

## ‘Canada will put you up’

*Watford couple shocked by US airline attendant’s treatment and the fact Canada has shelled out millions to quarantine travellers*

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

A Watford couple re-turning from their daughter’s Michigan wedding say a US flight attendant was spinning tall tales about travelling into Canada.

But the biggest tale of all turned out to be true.

The federal government has spent \$37.1 million to house 2,036 people who have not had a plan to quarantine for 14 days when they arrive in this country. That’s more than \$16,000 per person.

The story begins in March. Mary and Chuck Hollingsworth’s soon-to-be son in law visits Watford for the weekend. It was the last time the Hollingsworths and their daughter, Becky, would see him as the border closed and restrictions tightened during the COVID-19 pandemic.

By the end of July, Becky had arranged to fly to Michigan to be with her fiancé. By August, the Hollingsworths were on a plane to Michigan, too, to witness their daughter’s small wedding on the courthouse steps.

The couple’s journey was nine hours since Canadians cannot drive into the US but may enter the country by air.

The wedding went off

without a hitch and the Watford couple were on their way home. But their trip hit a bump when a Delta Airlines attendant took one look at their Nexxus pass and said they wouldn’t be allowed back into Canada without an actual passport.

“Then he says ‘the plane is going to fly in 10 minutes.’” At that point, Hollingsworth wasn’t sure they would be on the plan.

The attendant got on the phone to figure out if indeed the couple could enter Canada on the preferred traveller card. And, in the meantime, made some interesting claims about entering Canada. According to Hollingsworth, the attendant implied Canada was “stupid” because it wouldn’t allow N95 masks on the plane, only paper surgical masks.

And then Hollingsworth said he told the Canada bound passengers “‘if you do not have a place to go for your first 14 days, Canada will put you up in one of their motels and they will look after you. You just have to let me know before you board the plane.’”

Hollingsworth was floored by the suggestion.

The couple eventually got through the airport and boarded the plane home.

**SEE QUARANTINE PG 6**

## PITCH PERFECT DAY



ALEX KURIAL/ LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

Matt Frizzle and his son Bennett took advantage of the nice weather on Tuesday to tune up their soccer skills at McKay Park in Plympton-Wyoming.

## Get ready for quad and octomesters

**Jenna Cocullo**  
Local Journalism Initiative

We have a better idea of what back to school will look like students in Lambton. And for high school students, life will be a lot different with either one or two subjects for the entire day.

It’s all in an effort to make school safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On Thursday, the Lambton-Kent District School Board released a 46-page document detailing its back-to-school strategy which touched upon everything from busing to additional staff and extra-curricular activities.

The academic year for public students will be broken down into quadesters (four terms) with only two classes taught, each for 150 minutes (2.5 hours) per day, according to John Howitt, director of education.

Breaks will be built into the new double-length periods.

Credit requirements have not changed. Although only two courses will be taught per quadmester, course time will still total the 110-hour requirement.

Ministry guidelines allowed for one-subject-a-day or two-subjects-a-day models.

“We went with the two-subject-a-day model to give

students some variety between the morning and the afternoon,” Howitt said.

The boards summer school classes operate based on that model and there is no evidence to suggest students lose focus or perform worse with longer periods per subject, according to Howitt.

Sports, extra-curricular activities and clubs will be placed on hold during the beginning of the school year until LKDSB “gets settled.”

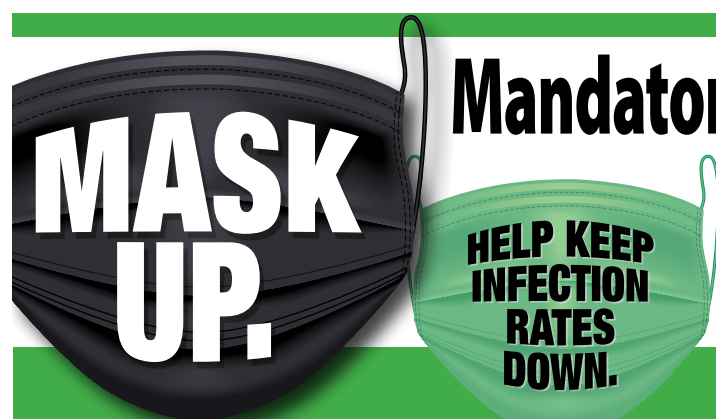
Some will adapt to an online model and some are expected to proceed in-person.

Kids hoping to enter post-secondary education on a scholarship will still be on an equal playing field to students in other schools, according to board officials.

The Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations, the provincial sport organization for secondary schools, announced on Wednesday that all fall sporting events will be cancelled.

“That’s pretty consistent across other provinces and other jurisdictions. So post-secondary education facilities that have focused on that (sports) in the past, may have to alter their entry expectations for the students this year,” Howitt said.

**SEE PUBLIC PG 2**



## Mandatory Mask Use in Petrolia’s Indoor Public Spaces Effective Friday, August 14, 2020

Starting Friday, the Town of Petrolia requires everyone over the age of nine to wear a mask in indoor public spaces.

*Thank you for doing your part!*





# Major fiber optic project coming to East Lambton in 2022

**Alex Kurial**  
Local Journalism Initiative

Another Lambton internet project okayed but service won't be ready until 2022

It will be April 2021 before construction begins on a \$5.8 million high speed internet project in East Lambton.

Brooke Telecom has been selected as the contractor to deliver high speed internet to rural Lambton County starting next year.

Parliamentary Assistant Randy Pettapiece, speaking on behalf of Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Ernie Hardeman, made the announcement Friday at a news conference at the home of Brooke-Alvinston Mayor Dave Ferguson.

He was joined by Labour Minister Monte McNaughton, who is also the MPP for Lambton-Kent-Middlesex and Sarnia-Lambton MP Bob Bailey.

"For too long people in rural parts of Ontario have been without high speed internet," says McNaughton. "Driving to the local Tim Hortons should be a stop for coffee – not to get online."

The contract was awarded by the Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) project, which aims to deliver broadband internet to rural southwestern Ontario. It's worth around \$5.8 million and will see approximately 150 km of broadband infrastructure created to bring internet to 536 homes. Construction doesn't start until April 2021.

"It allows families to stay in touch and connects local businesses with their communities and the world," says Pettapiece. "When complete this project will help communities and businesses in Lambton County better compete in global markets, attract new jobs, and improve quality of life."

This is the fifth SWIFT contract awarded in Lambton County, following four last year.

In February, Lambton County agreed to foot \$2.6 million to get the project moving.

"The county stepped up with a very sizeable contribution to the project to make this happen. I think it really goes to show what can happen when the federal, provincial and municipal governments get together to try and make a project work," says SWIFT executive director Barry Field.

"Brooke Telecom stepped up and were very open to negotiating certain things within the project to make sure it fell within our budget."

Field added the COVID crisis highlighted the poor conditions of internet in rural Ontario.

"If anybody had any reservations about whether rural broadband was important before COVID happened, those reservations are gone now," says Field.

"All levels of government see the importance of it. Education, business, working from home – all of these aspects that have come to the forefront have shown how important broadband really is."

The new infrastructure will assist homes in Brooke-Alvinston,



ALEX KURIAL/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Parliamentary Assistant Randy Pettapiece, speaking on behalf of Minister of Agriculture, Labour Minister Monte McNaughton and Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey announce a new fiber optic project in East Lambton Friday.

Enniskillen, Petrolia, Plympton-Wyoming and Warwick. Work is scheduled to begin in April 2021 and be finished by November 2022.

The government also announced the beginning of broadband construction at the Kettle and Stony Point First Nation on Friday. A \$2.7 million

contract awarded to Execulink will lay down 35 km of fibre optic cable in the First Nation community. Work should be completed by the end of the year.

The work on four other projects, in Plympton-Wyoming, Lambton

Shores and St. Clair Township, is expected to be completed by the end of 2021.

Lambton County first agreed to be part of the SWIFT cooperative to bring fiber optic internet to the rural areas in 2016.

## Public plan includes online option

CON'T FROM PG 1

A mask requirement will be in place for Grade 4 to Grade 8 students while participating in physical education. Students with pre-existing conditions will be exempt and their parents are asked to reach out to their respective schools to see if the mask exception is appropriate for their child.

During lunch time, students will be expected to bring their own food and stay in their period one classroom. Howitt said it's possible that kids might not have their best friends in the classroom with them so the schools plan to monitor how it will affect students socially.

