

RUSHING THE NET



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Jack Bernardo from Sarnia heads for the net during a tennis tournament at the Mary Beach Tennis Courts in Petrolia Tuesday. Matt Mueller organized the small tournament with young people he was teaching over the summer.

Finishing Lori’s ride

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Natalie Neville can’t believe friends and neighbours and total strangers from across Canada are going to take up a cycling fundraiser where her wife left off.

The Wyoming woman says it is comforting as she and her son, Oliver, try to deal with Lori’s death.

The 34 year-old Wyoming woman who was part of a nation-wide effort to raise money for childhood cancer research was killed while she was cycling in St. Clair Township.

Around 10 am Saturday, police, paramedics and the St. Clair Fire Department were called to Petrolia Line for a fatal

accident involving a bicycle and vehicle. Lori Neville was taken to hospital where she was pronounced dead.

Natalie says Lori began cycling again during the pandemic after an eight year break. She would find challenges on line to keep her motivated in her goal to be as fit as possible. The couple had hoped to have another child.

The Great Cycle Challenge Canada to raise money for research into childhood cancers fit the bill. She began cycling in Lambton County in early August and had already clocked 299 km when she was on her ride Saturday. She had just 201 more to complete the challenge and had already raised over \$4,000.

SEE CYCLIST PG 3

A subject a day to keep COVID-19 away

Heather Wright  
The Independent

High school students in both the public and Catholic system will take just one class a day as local boards of education tried to find the right way to bring kids back to school in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The boards are also staggering the start of the school year to help ease students into what is a very unusual school year.

While the St. Clair District Catholic School Board promises to release the start times this week, the Lambton-Kent District School Board already has a plan in place.

Half of each public elementary school will head back to class on Sept. 8, the other half the next day. Everyone will be in the school on Thurs. Sept. 10. Junior kindergarten students

won’t start school until Mon. Sept. 14.

Parents will be contacted by the school with details.

Grade 9 students start Sept. 8 and the Grade 10 to 12 students will be back Wed. Sept. 9.

Meantime, high school student’s schedules are changing. Both public and Catholic students will still be taking two subjects in a 44 day quadmester but only take one subject a day for an entire week. The next week, they’ll take an entire week with the second period subject.

Catholic board officials in their plan approved by the province, say it limits the number of student interactions.

“The timetable was designed to limit direct and indirect student contacts to approximately 100 students per week.”

SEE SCHOOL PG 2

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# Schools work to keep kids engaged

## CON'T FROM PG 1

That format is likely to be difficult for students and staff says LCCVI Principal Greg Nemcek. But he says teachers have already been trying to come up with ideas to keep students engaged.

“If you’re in a tech class or a Phys Ed class, it’s pretty good to have an elongated class,” he says. “But we’re hearing some of those other teachers (like math), that will be tougher.”

Nemcek says teachers will give breaks and may change their teaching style to deliver the curriculum in a different way. “Maybe they’ll give more time for kids to work during the class, so they won’t have as much when they go home at night.”

But, the principal says, it is not easy. Nemcek says there are changes daily as Sept. 8 draws closer. While teachers will have some professional development days at the beginning of the school year to learn about new COVID-19 protocols, the lead up to class is “definitely unique,” he says.

“Definitely tough on teachers and administration trying to figure out what the best thing to do. But the bottom line is 100 per cent it’s all about the safety of the kids... That’s what everybody wants, to do the best for the kids. And it’s not easy sometimes by any means.”

The elementary school plans have a lot of similarities in the public and Catholic boards serving Central Lambton.

Elementary students will go to school at regular times, kids Grade 4 and up will wear face masks, students will have to bring their own water bottles but little else from home.

There will be music, French and physical education but the boards will be limiting the number of specialty teachers in contact with students. The teachers will come into their classrooms instead of students moving around the schools.

The students will remain in the same class, together for the day. There will likely be staggered recess and lunch breaks. And no one will leave the property for lunch.

Secondary students will face some of the same restrictions - one class, one group of classmates a day, no leaving school for lunch, masks and staggered break times.

Nemcek acknowledges that will not just impact the students, but the Town of Petrolia as well.

“I’m very concerned about that. You know, and do I think it’s gonna be hard to enforce? A little bit, I do,” he says adding mostly students follow the rules.

“And the businesses in town - I’m very concerned about that... they do rely on our kids every single day, and we have such a great relationship with them.”

