> Age 76, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home	<b>JOHNSON, Leonard</b> Age 65, of Sarnia Needham-Jay Funeral Home
<b>WEDNESDAY, JULY 1</b> <b>MOERGELI, James Bryant</b> Age 59, of Petrolia McCormack Funeral Home	<b>LONG, Nancy Louise</b> Age 83, of Corunna Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels
<b>WIGGINS, William</b> Age 84, of Dunganon Needham-Jay Funeral Home	<b>COX, Kenneth george</b> Age 85, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home
<b>PHILLIPS, Roy</b> Age 90, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home	<b>SATURDAY, JULY 4</b> <b>WARREN, David</b> Age 74, of Forest Gilpin Funeral Chapel
<b>THURSDAY, JULY 2</b> <b>SIMPSON, Jean</b> Age 77, of Petrolia Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels	<b>WARD, Lillian</b> Age 80, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home
	<b>SMITH, Betty</b> Age 90, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

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

## 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
Jul 9-10	Petrolia	Art in The Park Petrolia
Jul 10	Sarnia	Sarnia Braves - Stan Slack Baseball Tournament at Errol Russell park & Blackwell Park
Jul 10	Florence	Florence Truck & Tractor Pull
Jul 18	Port Lambton	St. Clair River Run
Jul 24	Dresden	Southwest Ontario Tractor Pullers Association Dresden Pull
Jul 25-26	Brights Grove	2020 Bluewater Triathlon and Duathlon/Ironkid Triathlon
Jul 31-Aug 2	Sarnia	14th Annural Greekfest at Christina Street
Aug 7-8	Bothwell	Bothwell Car Show & Optifest
Aug 14-16	Forest	2020 Annual Western Ontario Steam Thresher Reunion
Aug 16	Camlachie	Fish n' Chips at Camlachie united Church
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
Oct 2-4	Alvinston	Brooke-Alvinston Watford 2020 Fall Fair
Oct 9-12	Brigden	Brigden 2020 Fall Fair

# 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](mailto: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](http://www.kpcthedford.com)  
[www.standrews-petrolia.ca](http://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](http://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](mailto:fbcpetrolia@gmail.com)  
[www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca](http://www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca)

Find us on Facebook!  
[www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia](http://www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia)

### Wyoming United Church

730 Second Street, Wyoming

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

Join Us for Worship - All are Welcome  
[Church Office 519-845-3963](http://www.facebook.com/WyomingUnitedChurch)  
Find us on Facebook

## Business & Service Directory

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Owner

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[gbexcavating.ca](http://gbexcavating.ca)

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CELEBRATING SENIORS



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Mayor David Ferguson and Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek present the Brooke-Alvinston Senior of the Year Award to Lyle Moffatt. Moffatt has volunteered with many organizations and was involved in all kinds of community activities. He was very involved in International Silverstick, serving as its director in 1993-1995. The award is normally given out during Canada Day festivities.

Lambton’s COVID-19 rates remain low

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Lambton’s Medical Officer of Health says it doesn’t appear people protesting or heading to the beach are causing an increase in COVID-19 cases.

In the past month there have been just 18 new cases - just one new case since June 20.

Dr. Sudit Ranade told reporters this week it didn’t appear hundreds of people who went to the Black Lives Matter protest in Sarnia early in June contracted the respiratory virus - he attributed that to good social distancing practices and many of the people wearing masks.

And Ranade says while it may be too

early to say definitively, beach goers also seem to be doing the right things. And Ranade doesn’t see the need to start closing beaches saying “I would be guided by evidence...when I started seeing people saying ‘Oh, I was at the beach and it was crowded’ - I would consider it at that time.”

Lambton County also passed another significant milestone this week, there are no outbreaks at long term care homes right now.

Meantime, the province is considering lifting the Emergency Orders, however it plans to maintain some of the power it has by passing a new law which would allow some of the measures, like the transfer of workers in health care facilities, to continue.

Plympton school sold to mystery buyers

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

South Plympton Central School has been sold two years after shutting its doors for the final time.

The Confederation Line site fetched just more than \$200,000.

The property was purchased by a numbered company from Toronto. Numbered companies operate in relative anonymity, often at the direction of larger established companies.

Plympton-Wyoming mayor Lonny Napper says the town has not heard any details about the identity of the buyers or their plans for the site.

Brian McKay, Lambton Kent District School Board’s business superintendent says the school was originally offered to any public sector bodies, such as other school boards or municipalities. When none of these groups showed any interest, South Plympton Central hit the open market.

“It was on the open market for just shy of a couple of months through a bidding process, and then we closed,” says McKay. “We actually sold the property in the winter, and the sale closed in April. The close was delayed a little bit due to the COVID-19 shutdown.”

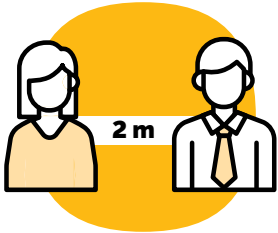
McKay says the money from the sale will go into a surplus account of the school board.

It can only be used to fund capital related projects.

“We can’t use it just on anything, and we need ministry approval when we want to use it,” McKay says.

“So it basically sits in a capital account and if we’re doing any new school builds or purchasing other property we can use the proceeds for projects like that. So either development of other schools, or if we need to put an addition on, or for building new schools, that would be what the proceeds would be earmarked for,” says McKay.

As more businesses and services reopen, and with social gatherings increased to 10 people, we all must continue our efforts to protect each other.



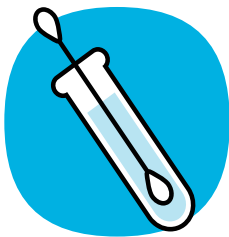
Practice physical distancing, stay two metres apart.



Wear a face covering when physical distancing is a challenge.



Continue to wash hands frequently.



Get tested if you are worried you may have COVID-19, or have been exposed to the virus.

Inside or out, stay safe. Save lives.