LKDSB is working with Chartwell, the cafeteria food provider, to see if there will be a "Skip the Dishes type of delivery model" or develop a grab-and-go model for

serving lunch. For elementary students, the board is working with its student nutrition program partners.

No student is allowed to leave the school during lunch hours and are asked to bring reusable water bottles instead of using the fountains.

Virtual community service options are being looked into for graduating students who need to fulfill their 40-hour requirement.

As of now, the requirement still stands, but if the COVID-19 situation worsens, that may change. The Ministry of Education didn't require 2020 graduates to complete the service.

Under Ontario's guidelines for the 2020-2021 school year, no one will be forced to attend class in-person.

## One subject a day at Catholic high schools

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

It may be a very long year for high school students going to Catholic high schools in Chatham-Kent and Lambton.

Students will be studying one subject all day as part of the plan to keep teens as safe as possible when they return to classes in September during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Classes were interrupted in March, when the province closed schools. Classes went online.

But the Education Minister decided there


would be in class learning this September with the option to learn on line.

The St. Clair District Catholic School Board released its September Ready plan Friday. The document calls for elementary school students to attend regular classes with students "grouped together in a cohort...staying together as much as possible during recess and lunch."

The board expects to deliver all subjects in the Ontario curriculum but says as much as possible, there will be few specialty teachers going into classrooms.

SEE OCTMESTER PG 3

2021/2022 Storage Enhancement Project  
Notice of Project Commencement

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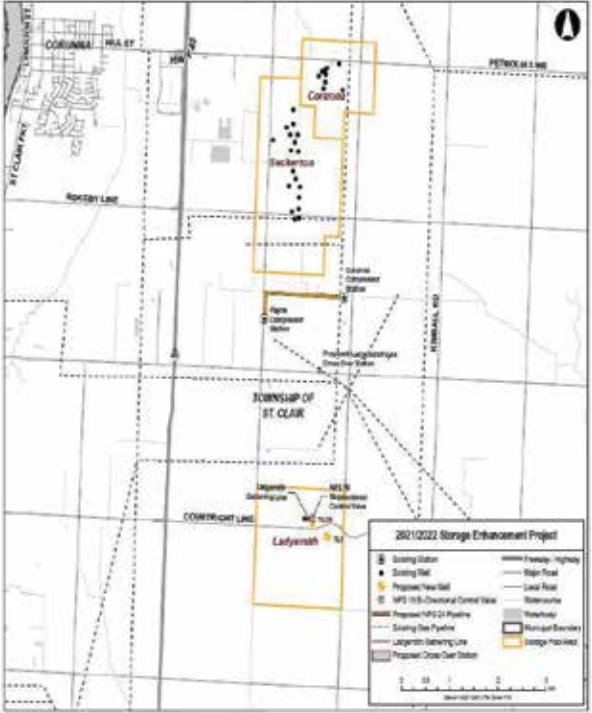
Project Overview

To address increasing demand for natural gas across Ontario, Enbridge Gas is proposing to undertake a Storage Enhancement Project at its natural gas storage facilities in St. Clair Township. The Project will allow Enbridge Gas to store additional natural gas and will increase the deliverability of Enbridge Gas's storage operations.

The Project involves increasing the maximum operating pressure in three existing storage pools (Ladysmith, Corunna and Seckerton), and:

- Re-entering an existing well and converting it to a horizontal well, drilling an observation well.
- Upgrading an existing natural gas gathering pipeline.
- Installation of a bi-directional valve and station piping at an existing station.
- Constructing approximately 2.2 km of natural gas pipeline to connect the Payne Storage Pool to the Corunna Compressor Station located on Tecumseh Road, in St. Clair Township, Ontario.

The location of the Storage Enhancement Project and the preferred location of the new pipeline is shown on the map below. Construction would begin in 2021.



Preparation of an Environmental Report

AECOM has been retained by Enbridge Gas to prepare an environmental report to assess the potential environmental and socio-economic effects that may result from the project, and outline plans for avoiding and/or mitigating any effects where possible. The environmental report will accompany a leave-to-construct application that will be submitted to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) in the fall of 2020. OEB review and approval is needed to undertake construction.

For questions regarding the environmental report or the project, please contact:

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PHOTO VIA FACEBOOK

A Plympton-Wyoming employee cleans the graffiti on one of the main entrance signs to the village Monday.

## ‘Why? Just why? ask Wyoming residents

Heather Wright  
The Independent

It was a sign that caught more than a little attention.  
As Plympton-Wyoming Chief Administrative Officer, Carolyn Tripp, drove down Broadway St. she was caught off guard. Vandals had changed the name of Wyoming to Petrolia in a late Sunday night prank.  
“I couldn’t believe it,” she says. “I was sad.”  
She wasn’t alone in her shock. “Why? Just why?” questioned resident Lori Mitchell on social media.  
“Who actually feels the need to do this and why! I really hope they can catch the person(s) responsible!” wrote Ann Helps.  
Tripp says the answer seems fairly ob-

vious. “I’m just speculating but when you have kids without a lot to do, they’re getting out with their buddies but they don’t have a lot to do and they’re getting into trouble,” she says.  
The problem isn’t new. Tripp says a large group of teens were causing a disturbance at Lamrecton Park this weekend, too. No damage was done there.  
And Tripp says the graffiti didn’t cause any permanent damage. The town keeps a special cleaner made for graffiti on hand, and a town employee spent several hours cleaning the sign.  
“If it would have had to be replaced it would have been a different \$2000 each plus installation.  
“If we had to replace it real waste of public money.”

## Octmester will be one subject for 22 days

CON’T FROM PG 1

The board also hope to increase outdoor learning and plans to schedule time for washroom use, drinks and handwashing.  
For parents not ready to send their children back to school, there will be online learning for the normal school day in Zoom-style classrooms. Those classes will be led by staff who may or may not be the child’s regular teacher. And there may be more than one school in the online courses.  
All secondary school teachers will have a digital learning platform which the teachers will explain in class, incase the province once again has to shutdown schools for an expected second wave of COVID-19.  
If students choose to learn from home this year, they’ll be expected to be in class with attendance taken as it would be in school.  
The big changes will be in the secondary schools’ classrooms. The board plans to run ‘Octmesters’ meaning all secondary students attend school daily for the full day but take just one subject. They will complete the semester in 22 days and move onto the next subject.  
“This model keeps the students with the same class for the entire school day minimizing direct and indirect contact with other students,” according to the board’s plan.  
High school students can also learn from home, taking courses offered by the

Catholic board, they can also tap into online learning courses including studies from TVO’s Independent Learning Center.  
“All reasonable requests by students for independent study will be considered as best as possible and students should be able to access guidance counsellors to confirm that credits support their academic pathway,” the document states.  
The board says there still will be physical education, however the classes will promote distancing and limit the use of shared equipment. French instruction will also continue.  
Like every other school in the province, students from Grade 4 and up will be required to wear a mask; younger students will be encouraged to wear them in common areas.  
All field trips and extra curricular sports have been suspended.  
The board says it is removing “surplus” furniture from classrooms, to help improve physical distancing. It’s also staggering recesses and lunch periods.  
The board adds access to the school will be “significantly restricted.” If a parent wants to talk to the principal or a teacher, a meeting has to be scheduled ahead of time. If a parent is granted access to the school, they’ll answer a series of health questions and will have to wear a mask while in the school building.