Nemcek is also worried about students whose parents don’t provide a lunch for them. “My main concern is, I don’t want someone sitting in a classroom, a student, where the person beside him has a full lunch

and then they’re sitting there with no lunch and they can’t share food.”

Nemcek says the small food bank in the school - Kelly’s Cupboard - is looking at ways of providing bags filled with healthy snacks as students enter the school to make sure everyone has enough to eat.

While the students learn in class, there will also be digital platforms in class in case the province orders schools closed again during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Families also have the option to learn at home. Both the public and Catholic boards have online programs.

In Catholic schools, elementary students will get between 180 and 225 minutes live learning each day, depending on their age. They’ll also be able to contact their teachers for one-on-one help.

Board officials say attendance will be taken and the Ontario curriculum will be taught, assessed and evaluated.

Secondary students in both the public and Catholic board will also have access to online learning taught by local teachers. They can also use the E-Learning Consortia and the TVO independent Learning Centre. The board will also consider independent study courses.

In the public board, parents who decide on the Learn at Home option will have to enrol students in the online Home Secondary or Elementary Schools. The Virtual Learn at Home Elementary and Secondary Schools will have dedicated principals and staff supports to ensure appropriate supports and programming for students.

Both boards say parents have to inform the board of their decision on school by Aug. 28. After that, there will be limited opportunities to switch school options.

The Catholic board’s plan goes into detail about what the health measures will look like in schools.

There will be socially distanced lineups at the doors for elementary students and multiple entries for high school students.

Classrooms will have a designated washroom and students will have to sign out when they leave. Every other bathroom stall will be available. And students will have to either wash their hands or use sanitizer when entering a classroom.

For recess and lunch at the Catholic board, students will stay with their classmates to limit exposure to other students. Breaks might be staggered at the school, depending on physical space and supervision.

Once outside, the students will have to make their own fun since playground equipment will not be open right away.

For students with special needs, there will be remote learning and live contact with a teacher. The teachers, the board says are essential in the planning and programing for special needs students.

Secondary students in congregated programs will attend class daily.

# What will happen if someone has COVID-19

The local public and Catholic boards have virtually the same policy.

Students with any symptoms will be isolated in a separate room. They will be supervised by a teacher in full PPE.

Schools will notify parents/guardians immediately and they will be told to pick up their child from school as soon as possible. They won’t be able to come into the school, instead they’ll be directed to a specific door to pick up their child. They’ll also be told to get to a doctor and have a COVID-19 test.

Parents have to let the school know if the child tested positive.

If a staff member develops symptoms of

illness, they will be sent home and seek medical attention. If they cannot leave immediately, the staff member will be isolated in a specific area until they are able to leave.

Schools will report any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 to public health.

The schools will keep records of everyone in the building and everyone on the buses, in case public health needs names for contact tracing.

When sick students and staff can return to the building will be under the direction of public health.



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# Walking and bike trails priority in proposed rec master plan

Heather Wright  
The Independent

A new report says Petrolia should develop more walking and cycling trails in the community.

The recommendation is part of the proposed Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The 59-page report prepared by Monteith and Brown takes a look at what recreational activities residents want and what amenities are needed.

The consultants talked to staff, user groups, and the public and did a public survey on what people in the community believe is important for the next 20 years.

The report says 449 people took the online survey - most were young families who had lived in town most of their lives.

It lists the top activities in town as walking and hiking, going to special events, enjoying parks, going to theatre and using playgrounds.

Other highlights from the survey included;

- 83 per cent of people think recreational trails and pathways are important but only 37 per cent are satisfied with the trails available.
- 52 per cent say the amount of recreation trails in the neighbourhood was below expectations.
- the top priority for spending was playgrounds 81 per cent, splash pads 74 per cent, arenas, 71 per cent, buying park space, 69

per cent and outdoor ice rinks 69 per cent

- 70 to 85 per cent of people agreed with investing in sidewalks, seating along walkways, multi-use trails, unpaved nature trails and connections to schools parks and other residential areas.
- Community groups said there was a gap in parks in new residential neighbourhoods and wanted consideration for age-friendly components like shade, washrooms, trails, pickleball courts
- 42 per cent of people don't think they're getting value for the tax dollar on recreation and parks and
- The highest opposition to spending was for a performing arts theatre at 25 per cent with 49 per cent in favour.

The authors of the report made 46 recommendations to council.

They suggested the town should actively develop a trail system in Petrolia, possibly linking to other community trails in the area. (see photo).

The authors said the town needs to acquire more parkland as the town grows simply to maintain the 4 hectares of parkland per 1,000 residents. The author suggests priority be given to areas where there is new housing and that parks and recreation staff have input into subdivision plans to make sure there is new parkland.

The authors said the town should continue to support the development of a park at the Greenwood Recreation Centre, spearheaded by the Parents for Parks group. It also says it should build a splash pad, likely at Kerr Park.

A skateboard park and basketball court was also on the needs list. And the study suggests developing some of the amenities at the Oil Heritage District Community Centre Property.

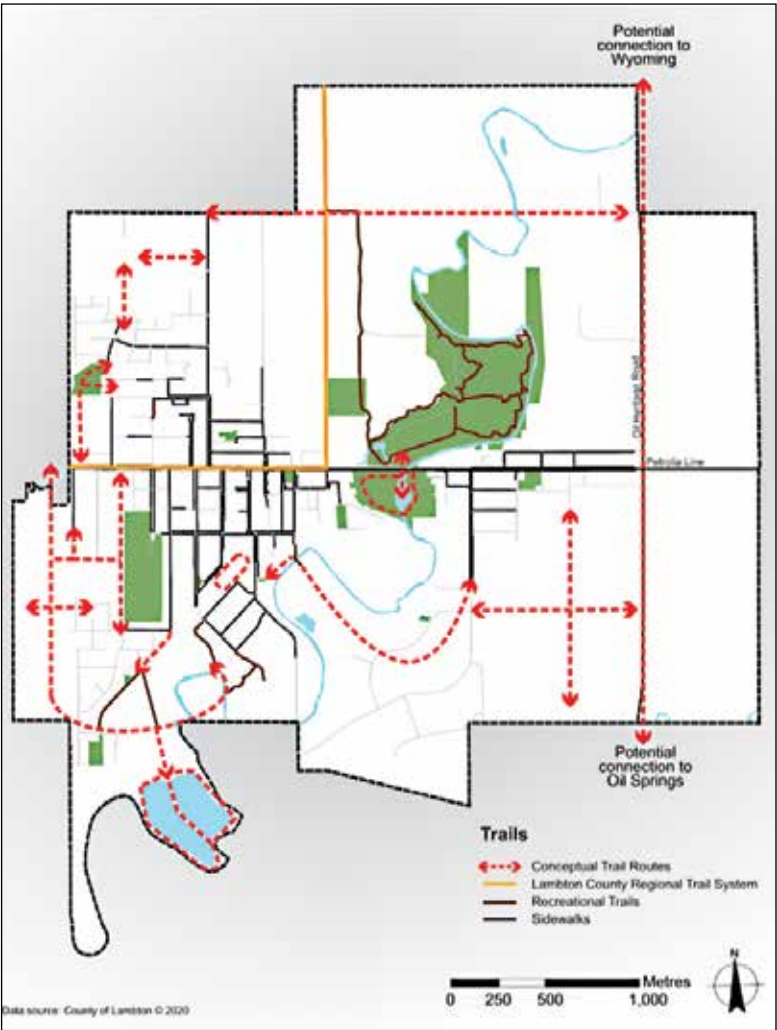
But calls for a second ice pad in the community were rejected. The report says Greenwood arena is well used and ice rentals are likely to decrease since the population is aging. It suggests saving to replace the arena in the future instead.

The authors added the town has to start looking for land for three full-sized soccer fields since the current fields are owned by a local developer.

There was also recommendations for studying parks in the downtown area and the use of Victoria Hall.

The authors estimated the cost of the items to over a million dollars but said council should set out short, medium and long term priorities for investment.

The master plan can be found on Petrolia's website. Town officials would like residents to read it and complete a survey so a final report can be prepared for council.



Montieth and Brown's concept of a trail system for Petrolia. It's found in the draft parks and recreation master plan which is online at the town's website for public comment.

## Cyclist was raising money for kids cancer

CON'T FROM PG 1

Natalie Neville says Lori was headed to Corunna that morning along the newly-paved Petrolia Line. The sun was on her back, says Natalie, and she can't figure out what might have happened. OPP are still investigating and haven't released any details of the accident yet, even to the family.

Natalie says Lori was a careful cyclist, sometimes heading out by car with her family to travel the back roads in search of a route with nice straight roads and few cars that she could take later in the week.