## St. Clair says no to mandatory masks

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

St. Clair Township will not join other municipalities enacting mandatory mask bylaws.  
Mayor Steve Arnold cast the deciding vote while Councillors Pat Brown, Jim DeGurse and Tracy Kingston were in favor of a mask bylaw. Rose Atkins, Bill Myers and Deputy Mayor Steve Miller voted against it.  
“The county’s going to deal with this in September, and I just struggle with us doing a bunch of work if they’re going to deal with it then,” says Arnold. Lambton County council already voted against mandatory masks to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in July, with Arnold and Miller voting against it. The issue could be revisited Sept. 2.  
The dissenting councillors cited the advice of Lambton County Medical Officer of Health Dr. Sudit Ranade in their decisions. Ranade encourages the wearing of masks but is against making them mandatory.  
“Having worked for public health I hold in high regard any direction the medical officer of health is giving,” says Atkins. “And he’s giving the same direction as the Ontario medical officer of health. Physical distancing and handwashing is the most important thing you can do.”  
“I’ve done a lot of soul searching on this subject,” says Myers. “I am not a medical professional, and I look to our medical professionals for advice and guidance, and

have followed that advice and guidance up to this point, which I think has left us in a fairly good position.”  
Deputy Mayor Miller agreed, also noting the effect the rule would have. “It’s not only the people who are shopping, it’s the people who are working in this township and may not want to wear a mask all day long.”  
Councillors in favor of the mask bylaw said St. Clair residents were calling for something to be done. “The general public that I’ve spoken to are all hoping, wishing and wanting us to put a mask bylaw in place,” says Councillor Kingston.  
“I’d rather air on the side of being cautious because we don’t know where this pandemic is going,” says Brown. “I think it’s a small thing to ask when you’re in the grocery store for a short time. It’s sort of like putting on a seat belt, it’s for your own protection.”  
Arnold said any business can still make their own mandatory mask rule. The mayor says most of the complaints he receives deal with grocery shopping. Arnold says the major St. Clair grocery stores may be coming out with their own mandatory mask rules soon anyway.  
“Our numbers are way down, and hopefully that continues,” says Arnold. “I think it’s through social distancing, good hand hygiene, staying home more, all those good things.”  
The vote means Petrolia and Sarnia remain the only Lambton County municipalities to have mandated masks for now.

# Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The **Draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan** is now complete! Through research and public input, the Draft Master Plan examines parks and recreation services and establishes priorities for the next ten years.

## Virtual Open House

A **Virtual Open House** has been created to provide an opportunity for the public to review the Draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan and provide feedback prior to finalization for Council.

Visit [town.petrolia.on.ca](https://town.petrolia.on.ca) to view a **summary** or **full version** of the Draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Visit [www.surveymonkey.com/r/prmpcomment](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/prmpcomment) to provide your feedback

Feedback will be received until **Sunday, September 13, 2020**. Your feedback will be considered before the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is finalized for Council.







# Plympton-Wyoming says no to mandatory masks

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Councillors in Plympton-Wyoming won’t make masks mandatory in the municipality.

The move has been promoted as a way to slow the spread of COVID-19 and prevent a possible second wave. Most Southwestern Ontario municipalities have approved a mandatory mask bylaw for indoor spaces, including Sarnia and Petrolia.

But Lambton County Council turned down the idea.

A proposed mandatory mask bylaw was brought to Plympton-Wyoming council Aug. 12, however it was rejected in a 4-3 vote.

Councillor Mike Vasey urged councillors to follow local medical advice.

“We have a medical officer of health in a position to advise us on this kind of stuff. He’s not calling for mandatory masking,” says Vasey. “He’s more interested in distancing and hand washing.”

And he says many people wear masks improperly, making them ineffective.

Vasey added if local businesses wanted people to wear masks in their stores, they could simply put a sign on their door.

Mayor Lonny Napper wanted council to approve a mandatory mask bylaw saying it could protect the community if COVID-19 cases surge.

“I have to go every Saturday morning get attached. Right and visit my wife for 30 minutes. I sacrificing a lot,” he says.

“I just think we’ve made so many

sacrifices up till now. If it was just a little bit of a thing and saved five people from dying, or getting the thing I think we’ve done our job.

“I just think if any little thing we can do to stop this, we should because I don’t think we know what’s going on with this.”

While the town didn’t ask for public input, administration received 70 letters about the issue - 57 against the move. Chief Administrative Officer Carolyn Tripp says most were from a local church.

The proposal was defeated 4-3 with Councillors Bob Woolvett, Mike Vasey, and Tim Wilkins and Deputy Mayor Muriel Wright voted against the move. Councillors Netty McEwen and Gary Atkinson voted in favour of a mandatory bylaw. Napper voiced support but only would vote in a tie.

# Developer denied chance to set up pot shop

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

No means no in St. Clair Township. Council has once again decided against allowing cannabis stores in the township.

Council’s vote was unanimous to keep pot shops off the streets. The request had been brought forward by a local realtor - Doug Lasenby - who said he had several requests from cannabis entrepreneurs to establish businesses in St. Clair.

When the province first set up the rules for commercial cannabis shops,

municipalities had to decide if they would want a pot shop.

The township did not originally ‘opt-in’ to allowing cannabis shops when the product became legal in 2018. That gave St. Clair council the right to refuse such businesses, with the option to reconsider at a later date.

The main sticking point was that under current laws they’d be unable to regulate the number of cannabis shops. Permission cannot be given to only a certain town or plaza, but applies to the entire municipality.

In Sarnia, there are seven applications for pot shops on the

books.

“Until we have clarification on whether we can restrict the amount of these I can’t support it,” says Deputy Mayor Steve Miller.

“I don’t want a cannabis store in every village in the township.”

Councillor Jim DeGurse says there are already enough cannabis shops nearby to serve St. Clair residents. “We can go two miles to the north and hit four [cannabis shops] already operating,” says DeGurse.

Several cannabis stores are located along the St. Clair Parkway in Aamjiwnaang First Nation territory.

# New staff to be on hand as village reopens office

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

There will be some new faces behind the desk next time Oil Springs residents stop by their local municipal office.

Former Clerk Erkki Pohjolainen and Karen Cook, the village’s deputy clerk/treasurer, both handed in their resignations in July. Pohjolainen had joined the municipality in 2018. He’s taken a job with a municipality in

Canada’s atlantic provinces.

Lynda Thornton is the new clerk/treasurer of Oil Springs and Jami Hornbostel-Slade has taken the role of deputy clerk/treasurer.

Thorton had worked in nearby Dawn-Euphemia as the deputy clerk.

“It’s nice to see that we have new staff and we’re ready to go. I hope you’re ready for the challenges ahead,” Mayor Ian Veen said to the two new village staff at the Aug. 11 council meeting.

Council was held in person for the first time since the province went into lockdown.

The next meeting is Sept. 8.

The municipal office is also once again open to in-person visitors.

One person will be allowed in at a time and must sanitize their hands when entering. Masks are not necessary.

The office is open from 9 am to noon and 1 pm to 5 pm, with all services available.

# Lambton municipalities get \$8 million in COVID-19 relief

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Central Lambton municipalities are confident money coming from the provincial government will help cover unexpected costs because of the pandemic.

The province recently released COVID-19 funding to 444 municipalities across the province.

Aside from purchasing supplies like hand sanitizers and face mask, municipalities have seen revenues drop as libraries, community centres, arenas and public transit was shutdown to help slow the spread of COVID-19 in mid March.

The federal and provincial governments struck a deal in July and municipalities are just now seeing what it will mean to them.

In all, over \$8 million will flow to Lambton County.

Brooke-Alvinston receives \$63,500 which Treasurer Stephen Ikert says will go a long way to cover expenses. He says some may even be leftover.

“We have to put that money in reserves for future potential COVID expenses,” he told council Aug. 13.

Dawn-Euphemia Clerk, Donna Clermont, says the \$53,500 the municipality is receiving will likely cover all of the townships current expenses and losses. “That’s kind of what we figure we are about out at this point, with loss of rentals at the community center, loss of rentals at the campground, and the different PPE (personal protective equipment) that we’ve had to purchase,” she told council Monday.

“Our government knows that the success of our municipalities is vital to our economic recovery. We will continue working hand-in-hand with municipalities to ensure they

can emerge stronger than ever and continue to keep all Ontarians safe,” said Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey in a news release.

Municipalities will be able to apply for more funding later this year should it be necessary.

Here’s a list of who gets what;

Lambton County – \$3,604,000  
Brooke-Alvinston – \$63,500  
Dawn-Euphemia – \$53,500  
Enniskillen – \$68,500  
Lambton Shores – \$458,500  
Oil Springs – \$18,400  
Petrolia – \$150,000  
Plympton-Wyoming – \$217,400  
Point Edward – \$58,900 and an additional \$23,240 to support transit operations  
Sarnia – \$2,033,600 and an additional \$1,103,777 to support transit operations  
St. Clair Township – \$391,800  
Warwick – \$89,400

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# Quarantine stays cost Canada \$37.1 million

## CON'T FROM PG 1

The couple landed in Toronto and were surprised to find what the US flight attendant said may have been correct after all.

“The shuttle, per se, was there, waiting for those people that were going to their cottages but had to be put up - with our accommodations for the first 14 days,” she says.

The idea angered her, so a day later, she started calling local politicians to see if this was in fact true. Lambton-Kent-Middlesex MP Lianne Rood’s office could confirm that the practice was taking place, but couldn’t tell Hollingsworth any other details.