She planned ahead, Natalie says, because she had run-ins with drivers before. Lori told her at one point a driver, frustrated because he couldn't pass the cyclist on an overpass, sped past her and then hit the shoulder throwing stones at Lori. "That was probably the worst one," says Natalie.

"She said that there is a lot of overpasses she would cross, but she would just walk along the edge instead - over as far as she could - so that way she didn't have to worry about that.

"She had like everything. She wore bright shirts. She had lights on the back of her bike and on her helmet, like flashing lights. She had a ankle bracelet that have multiple flashing lights on it are reflective," says Natalie..

"So she definitely could have been seen. I mean, I don't know what happened still."

That makes it all the more difficult to try to explain to their son, Oliver, where his mom is.

"When I first told him, he asked me where she was. I said that she had gone to heaven because she got hurt and the doctors couldn't fix it. So then he asked me to just take her to a new doctor."

The loss of her partner and making funeral arrangements in the age of COVID-19 have been difficult but Natalie says she's be overwhelmed by the support of the cycling community. Mike Bryck of Toronto is also part of the Great Cycle Challenge and has organized a memorial ride in Toronto Wednesday to finish Lori's goal of 500 kms. At press time, another 132 people across Canada were expected to join the ride.

Family and friends in Wyoming planned to join at the Reece's Corners to Wyoming Trail at 5:30 pm Wednesday, too.

Lori's fundraising page has also become a tribute to her and a place to give memorial donations. Natalie says Saturday when Lori went out on that fateful ride, she had raised just under \$1,000. By Tuesday, Lori's page had more than \$10,000 in donations.


"We probably don't even know half of the people, which is so generous people that don't even know us would support her and do things honouring her. There's a lot of cyclists from all across Canada that have donated as well just in memory of her and acknowledging cycling community that was surrounding her.

"I can't thank people enough for donating to beat her goal."

And she asks, that drivers learn from Lori's death, keeping an eye out for cyclists on Lambton's roads.




Lori Neville and son, Oliver.



### This Month In Lambton

August 2020

[f](#) [t](#)



Warden Bill Weber  
@LambtonWarden

#### Cultural Services Facilities Preparing to Reopen Safely

Lambton County is preparing for limited public access and additional services at its libraries, museums, gallery and archives beginning in September.


Although these spaces and interactions will look very different to enable physical distancing, every effort has been made to ensure visits to these cultural facilities are a safe and enjoyable experience for all.

Library, museum, gallery and archives hours of operation, services offered and capacity are limited to ensure enhanced safety and cleaning protocols, including enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of equipment and high-touch surfaces.

To learn more about what services and public access will be available at libraries, museums, archives and the gallery in September, please read the full news release available on [lambtononline.ca](#).

#### Lambton Renovates Applications

The County of Lambton is now accepting 2020 applications for funding through the Lambton Renovates Program. For further information and to download an application, please visit [lambtononline.ca/lambtonrenovates](#).



#### HHW Collection Events

Bring your household derived hazardous waste to one of the upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Day events and it will be disposed of by experts, at no cost to you!

Events will be held at Clean Harbors Canada, 4090 Telfer Road, St. Clair Township from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. on the following Saturdays: Sept 12, Sept 26, Oct 17 and Oct 31.

#### Share your COVID-19 Pandemic Experiences

Lambton County Archives is looking for members of the community to share their experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic.


You can participate by:

1. Documenting and submitting your personal experiences through letters, photos, journal entries or a simple message.
2. Donating materials to the Archives for preservation for future generations.

To learn more, submit your experiences or donate materials, please visit: [lambtonmuseums.ca/COVID-19-online-submissions/](#).

To read more, go to [lambtononline.ca](#)

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# Editorial

## Healthy community healthy school

With just a week before students return to school, there is still a lot of anxiety and questions about how safe it is to bring hundreds of students into a classroom during a pandemic.

Parents, teachers, doctors and politicians have all kinds of concerns and plans; Is the ventilation good? Is everyone six feet apart? Shouldn't everyone be wearing masks no matter how old they are? Why aren't class sizes smaller? Is \$302 million enough money to ensure everyone will be safe?

It's natural to be worried. COVID-19 is not just the flu; it is a virus that spreads rapidly and kills in a gruesome fashion. No one wants that for our loved ones.

Really, the answer to all these questions and concerns is very simple; if the community is healthy, schools will be healthy. That may be the bigger problem.

Right now, Ontario and Chatham-Kent are in relatively good shape. We're never going to get rid of COVID-19, but public health officials are now able to track down anyone who has it quickly, isolate them and contain the spread. Hospitals know have their infectious disease plans in place and know exactly what to do when someone walks through the doors with COVID-19.

The wild card in whether back-to-school will be safe is us. Our actions will determine if our kids get a semi-normal education this year.

After six months of social isolation or limited contact with friends, it's tempting to go to that bush party or have some beer with a few dozen friends we haven't seen in months. Don't. Keep your social circles small.

It would be great to go on the shopping trip to Toronto. Don't. Stay close to home and away from big crowds.

It would be great not to yell through plexi glass and masks to order a coffee. But do it anyway.

It would be great to go 'back to normal' but this still isn't normal. And if we want to be able to remain open as a society - if we want our children to be in school - as tired of all of this as we are, we have to keep doing it because a healthy community means a healthy school.

## 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



SOMBRA MUSEUM PHOTO

This photo was taken Oct. 1, 1897 in front of SS #13 Becher West School. The school was was held in a log cabin. It was located on the sixth concession, lot 12, which is the Duff farm on River Road. For students on the east side of the Sydenham River to go to school, they had to take the Becher ferry. In 1876, the school became too small and was replaced. By 1905, it was moved to the 10th and 11th sideroad on the George Reid farm. The first secretary treasurer, John Reid, worked at SS #13 from 1876-1903 and made \$6.00 a year.

## Canada's politics remains divisive with O'Toole as leader

For a brief moment, I was hopeful. But now, I am more concerned than ever that our democratic system is slipping into the hyper-partisan style of US politics which has decimated the political landscape there.

This weekend, the Conservative Party chose a new leader. When former leader Andrew Sheer stepped down in December after losing what seemed to be a slam-dunk election in October, I wondered what the party had learned.

Sheer from the start was not universally loved in his own party, winning a divisive campaign against Maxime Bernier with just 51 per cent of the vote. While many talked about what an interesting guy he was and his love of history and The Simpsons, he seemed wooden and out of touch on the campaign trail.

And he lost in a time when many pundits thought this was the Conservatives election to win.

Instead of taking a real look at why vote-rich urban areas voted Liberal, the Conservatives did the easy thing and blamed the media for biased coverage - a claim all politicians of every political stripe use when they lose.

The fact of the matter is the Conservatives are pushing an agenda that doesn't sell in urban areas. While no one likes paying taxes, the carbon tax isn't widely hated in urban areas because most people believe that it will reduce consumption and help the environment. Also, they ride public transit and aren't as affected by the tax.

The Conservatives talk about pumping up the oil and gas industry in a time when many people in urban areas think we have to find a better way.

The Conservatives talk about slashing spending because the country is in debt, when many voters carry heavy credit card debt themselves and blind to the problem of carrying debt.

In short, the Conservatives didn't read the room.

Fast forward to the leadership campaign and the new leader, Erin O'Toole. The new leader's ideas aren't different than Sheer's, slash debt, axe the carbon tax, get rid of expensive government programs in a time when programs like CERB held many families together.

The Conservatives still aren't reading

the room.

And instead of taking a real look at what all Canadians want, O'Toole has already said he's going to "Take Back Canada." From what or whom is left hanging, but you can bet this is not going to be a discussion of ideas; it's a mentality of us against them.

It's the same bitter, divisive politics playing out in the US. And I want none of it.

The only way I see the Conservatives winning in a rapidly changing world is changing its tone and recognizing Canadians want action on climate change. I don't suspect they'll do that under Erin O'Toole.

That's unfortunate because I think many Canadians are looking for a viable alternative to run the country.



Heather Wright

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# Seniors ‘confined like prisoners’ says lawsuit

Heather Wright  
The Independent

The Justice Centre for Constitution Freedoms wants an Ontario court judge to order the province to allow family of the residents of long term care back into their homes.

Lisa Bidly, a London-based lawyer for the centre, a potential lawsuit saying the province didn’t give clear directives to long term care homes and it has allowed a “loophole” which has kept families separated for six months.

“The long term care homes were saying, ...”we’re waiting for the official word from the government that we can let people in, because they were confused. And of course, probably also concerned about letting people in.... they were worried not only that they were going to get sued as COVID came into the facility, but also, they’re short staffed, probably the facilities not being run as well as it should be....and families or provide oversight.”