The Watford woman told the assistant she was “like a dog with a bone. I said ‘I’m going to find out from somebody whether this is true or not.’”

So, she called *The Independent*. After a few inquires, we found the flight attendant’s statement was true and it is costing Canadian taxpayers a lot of money.

“Travellers are expected to make their quarantine plan arrangements in advance,” writes Natalie Mohamed, media relations officer for Public Health Canada in an email to *The Independent*.

“If they cannot demonstrate a suitable plan upon entry into Canada, the Border Services Officer will make a referral to a PHAC Officer for further assessment. Travellers who are unable to quarantine in their own place of residence should consider alternatives within their financial means such as booking a hotel/motel room or other paid housing alternative, or staying with friends or family.

“In cases where it is deemed necessary by a PHAC Officer, and as a last resort when no other quarantine options are available, travellers may be sent to a federally designated quarantine facility.”



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Mary and Chuck Hollingsworth at their daughter Becky’s Michigan wedding.

There are seven federal quarantine sites in the major cities of the country, including Toronto. Since April 1, 2,036 people have been lodged there - including 245 who are in the centres at press time.

“Travellers who are required by a Quarantine Officer to quarantine or isolate in a designated quarantine facility are not required to pay for the costs associated with their stay. Transportation to the facility is also provided at no cost to the traveller,” says Mohamed.

“When travellers are in a quarantine facility, they are provided with three meals daily and other essentials. All of these items are delivered to their rooms. They also have access to a toll-free phone number where they can identify essential items that they require. Travellers also receive regular daily health checks during which they can discuss any concerns they may have.”

All this, Mohamed says, has cost taxpayers \$37.1 million so far. That’s just over \$16,000 per person who was in quarantine.

Sarnia-Lambton MP Marilyn Gladu says that seems like a lot of money for the program.

“I understand the

government’s desire to make sure Canadians are protected by having people self isolate,” she says adding some of her constituents who found themselves in this position because they weren’t able to go into the campground immediately.

“The government is obviously weighing the cost of having COVID-19 spread versus the cost of putting people up. But again, it is a lot of money.

“This is why the Conservatives have asked the auditor general be given the money to audit all of the \$343 billion worth of COVID spending.”

Gladu says so far, the government hasn’t agreed to the move.

“We need to question the spend...I agree with the government’s approach to try to protect Canadians, to make sure we’re not having people coming over from other countries bringing COVID in, but at the same time it is the taxpayers’ dollar.”

That is exactly what bothers Hollingsworth as she sits at home in 14 days of self isolation. “You and me and Fred down the street pay for it all.”

# Oil Museum of Canada set to open Sept. 9

The Independent

Your favourite local museum is expected to be open by September.

But as with a lot of things in this COVID-19 pandemic, how you access service will likely be a lot different.

In a report to Lambton County Councillors, the general manager of cultural services, Andrew Meyer, says the Oil Museum of Canada in Oil Springs will start showing guests around the exhibits again Sept. 9.

“Beginning Sept. 2, Lambton Heritage Museum will reopen featuring the annual Paint Ontario Art Show and Sale postponed from March,” he writes.

“The following week, on Sept. 9, the Oil Museum of Canada will allow public access by timed ticket entry and the Lambton County Archives will allow researcher access by scheduled appointment.

The Judith & Norman Alix Art Gallery will reopen on Oct. 2 with new exhibitions developed

by staff, including a special exhibition from the permanent collection featuring the works of the Group of Seven.”

Two more libraries will be reopening - both in public schools. Grand Bend and Brigden library will begin services as children head back to class.

But again, the service will be different. Like the other 14 county libraries, there will be curbside service.

“In addition, staff will also facilitate limited public access at these same 16 locations by appointment wherever possible for public computer access, Wi-Fi use and in-person reference services only,” Meyer writes.

And book lovers won’t be able to get that library smell anytime soon.

“Patrons will not be able to browse the library space for physical materials, due to the guidelines surrounding disinfection and quarantine of materials. Instead, patrons will be directed to use the curbside pickup service or can request materials to be retrieved by library staff through scheduled in-person reference services.”

### petrolia street bakery

Located at 4224 Petrolia Line, Petrolia Street Bakery offers artisan breads, baked goods and specialty cakes.

Born and raised in Petrolia, Emily Core is the creator and baker of Petrolia Street Bakery.

With the love and passion for baking, Emily graduated from the Pastry Arts program at the Canadian Food and Wine Institute at Niagara College.

You can find Petrolia Street Bakery on Facebook and Instagram. Follow the page for more information and updates.

**Petrolia Street Bakery is currently open.**

Hours are: Tues-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-3pm

226-932-0344 | [www.petroliabakery.com](http://www.petroliabakery.com)





### Town of Plympton-Wyoming

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming will hold a Special Meeting on **Wednesday September 16th, 2020 at 5:00 P.M.** at the Camlachie Community Centre (6767 Camlachie Road, Camlachie) to consider the revisions which may be required to the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Official Plan under Section 26 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended. The Special Meeting is being held pursuant to Section 26(3) of the Planning Act.

**THE OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW** may revise any or all the policies of the Official Plan through consultation with the public, various Town and County departments and external agencies to which the policies may be applicable.

**THE PURPOSE AND EFFECT** of the proposed Special Meeting is to provide an opportunity to obtain information, ask questions, or make comments regarding the proposed Official Plan Review.

**NO KEY MAP** has been provided as the Official Plan Review affects all areas in the Town of Plympton-Wyoming.

**ANY PERSON** may attend the Special Meeting and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of, or in opposition to, any policy in the Official Plan.

**WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS** in respect of the Official Plan Review can be made to the Clerk of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** will be available for public inspection during regular office hours at the Municipal Offices at 546 Niagara Street, Wyoming and at the Public Meeting. Information can also be obtained by contacting the County of Lambton Planning and Development Services Department at 519-845-0801 (ext. 5350).

**DATED AT THE TOWN OF PLYMPTON-WYOMING THIS 5th DAY OF AUGUST 2020.**

**Published August 13th & 20th 2020**

**This is Doug.**

**Doug is an avid social media user.**

**Doug sees a tweet about a local news event, but isn’t sure that it’s true.**

**Doug checks the source and sees that the story came from a newspaper website.**

**Doug now knows he can trust the story.**

**Doug is smart.**

**Be like Doug.**

#checkyoursources #newsmatters







# Enniskillen hopes to nip pot grow ops in the bud

**Alex Kurial**  
Local Journalism Initiative

Enniskillen Deputy Mayor Judy Krall is worried people will take advantage of federal cannabis rules to start grow ops in their homes.

Krall attended a cannabis panel discussion hosted by the Town of East Gwillimbury at the end of July.

The OPP and York Regional Police uncovered some of the problems with people growing too much cannabis in their homes.

By law a person is allowed to grow four cannabis plants for their own personal use.

This number can be increased if someone is approved to grow cannabis for their own medical use. But this limit is often ignored and exceeded.

East Gwillimbury has noticed several instances of this lately on town properties.

“On the edge of residential areas where the agricultural area begins is where these are setting up shop,” says Krall.

“They’re springing up, there’s no building permits for them. They’re running into odour problems, light problems, ventilation, types of buildings that are being built, water

usage.

“They [authorities] have no idea where they are. People are frustrated that these are showing up in their backyards.”

East Gwillimbury determined that many of these grow ops were being purchased by people from the Greater Toronto Area. They’re drawn by cheaper housing prices and more secluded geography.

OPP Det. Inspec. Jeff Walker, a specialist in cannabis crime, says these small scale grow ops are often part of larger criminal organizations and gangs.

Walker says that cannabis grow ops are frequently linked with the distribution of harder drugs like methamphetamines.

Firearms are a common discovery at these locations as well.

“They’re growing prescriptions and then they’re growing more. So the black market’s still alive,” says Krall.

Walker says it’s hard to detect these grow ops.

Many times police rely on tips to Crime Stoppers or from public works employees who notice something strange with a house.

Even when police learn about a grow up they say they don’t have the

funding or resources to shut them all down.

While the growing trend worries Krall, Councillor Wally Van Dun says this has been a problem for many decades.

“It’s a crime that’s been going on for many years, and it goes back to the 70s and 80s and 90s,” says Van Dun noting weed could often be spotted in local fields.