The suit, filed on behalf of two residents of home in Ontario, also

says residents rights of life, liberty and security of person are being denied because they are “basically confined like prisoners” without access to caregivers and people with decision making authority.

Bidly says the centre is asking the court to order the province to give clear direction to all homes across the province to allow families back to seniors’ bedsides. She says a judge first has to decide if the case should be heard urgently. After that it could take a month or two for a hearing.

# St. Clair pays extra to avoid flooding out farmers

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

Another repair issue at the Holt Line Bridge will cost St. Clair Township an additional \$80,000 to fix since council doesn’t want to open the McKeough Dam to lower water levels.

The bridge’s concrete abutments are wearing down. But since the project tender was awarded, current water levels have become about a meter too high to perform the necessary repairs.

Engineering company B.M. Ross suggested the McKeough Dam be opened for four days to allow water levels to drop to a point where crews could do the work.

The St. Clair Regional Conservation Authority says the dam was not meant to be used this way, although it could be done.

But council had plenty of concerns with this idea. “I would not want to do anything without communicating with every one of the neighbors there that would be impacted,” Councillor Rose Atkins says about residents in the flood plain.

Councillor Bill Myers says that he was hesitant to flood these properties during this point in the crop season.

B.M. Ross predicted closing the dam for this situation would only need to be done every 30-50 years, but council was less convinced.

“I would hesitate to use the dam for any reason other than what it was for, because it may start a precedent that we can’t keep up with,” says Atkins.

“I was always of the understanding that the dam could only be closed under certain criteria. And this isn’t one of them,” says Deputy Mayor Steve Miller.

Council voted unanimously against this plan.

The engineering report gave several alternative options, which included doing nothing. But council decided to pursue the report’s second recommendation, which is a refacing of the abutments with concrete, rather than a full repair.

It was estimated this will give the abutments a similar lifespan, although it will cost about \$120,000. This is around \$80,000 more than the option



Concrete decay can be seen on the south side of the west abutment in this 2015 photo of the Holt Line Bridge.

to close the dam.

“I think we need to get this job done,” says Miller.

“I know \$80,000 is a lot of money but I would respectfully ask that our staff see if they can find a way to finance this and do it now.”

Mayor Steve Arnold pointed out that the township had just received a grant of more than \$1 million that could be applied to the work.

# Watford arena will have ice by Sept. 14

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Warwick Township councillors are willing to lose some money to get people back on the ice.

Councillors voted in favour of putting ice in the Watford arena for September, even though bookings are down significantly.

Theresa Klachan, Manager Parks and Recreation told councillors Monday that in 2019, the average weekly rev-

enue in September was about \$5,370. That only covered about half of the townships \$11,000 for the ice surface.

Because of the pandemic, many regular ice users are still trying to figure out how much ice they will need and when, says Klachan.

That means for the first week, there is only \$2,070 in revenue. “The loss for the first week of September if fairly significant but the next week, the revenue increases to just over \$4,000.”

Councillors were willing to spend the

money to get the ice in. “Families were stopping me as early as July wanting to do something,” says Councillor Colin Mitchell. “The COVID environment is very abysmal...but it is also full of opportunity.”

Deputy Mayor Jerry Westgate agreed saying “if other arenas are not opening, we can fill a hole.

“Let’s get the ice in and see what happens.”

Ice making will begin Sept. 8 with the first rentals slated for Sept. 14

# No special access to Lake Huron for PW residents

The Independent

Residents near McEwen Park in Plympton-Wyoming won’t have easy access to launch their jet skis.

This summer, boaters and jet skiers have had trouble finding a spot to launch. The traditional pad at High-

land Glen is closed for the year after suffering damage over the winter.

Plympton-Wyoming Chief Administrative Officer, Carolyn Tripp, says jet skiers close to the park were using their ATVs to bring the jet skis down a path to the water. When the township took over the park, it put large blocks

there to stop the practice over safety concerns.

Councillor Tim Wilkins argued the residents were doing no harm and should be allowed to continue, since the other ramp was not open.

Council disagreed and the blocks will remain in place, says Tripp.

# West Nile Virus found in Petrolia mosquito trap

The Independent

There is evidence of West Nile virus in Petrolia.

Lambton Public Health says a mosquito with the virus was found in surveillance trap in the town Aug. 19.

It’s the second positive West Nile

Virus test in Lambton this year – the other was in Oil Springs.

Mosquitoes can pass West Nile onto humans but usually the symptoms are mild. In some cases, however, West Nile Virus can lead to long-term health problems.

Public health recommends to avoid

being bitten you empty objects holding standing water on your property to reduce the breeding of mosquitoes.

Officials also recommend using a bug repellent with DEET, wear light clothing and to stay inside when mosquitoes are active in the evening and at dusk.

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# THAT WAY GRANDPA



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Leland Gorzeman, 2, and his grandfather, Tim, were touring Petrolia Tuesday with Blu. Tim Gorzeman says riding with a small child and a dog is easy because Blu follows directions and understands the difference between left and right.

# Corunna man gets house arrest for knifepoint robbery

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

A Corunna man won't spend time in jail after pleading guilty robbing a grocery store at knifepoint. Sarnia court heard Jessie Gaudet, 23, was lucky to be avoiding jail time. He plead guilty to theft, stealing while assaulting a person, and masking his face and carrying a knife to commit robbery Aug. 24. Just after 6:30 am on July 29, 2018 Gaudet entered the Circle K in Corunna wearing a mask and demanded money from the cashier. When the man refused, Gaudet threatened him, but left. He walked across the parking lot to the Foodland. Still wearing the mask, he produced the knife and demanded a cashier open the till. When the cashier said it was locked Gaudet marched him to the front office to get a key. Gaudet directed him back to the till and had the cashier give him all the money, more than \$400. He then fled. "This experience would have been

without a doubt terrifying for the staff in the two stores that were impacted," says Crown Attorney Nila Mulpuru, adding the robbery would have had "impact on the community and jeopardized their ability to feel safe." The court heard that Gaudet had been struggling with mental health issues and substance abuse at the time. After the robbery, he sought psychiatric therapy, counselling, and medical treatment. "This is the type of response that we hope all offenders who struggle with mental illness are able to have... There is a very low risk of recidivism, but a high prospect of rehabilitation." "This was entirely out of character," says defense lawyer David Stoesser. "Mr. Gaudet is committed to dealing with his mental health and his addiction," Stoesser says. "Mr. Gaudet assures me that he will continue to focus on these issues, with the clear goal of getting better and not having a repeat of this admittedly very serious set of events." Justice Krista Leszczynski accepted a joint position of an 18-month condi-

# Murder charge in death of two-month old Corunna boy

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

Lambton OPP have announced an arrest in the killing of an infant in Corunna last August. Nathan Watson, 20 from Sarnia, was charged with second degree murder after being arrested on Thursday. He is accused of killing Liam Watson, who was just two months old at the time of his death. The boy is the son of Jessica Soney. The Aug. 20 arrest came exactly a year to the day after a medical distress call for a little boy at a Corunna home. Lambton OPP, Lambton County paramedics, and the St. Clair Fire Department responded but despite their efforts the child died in hospital six days later. A lengthy investigation was conducted by the Lambton OPP Major Crimes Unit, West Region Criminal Operations, and Forensic Identification Services. Watson is scheduled to make an appearance in Sarnia court on Aug. 21.

## 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.

## Support the Local Businesses Who Help Support Our Community

### THE TOWNSHIP OF DAWN-EUPHEMIA

requires

## PART-TIME PUBLIC WORKS OPERATORS

The Township of Dawn-Euphemia, Public Works Department is accepting resumes for part-time Public Works Operator positions.

**Duties will include:**

- A variety of construction projects, road maintenance and repair, and related infrastructure and property maintenance.
- Winter maintenance of roads including winter sanding/salting and snow/ice removal.
- Operating heavy equipment which may include graders, backhoes, dump trucks, and tractors and other job-related equipment.

**Qualifications:**

- Secondary School Graduation Diploma or equivalent
- Minimum one (1) years' experience in road maintenance and equipment operation.
- Possess a valid Class "DZ" Ontario Driver's License

**A copy of the job description is available at:**  
[www.dawneuphemia.ca](http://www.dawneuphemia.ca) – under "Alerts & Notifications".

**Resumes will be accepted until**  
**Friday September 11, 2020 @ 12:00 noon,**  
by Twp Dawn-Euphemia, 4591 Lambton Line,  
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PH: 519-692-5148 Fax: 519-692-5511  
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# No deal

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Brooke-Alvinston Mayor Dave Ferguson says there is no deal to buy the former Inwood fire hall. And he says there are no further negotiations planned. Recently, council met for two length in camera sessions to talk about acquiring the hall owned by the Inwood Firemen’s Association. It had been used as a municipal building until 2020 when a deal for its use could not be built. Councillor Jamie Armstrong wanted council to purchase the building, however after an in camera session Ferguson told The Independent there is no deal to buy the building. Ferguson hopes the municipality will have a clearer picture of what fire service in Inwood will look like after a Sept. 2 meeting. That’s when council and the new fire chief will go over the recommendations of a fire consulting report. It recommends a unit to deal with medical emergencies and accidents and possibly a hall in the future.