“The OPP – they know this is going on, they know where it’s going on – but they don’t do anything about it because their hands are tied with cash funding. But it’s also so small.”

“They could go in and shut it down tomorrow, and it will go and move six miles down the road.”

Krall says she doesn’t think the problem has arrived in Enniskillen yet. She’s hoping to raise awareness of the grow ops before this becomes the case.

“I think we continue to keep an eye on it.”

“It’s an issue in Norfolk, it’s an issue obviously in East Gwillimbury. We know it’s an issue in Leamington. So we know that they’re springing up. It’s just getting ahead of it,” Krall says.

“There’s so many unknowns with this, and we’re all learning as we’re going along.”

# He broke in, couldn’t get out, now he’s in jail

**Alex Kurial**  
Local Journalism Initiative

A Sarnia man who found his way into an apartment building – but had trouble finding his way out – received a six month jail sentence on trespassing and drug charges.

The offenses took place in April this year when Charles Perry, 40, broke into the foyer of a Front St. apartment by jiggling the door lock. Once inside he made his way down to the building’s parking garage and attempted to open the door to let in someone in a pickup truck waiting outside.

Perry found he could not open the door without a key fob. When he attempted to get back to the foyer he found that a fob was needed for that door as well.

Surveillance video showed that Perry attempted to open exit doors for about 10 minutes. He finally found a window he was able to squeeze through and escape.

The next day an officer investigating the break-in saw a man at an Exmouth St. Tim Hortons wearing the exact same clothes as seen on surveillance video.

The officer arrested Perry for the

break-in. During a search 1.2 grams of meth was found on Perry.

Just a month before the Front St. break-in, Perry had been convicted on another break and enter charge. He was also arrested a few days after that for having break and enter tools.

During sentencing on Aug. 5 defense lawyer Rob Kitto says Perry’s criminal issues are rooted in substance abuse.

“He struggled for a number of years with crack cocaine and managed to get that under control,” says Kitto.

“Unfortunately he went through some life struggles and has developed an issue with methamphetamine.”

But Kitto says his client has taken positive steps during incarceration.

“While he’s been in custody he’s availed himself of AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) and NA (Narcotics Anonymous) as much as he can and is certainly hopeful to continue with counselling upon release.”

“I’m sorry for the things I’ve done. I’m sorry for wasting [the court’s] time,” Perry says prior to hearing the verdict.

Kitto asked for five months on the pair of charges, while the prosecution suggested six. Justice Krista Leszczynski decided the longer sentence was more appropriate. She

cited Perry’s criminal record in her decision.

“I’m also cognizant of your criminal record. It’s a very lengthy record for very similar offenses,” says Leszczynski. Perry received five months for trespassing and one month for meth possession.

Leszczynski says Perry needs to take serious steps to address his addiction issues to avoid harsher punishment in the future.

“You clearly have a serious addiction issue which explains your continual involvement in property related offenses, and that has yet to be addressed by you through probation or in the community,” she says.

Perry will serve just under a month in jail after factoring in pre-sentence custody.

After his release Perry will be on probation for 12 months.

He must continue to take substance abuse counselling, not have any drugs, and stay away from the Front St. apartment.

“The longer that [drug addiction] remains an issue in your life, the higher the likelihood that we will see you continue to come before the court, and you will be spending time in custody,” Leszczynski says.

# COVID-19 steals Dawn-Euphemia Christmas, but good may prevail

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

COVID-19 has claimed a lot of community celebrations, but this may be the Grinchiest of the pandemic cancellations.

Dawn-Euphemia is cancelling its annual staff Christmas party because of the pandemic. The suggestion came from staff members who usually begin planning the big event in September.

Clerk Donna Clermont says staff

members are concerned about making a lot of plans when a second wave of COVID-19 cases in the county would ultimately lead to the cancellation of the event anyway.

“There’s also the possibility probably a lot of staff would be a little bit hesitant to attend something like that at this time,” Clermont told council Monday.

Councillors agreed with the move, but Mayor Al Broad says the money normally spent on the Christmas party

could be put to good use.

“We do have a fair bit of charitable organizations that are going to struggle through this process,” he says. “Since the municipality is going to save some money on the Christmas party, it may not be a bad idea if we consider donating some money to a certain cause or a few different causes.”

Broad suggests the treasurer look at the township’s finances “and maybe it’s something we can consider towards the end of the year.”



Township of Warwick

**Contract Employment Opportunity**

**GIS/Administrative Technologist**

Under the direction of the Public Works Manager/Drainage Superintendent, the GIS/Administrative Technologist is responsible for assisting in the implementation of new and enhancing existing GIS mapping. This includes working with, and coordination between, various departments within the Township of Warwick including Information Technology, Public Works/Drainage Department and Planning Department.

**Position Requirements:**

- Experience with the use of Geographic Information Systems
- Diploma in Geographic Information Systems is beneficial
- Experience with utility (plan/profile) drawings
- A valid Ontario driver's license (Class G of G2)
- Be between 15 and 30 years of age,
- Canadian citizens, permanent residents or have refugee protection status under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act
- Legally entitled to work in Canada
- Will not have another full-time job.
- Available to start September 8th, 2020 and work full time hours (37.5 hours per week) until December 24th, 2020

**Application Deadline: 4 p.m. on Friday, August 28th, 2020**

**Written resumes for all positions will be received until 4 pm on Friday, August 28th, 2020 and should be addressed to: Township of Warwick, 6332 Nauvoo Road, R.R.#8 Watford, Ontario, NOM 2S0 or fax to (519) 849-6136.**

E-mail submission of resumes and questions on positions can be submitted to the Township of Warwick at [messelment@warwicktownship.ca](mailto:messelment@warwicktownship.ca) or 519-849-3926.

**[www.warwicktownship.ca](http://www.warwicktownship.ca)**

The best way to stop COVID-19




is to keep your distance

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

Here's How It Works: Level: Beginner

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

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# Players six feet apart, no cheering fans in 2020

Barry Wright  
The Independent

With the traditional start of minor hockey in the area on the horizon, local associations are making plans to reintroduce the sport in the coming weeks.

The East Lambton Minor Hockey Association, serving primarily players in Brooke-Alvinston and Warwick Township, plans its restart on September 8.

“OMHA has directed us to set up groups, known as “Bubbles” or “Hockey Bubbles” to start the season,” said ELMHA President Adam MacKellar in a post on the association’s website.

“Each bubble is permitted to have no more than 50 players and is subject to strict guidelines. ELMHA has decided to keep our bubbles within our association. We will have six bubbles – U18(Midget), U15(Bantam), U13(Pee wee), U11(Atom), U9(Novice), U7(Pre-Novice),” he added.

“A board member will be designated to oversee each bubble, MacKellar said.

He says the composition of the bubbles can change as circumstances unfold.

He says the biggest challenge might be with the Initiation Program players as parents will not likely be allowed in the arena and coaches must keep their distance, so helping these six-year old’s tie their skates and regain their feet after falling will be an issue.

“We know this is different than our usual start-up and may present challenges at times, but we think this approach is the safest for our players and offers the flexibility needed to adjust to the dynamic nature of COVID-19,” he says.

Normally, games would be scheduled in both the Watford and the Brooke-Alvinston Inwood Community Centre. But Randy Hills, Brooke-Alvinston’s public works manager, says when and where ice will be available still has to be worked out.

He told council Aug. 13 that it would be unlikely there would be enough demand for ice to open the Alvinston arena in September.

Mooretown Minor Hockey Association is also making fall plans. A separate COVID Code on Conduct has been created and all players and spectators will be screened at the entrance to the Moore Sports Complex.



FILE PHOTO

The East Lambton Eagles celebrate a goal in the 2019 season. The team won’t be able celebrate this way as the new rules say they have to be a hockey stick apart on the ice.

Anyone who refuses to be screened will not be allowed into the building.

The association says players must arrive 15 minutes before their allocated ice time, fully dressed with the exception of skates which can be put on in dressing rooms with the doors remaining open. Hand sanitizer will be available at the entrances and in the dressing rooms.

One spectator per family will be allowed in the rink to a maximum of 20 people, but cheering, chanting and yelling will not be allowed as “those activities pose a high risk of spreading droplets,” according to the guidelines.

Mooretown hopes to start its season with a two-week development hockey camp on Sept. 8.

The rules of play will be different too.

Games will be four-on-four for two, 22-minute periods of stop time.

Each team will dress nine skaters and a goalie and all players must remain at least a stick length apart while on the ice.

Faceoffs have also been taken out of the game with the visiting team getting first possession in the first period, while the home team gets the puck to start the second period.

Goals, icing, offside and the freezing of the puck by the goaltender will all result in a change of possession with the defensive team having to allow the other squad to get to centre ice within ten seconds before they can apply any pressure on the puck.

And, the penalty shots will replace the penalty box with a two-minute infraction resulting in one penalty shot and four minutes of penalties or more resulting in two penalty shots.

Referees can use discretion and eject players for intentional contact if they feel it’s warranted.

The current Return to Play guidelines are in effect until Nov. 1, but could be moved depending on direction from Hockey Canada and/or government and public health officials.

# First West Nile virus found in Oil Springs

The Independent

West Nile virus has been found in Oil Springs.

Lambton Public Health says mosquitoes collected from a trap in the village Aug. 12 have tested positive.

It’s the first detection of the virus which is spread by mosquitoes this year. The first human case of West Nile virus infection in Canada was reported in Ontario in 2002.

Lambton Public Health says the disease has been present in Lambton for years.

The best defense is to

drain areas of standing and stagnant water, remove old tires, turn over pails, toys and wheelbarrows, change the water in bird baths weekly and keep your eyes clear.

To reduce your chance of being bitten by an infected mosquitoes you should avoid long grasses, wear protective, light clothing, and take extra precautions from dawn to dusk, including using DEET based repellents.

Officials say the majority of people infected with West Nile virus do not get sick.

They usually get mild flu-like



symptoms like fever, headache, skin rash or muscle aches.

Less than one per cent of people infected with the virus get seriously ill.

WATFORD CEMETERY  
DECORATION DAY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2020

We regret to announce that due to COVID-19, the Annual Watford Cemetery Decoration Day In-Person Service has been cancelled for 2020. All are welcome to attend the cemetery to visit their loved ones’ graves, but please practice physical distancing.

A revised program will be available in hard copy at the cemetery, in the SE corner near the shed, from August 28 – 31. Hard copies will also be available at the Township Office and an electronic version will be available on the Township website. If you would like a copy of the program sent to you please call the office at 519-849-3926.

Donation boxes will be placed in the cemetery if you wish to make a donation to help keep our cemetery functioning and looking great. Donations can also be mailed to the address below.

We appreciate your understanding as we work through the challenges associated with 2020 and the COVID-19 pandemic. We hope to see you in August 2021.

Donations can be mailed to:  
Warwick Township Office  
6332 Nauvoo Road  
Watford, ON N0M 2S0

Please make cheques payable to “Warwick Township Cemetery Board”.  
Income Tax exemption receipts will be issued for \$25.00 or more.

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SATURDAY  
AUGUST 29



# Sports

## Dawson thrilled with second chance

**Barry Wright**  
The Independent

Kyle Dawson is looking forward to another kick at the can.  
A provisional two-year contract that he agreed to with Rochester of the National Lacrosse League has now been approved by the league.  
“It’s pretty exciting,” said the 22-year old from Florence. “When free agency opened up on August 1, I got a call from Rochester and jumped right on it.”  
After initially being drafted and subsequently released by San Diego last year, Dawson is happy to sign

a deal with a team in the east as he is currently studying in Toronto to become a Chiropractor.  
Typically, NLL training camps begin in November with the regular season starting in mid-December, but Dawson thinks the 2020-21 campaign could be delayed because of the global pandemic. “I’m assuming everything gets pushed back,” he said. “But, I don’t know that for sure.”  
While he waits, the former Great Lakes Junior “C” Hockey League Rookie of the Year with the Dresden Junior Kings, is running and biking to keep his cardio up, but he’s also working on strength training. “I’m trying to get stronger as I’m going into a league with fully grown men out there,” he said. “I want to get bigger and stronger to win more battles.”  
Prior to the shutdown over COVID-19 five months ago, Dawson had been playing with Paris (ON) of the Arena Lacrosse League. That league is planning to resume its regular season in mid-September, followed by playoffs in October, but he’s not sure he’ll be able to rejoin that league since he is now under contract with Rochester.  
“I still have to figure that one out,” he says.

## Mueller captures Men’s open title in Chatham

Petrolia’s Matt Mueller of the Sarnia Tennis Club won the Ontario Tennis Association Chatham Men’s Open tournament.  
Mueller came back from a one set deficit to defeat the number one seeded player, Bilal Anjum of Brampton, by the score of 2-6, 6-2, 10-7 in the championship match.  
In the first round, Mueller defeated Demian Kogutek 6-0, 6-0. He followed

that that up in the semi-finals with a 6-0, 6-4 win over the second seed, Mark Chappodos.  
This was the first tournament action for Mueller, a recent graduate of LCCVI in Petrolia, since before the COVID-19 pandemic began and it is his first tournament victory in the OTA Men’s Open division.  
When the new Ontario Tennis Association (OTA) rankings are

released, Mueller will move nearly 100 places to 140th in the country.  
The national list includes all the top level Canadian players participating in the ATP Tour. Muller is ranked 46th in the province.  
He will begin his university studies at Western in London next month and will be joining the Mustang Men’s Varsity tennis team.

## High school sports in Lambton Kent on hold

The Lambton Kent District School Board and the St. Clair Catholic District School Board have both indicated that the new school year will begin early next month without high school sports.  
“The situation will be monitored and individual activities may be reviewed on a case-by-case basis,” said the LKDSB Return to School plan announced last Friday.  
“All sports are suspended until further notice,” said a parallel statement from the Catholic board.  
In our coverage area, the decision affects LCCVI in Petrolia, Forest’s North Lambton Secondary School as well as local athletes who attend St. Pat’s in Sarnia.

“As of right now, there is no set date for the return to sports,” said LKSSAA Coordinator James Clarke.  
“For now, it’s safety first,” he added. Clarke says an option also exists to separate Lambton and Kent schools into non-interlocking divisions.  
No final decision has been made.  
The local conclusion came on the heels of the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Association (OFSAA) and SWOSSA both cancelling fall championships and festivals last week because provincial restrictions would make it impossible to host tournaments.  
The fall sports affected in Lambton Kent are football, girls basketball, boys volleyball,



FILE PHOTO

High School sports, including baseball, have been put on hold for the first semester.  
baseball, tennis, golf and cross country.

## Petrolia Squires season still up in the air

While the executive of the Petrolia Squires are excited about the possibility of a new Western Ontario Athletic Association senior hockey season, there still appear to be many hurdles to clear before the 2020-21 season can move forward.

“The league is still sorting out how this season or any season may shape up,” said a social media post on the Squires’ website.  
“All teams are faced with crazy new rules from their municipalities regarding use of arenas ranging from no use

of dressing rooms to no fans allowed in the arenas to a few teams not even having access to ice at this point,” the post continued.  
Typically, training camp for the Squires opens in September with the puck dropping on the regular season in early October.

## Brigden golfer aces 12th hole in Sarnia

Oliver Stephens has played thousands of rounds of golf but until recently one highlight had eluded him. That was a hole-in-one.  
However he can now

add that to his list of golf accomplishments.  
The Brigden native aced the 12th hole from the blue tees at the Sarnia Golf and Country Club Thursday.

He drained the 114 yard shot with a 56 degree wedge. The ace was witnessed by Chris Pamenter.

### Wyoming Lions

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Monday @ 12 noon

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or email: [office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)

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We talk about you still  
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and you never will.  
We hold you close within our hearts  
And there you will remain.  
To walk and guide us through our lives  
Until we meet again.  
*Love You & Miss You – Always and Forever*  
*Shirley & Family*

### In Memory

**PARKING**  
*in memory of*  
~ PEGGY ANN ~  
who passed away August 20th, 2015  
*And while she lies in peaceful sleep*  
*Her memory we shall always keep.*  
Missed by Von & family  
and Paul & Lois Vandenbogaerde

### Notice

**ADVERTISING POLICY** - The publisher of this newspaper, *The Independent of Petrolia and Central Lambton*, reserves the right to clarify or refuse any advertisement based on its sole discretion. The publisher reserves the right to reject, discontinue or omit any advertisement without notice or penalty to either party. Liability for errors or non-insertion is limited to the amount paid for the cost of space occupied by the error. Claims of errors must be made prior to the next publication date.

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### Card of Thanks

*Thank You*  
A great big thanks sent out to my sisters: Carel, Sheila, Sharen, Bonnie, Shelly, Lori and my brothers: Gary, Steve, Terry and Allan. You made my 80<sup>th</sup> surprise birthday fabulous! To my son Tom Walsh, all my family, and my friends your cards, calls and gifts made my day. You all got me good, many, many thanks.  
*Love*  
*Rose Richardson/McDonald*

### Obituary



**CAMPBELL**  
Stacy Leann

At her home in Brooke Twp, on **Sunday August 9, 2020 Stacy Leann Campbell (nee Cook)** passed away in her **48th year**. Beloved wife of Tim Campbell. Dear mother of Darienne (Tyler) and Michael and loving grandmother of Mason and Aria. Dear daughter of Gary and Pat Cook and sister to Scott Cook (Gini) and Brent Cook (Amanda). Daughter-in-law of Ken and Shirley Campbell and sister-in-law of Jeff Campbell, Dana (Jason) Demaiter. Stacy will be missed by her nieces and nephews Allyssa, Matthew, Shealynn, Connor, Erikah, Paris, Krysten, Evan, Lily and Grace. She had a love for all animals. **Cremation has taken place and a Private family graveside service was held at the Alvinston Cemetery.** Memorial donations may be made to a charity of your choice or online condolences at [www.vanheckfuneralhome.ca](http://www.vanheckfuneralhome.ca)

### In Memory

**James Junior McDonald**  
August 23, 2017  
Hard to believe it  
has been 3 years.  
Miss you Dad.  
*Love*  
*Scott, Troy & Family*

### Obituary



**BURCH**  
Bill

Peacefully, surrounded by family, **Bill Burch of Petrolia**, passed away at the age of **89** at Fiddick's Nursing Home on **Monday, Aug. 10, 2020**. Beloved husband to Lois for 34 years. Loving father to William (Paula), Raymond (Loretta), Sally (Ridgely), Julie (Tom), Brian (Lucy), Cheryl (Wayne) and Lorraine (Dave). He was a devoted grandpa and great grandpa and will be dearly missed. Cremation has taken place. **A Celebration of Life will take place in the Hamilton area at a later date. Interment will take place in Knox Presbetyrian Cemetery, Binbrook Ontario.** As an expression of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to Alzheimer Society of Sarnia Lambton. Memories and condolences may be shared online at [www.needhamjay.com](http://www.needhamjay.com).

### Obituary

**BOURQUE**  
Jeannette

Peacefully, with her family by her side at Bluewater Health, Palliative Care in Sarnia on **Monday, August 17, 2020**. Born in The Pas, Manitoba, JEANNETTE BOURQUE (nee Dignard) was in her **91st year**. Predeceased by her husband Jerry Bourque (2012), she will be dearly missed by her children; Rick and Yvette Bourque of Sarnia, Pam and Rod Charlton of Petrolia, Lynn and Jim Bidner of Petrolia, Mike and Anne Bourque of Petrolia, Ron Bourque and Kim Davis-Bourque of Sarnia, Tony and Cathy Bourque of Petrolia, and Mary Ann and Al Hibbard of Sarnia, her nineteen grandchildren and twenty-two great grandchildren. Jeannette is also survived by her sister Florence Nahrgang of Kitchener. She was predeceased by her parents Albert and Louise Dignard, her brother Gerry Dignard and her sister Victoria Potvin. Jeannette took great pride in her large family and often boasted about them at Lambton Meadowview Villa where, prior to Covid restrictions, there was a regular flow of family members visiting her. Jeannette was a life-



long member of St. Philips CWL and regularly served at banquets and church functions. She had a passion for baking, knitting and jewelry making and shared her talents with many. **A private funeral mass will be held on Monday, August 24, 2020 at St. Philip's Parish, Petrolia with a burial to follow at Our Lady of Mercy Cemetery.** As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made by cheque to: St Vincent DePaul Society, Sarnia Blessings, or Canadian Food for Children. Memories, pictures, and condolences may be shared on-line at [www.needhamjay.com](http://www.needhamjay.com).

## Death Notices

August 9 - August 17, 2020

<b>SUNDAY, AUGUST 9</b> <b>CAMPBELL, Stacy Leann</b> Age 48, of Brooke Twp. Van Heck Funeral Home	<b>ROBINSON, Sharon Elizabeth (n. Gadsby)</b> Age 67, of Petrolia Needham-Jay Funeral Home
<b>MONDAY, AUGUST 10</b> <b>BURCH, Bill</b> Age 89, of Petrolia Needham-Jay Funeral Home <b>GOSDEN, Colin Morris</b> Age 82, of Alvinston VanHeck Funeral Home <b>HOEKSTRA, Gerty (n. Geertje Rutgers)</b> Age 84, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home	<b>FRIDAY, AUGUST 14</b> <b>HAMIL, Robert Douglas</b> Age 33, of Calgary Smith Funeral Home <b>JOHNSTON, Richard "Dick"</b> Age 57, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home <b>NICHOLS, Margaret</b> Age 92, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home
<b>TUESDAY, AUGUST 11</b> <b>KWAN, Ryan Timothy</b> Age 36, of Sarnia McCormack Funeral Home <b>MOLZAN, Edward Otto</b> Age 82, of Alvinston VanHeck Funeral Home <b>WRIGHT, Katherine "Billie" Wyllis (n. Graham)</b> Age 69, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home	<b>SATURDAY, AUGUST 15</b> <b>CARDIN, Colleen Marie</b> Age 77, of Sarnia D.J. Robb Funeral Home <b>TOMLINSON, Barbara</b> Age 92, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home <b>LEWIS, Anne</b> Age 82, of Forest Gilpin Funeral Chapel - Forest <b>PARDY, Dan</b> Age 94, of Cairo Van Heck Funeral Home
<b>WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12</b> <b>MCALPINE, Michael Anthony</b> Age 63, of Sarnia McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home <b>SCHLEBUSCH, Dr. Gert Hendrik Gabriël</b> Age 74, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home	<b>SUNDAY, AUGUST 16</b> <b>KERNOHAN, Barb</b> Age 66, of Forest Denning's of Forest <b>NEELY, Douglas</b> Age 80, of Point Edward McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home
<b>THURSDAY, AUGUST 13</b> <b>WALKER, Ray Charles</b> Age 83, of Petrolia Steadman Brothers Funeral Home <b>LAWS, Shirley Margaret</b> Age 92, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home	<b>MONDAY, AUGUST 17</b> <b>BOURQUE, Jeannette</b> Age 91, of Petrolia Needham-Jay Funeral Home

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

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



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)

## Calendar

PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM  
DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Events are listed FREE for non-profit groups in Petrolia and Lambton County (space permitting).  
To be included in this listing email the required information to [office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca) Subject: FREE EVENT LISTING.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
Aug 20	6-8pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions <b>Meat Raffle</b> at Haywood's Tap & Grill	
Aug 21	8a-1p	Forest	<b>Forest Farmers' Market.</b> Corner of Main St. N and Jefferson.	
Aug 22	7:30-12noon	Petrolia	<b>Petrolia Farmers' Market</b> directly behind the Petrolia Library	
Aug 22	8-11pm	Petrolia	<b>Live Music by Alex Baerg</b> at the Crabby Joes' Beer Garden	
Aug 27	6-8pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions <b>Meat Raffle</b> at Haywood's Tap & Grill	
Aug 28	8a-1p	Forest	<b>Forest Farmers' Market.</b> Corner of Main St. N and Jefferson.	
Aug 29	7:30-12noon	Petrolia	<b>Petrolia Farmers' Market</b> directly behind the Petrolia Library	
Aug 30	4-6pm	Oakdale	Florence Odd Fellows Annual <b>Chicken BBQ Dinner.</b> \$15 a meal Advanced Tickets Only. 226-376-0281	
Sept 3	6-8pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions <b>Meat Raffle</b> at Haywood's Tap & Grill	
Sept 4-6		Sarnia	<b>Sarnia Rib &amp; Craft Beer Fest</b> at Hiawatha Horse Park. Live Music, Craft Beer & Food. Friday 4-11pm, Saturday 12noon -11pm, Sunday 12noon - 7pm	
Sept 5	7:30-12noon	Petrolia	<b>Petrolia Farmers' Market</b> directly behind the Petrolia Library	
Sept 8	7pm	Petrolia	LCDS <b>Annual General Meeting</b> online Bluejeans. <a href="#">Link on Social Media</a>	
Sept 10	6-8pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions <b>Meat Raffle</b> at Haywood's Tap & Grill	
Sept 12	7:30-12noon	Petrolia	<b>Petrolia Farmers' Market</b> directly behind the Petrolia Library	
Sept 15	7pm	Sarnia	Bluewater Anglers <b>General Membership Meeting</b> <a href="#">bluewateranglers.com</a>	
Sept 17	6-8pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions <b>Meat Raffle</b> at Haywood's Tap & Grill	
Sept 19	4-7pm	Petrolia	LCDS & Petrolia Lions <b>3rd Annual Beer &amp; Wing Night.</b> \$15 each at the Lions Hall Petrolia. Take out Available. Live Music by Demi Krall.	
Sept 19	4:30-7p	Wyoming	Plympton & Wyoming Agricultural Society <b>Broasted Chicken Dinner.</b> ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY. Pick-up only. Adults \$20, Kids \$10. For Tickets Call 519-845-3161 or 519-845-0302	
Sept 24	6-8pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions <b>Meat Raffle</b> at Haywood's Tap & Grill	
Sept 26	10-4pm	Petrolia	<b>Petrolia Discovery Public Tours</b> - 4381 Discovery Line	

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SOLUTION

Answers to this week's  

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

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# Church DIRECTORY

### Christ Church Anglican

414 Oil Street, Petrolia

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

Rev. Michelle Collins-Wongkee  
Church Office 519-882-1430  
[christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com](mailto: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](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  
[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](https://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](https://www.facebook.com/WyomingUnitedChurch)  
Find us on Facebook

## 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
Aug 21-23	Alvinston	<b>Alvinston Pro Rodeo</b> <a href="http://www.alvinstonprorodeo.com">www.alvinstonprorodeo.com</a>
Aug 22	Alvinston	<b>Alvinston Arts &amp; Music Fest</b>
Aug 22	Wyoming	<b>Plympton-Wyoming Truck and Tractor Pull</b>
Aug 23	Alvinston	Alvinston & District Optimist Club's <b>Cowboy Breakfast</b>
Sept 4-6	Petrolia	<b>Petrolia Enniskillen Fall Fair</b>
Sept 5	Lambton	<b>Annual Lambton County Plowing Match</b>
Sept 11	Petrolia	<b>Southwest Ontario Tractor Pullers Association Petrolia Pull</b>
Sept 18-20	Wyoming	<b>2020 Plympton Wyoming Fall Fair</b>
Sept 25-27	Forest	<b>150th Forest Fall Fair</b>
Oct 2-4	Alvinston	<b>Brooke-Alvinston Watford 2020 Fall Fair</b>
Oct 9-12	Brigden	<b>Brigden 2020 Fall Fair</b>

# Business & Service Directory

## PRO-TAX

Professional INCOME TAX SERVICES

519-882-2966  
3927 Petrolia Line

[jam\\_jo11@hotmail.com](mailto:jam_jo11@hotmail.com)  
Joanne Jamieson  
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[www.protaxpetrolia.com](http://www.protaxpetrolia.com)

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# Wild chase nets man four years in prison

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

A Sarnia man will spend more than four years in jail after firing a shotgun at passersby and police.

Brandon Williams, 26, was sentenced to four-and-a-half years in prison by Justice Anne McFadyen in Sarnia court recently. He plead guilty to a lengthy list of firearms charges stemming from the Sept. 2019 incident.

The chase occurred while Williams was out on bail for committing arson in April at a Kathleen Ave. apartment block. He had lit a unit he was staying in on fire before fleeing the scene. Nobody was hurt, but damage to the building was more than \$300,000.

On the day of the chase Williams was walking along the train tracks at the Sarnia Imperial Oil refinery dressed in all black with a shirt wrapped around his face. When a worker went to ask Williams what he was doing he said he was going to work and proceeded to Christina St.

More workers became concerned and thought they saw Williams carrying a gun underneath his clothes.

Police were called for a suspicious person. When an officer arrived Williams pulled out the gun – a sawed off bolt action rifle – and pointed it at the officer. Williams started running and pointed the gun at a woman cutting the grass at Imperial Oil. She was able to escape on her riding mower.

Williams ran into the intersection of Christina and Confederation streets and fired the rifle into the air. This caused vehicles in the intersection to scatter. Several officers had now arrived on the scene.

Officers heard screams from a nearby apartment. A woman said a man had busted into her unit and told her if she alerted the cops he’d ‘smash her

out’. Police entered the unit and found Williams lying on the floor in the bedroom. He was arrested, bringing an end to the chaotic scene.

Defense lawyer Michael Quigley said this behavior was not like his client. Williams has struggled with addictions to opiates and crystal meth, but is looking to put such criminal activity behind him, says Quigley.

Williams made a brief statement saying he’s hoping to move on. “I am sorry. It’s been a long journey so far and it’s not over yet. I know it can be beneficial in the end.”

Quigley and Crown attorney David Rows agreed on a joint submission where Williams received 3.5 years for the September matters and 1 year for the arson. They differed on the matter of restitution for the apartment arson. “Mr. Williams has a significant uphill battle to make changes and new strides in his life to not only deal with overcoming addictions but to get on with a career and establish himself,” Quigley says. “If he has the kind of restitution order the Crown is suggesting hanging over his head it would be an extreme barrier for him to go forward in his life.”

McFadyen agreed with the defense, although she said Williams may still be subject to a civil trial by the property owners.

With time served Williams will spend the next three years and two months in jail. He will have a lifetime weapons ban and must submit a DNA sample.

“These are very serious matters with a dramatic impact on the victims involved, not only psychologically but as well monetarily,” McFadyen says. “If you do dedicate yourself to sobriety and employment you’ll be able to become a very positive member of our community.”

# Drunk driver misses cops by ‘mere feet’

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

Two police officers had to leap out of the way when a drunk driver buzzed past them at high speed north of Corunna.

Two Sarnia officers were walking back to their car on the side of the St. Clair Parkway around 1 am when a Chevy Silverado truck, driven by Jack Johnston, 21, came at them at high speed. As it got closer to the cop car, the officers flashed lights and yelled to try and get the driver’s attention. The truck didn’t slow, racing by the officers at high speed. Both officers had to press their backs against the cruiser to avoid being hit.

Johnston then drifted partly off the road and continued on. The two officers pulled him over and gave a breathalyzer, which he failed.

Johnston was arrested and taken to the Sarnia police station where he blew two-and-a half times the legal limit.

Crown attorney Suzanne LaSha asked that a \$2,250 fine and one year driving ban be imposed on Johnston. “The reasons for the elevated fine are the readings which are especially high and... the nature of the driving, which caused the officers to take evasive action,” says LaSha. She said Johnston came within “mere feet of striking both officers.”

“There’s no suggestion that was intentional on the part of the driver, but it nevertheless presented a danger to the officers.” Johnston was on a G2 license at the time.

Defense lawyer Donald Elliott was hoping for the mandatory minimum \$2,000 fine for drunk driving. He said Johnston was reaching down for something when he drove by the officers, and that his client has already paid for this incident with a \$490 fine for breaking the Move Over Law for emergency vehicles.

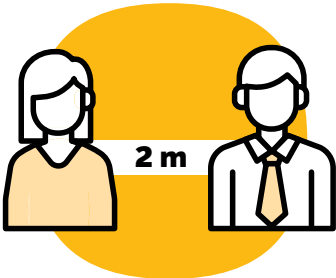
Johnston acknowledged his actions during court.

“I know it’s a learned lesson and something to grow from. I know it’s a stepping stone that I need and something that I need to work on,” he says. “It was something that I know I shouldn’t have done and something that will never happen again.”

Justice Krista Leszczynski sided with the defense in her decision, fining Johnston \$2,000 and banning him from driving for a year. “The penalties for this type of event are significant, and they’re meant to be... to deter you or others from doing this again,” says Leszczynski.

“While you say that you’ve learned your lesson and you won’t do it again, the fine that I will impose is meant to drive that home for you.”

As more businesses and services reopen, we must all continue our efforts to protect each other.



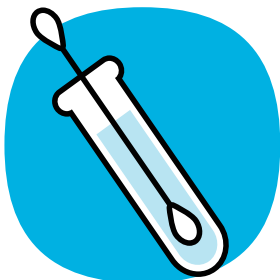
Continue to practice physical distancing, stay two metres apart even in gatherings.



Wear a face covering where physical distancing is a challenge or where required.



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.

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