## CURB APPEAL



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Workers from COPE Construction were pouring curbs on Wingfield St. Tuesday. The road reconstruction is expected to be complete by September.

# Taking Terry online for 40th anniversary run

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

Forty years ago, Terry Fox faced a giant challenge - run across Canada to raise money for cancer research. With one leg. Fox ended the run in Thunder Bay, when the cancer returned. Canadians have been taking up the cause ever since - and the COVID-19 pandemic is not about to stop that. The Petrolia and Alvinston runs are among thousands across the country Sept. 20 that will be held virtually. How that run goes on is up to each person under the One Day Your Way motto the Terry Fox Foundation has adopted this year. People are encouraged to run, walk or ride along any route they choose on Sept. 20, and to donate whatever possible to cancer research. Steve McGrail, who organizes the Petrolia run, usually expects around 200 people to participate and \$15,000 to be raised. But it may be a challenge to hit those targets again. “We realize it could go either way,” says McGrail. “We won’t know how many participants we’ll have until the day of, but we’ll probably have less this year just because we can’t physically get out there and get

together.” But this isn’t stopping the fundraising push. The ‘Petrolia Terry Fox Run’ Facebook page is active with links for t-shirts and other gear, pledge sheets, and other ideas to try and boost turnout. “A lot of people are looking for stuff to do now, so maybe we can get them out and get active and recognize Terry’s accomplishment,” says McGrail. “Cancer’s one of those things that affects a lot of people, and every year there’s always new cases of cancer and it affects people differently,” McGrail says. “You kind of pull in some other people from the community if they’ve been touched by cancer somehow, and try and rally around somebody and try to do your part to find a cure for cancer.” Another town hoping enthusiasm stays strong is Brooke-Alvinston. The community of 3,000 people shatters expectations when it comes to fundraising – in 2019 it was the top community in Ontario in per capita donations with \$17.11 raised per resident. The next closest mark was \$12.89. Hannah Symington organizes the town’s Terry Fox Run, which usually starts at the community centre and ends with a barbeque at the AW Campbell Conservation Area. She says it was difficult to hear things were called off, especially this year. “This would have been the 40th anniversary of the Marathon of Hope. It’s bittersweet to have to cancel such a significant milestone, but obviously the safety of our participants and our volunteers is of the utmost importance,” says Symington. She is still hoping to do something unique for the big day, “not only as a learning opportunity but also a way to keep Terry Fox alive and well this year,” she says. “To be a town as small as we are and to be able to make such an impact is pretty great,” Symington says. Like McGrail, Symington knows that the effects of the pandemic could effect fundraising and participation. But she asks anyone who is able to still help the cause however they can. “I understand the financial position some families may be in is a lot different than past years,” says Symington. “But I’m still hoping that those that can donate and would have donated will find a way to donate anyways.” “COVID may be here, but cancer is still here also.”

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## Township of Enniskillen

# JANITORIAL SERVICES

The Township of Enniskillen is interested in obtaining janitorial services for the municipal office as well as for three park washrooms seasonally.

Persons interested in undertaking this work can obtain a more detailed description of the work by contacting the municipal office at (519)882-2490.

Interested persons should submit a proposal for Janitorial Services to the undersigned prior to Noon on September 15 2020.

**Duncan McTavish**  
4465 Rokeby Line  
Petrolia On NON 1RO

## THE TOWNSHIP OF DAWN-EUPHEMIA

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**Qualifications:**

- Minimum 2-yr post-secondary diploma in office administration or equivalent combination of education and experience in clerical/office functions.
- Strong and effective customer service skills
- Min typing speed - 60wpm
- Municipal experience is an asset.
- Knowledge of general office procedures and software including Microsoft Office and database management.
- Strong organizational and time-management skills; ability to effectively interact with the public in a professional manner; strong interpersonal, communication and problem-solving skills, both verbal and written; work with minimal supervision.

**A copy of the job description is available at:**  
[www.dawneuphemia.ca](http://www.dawneuphemia.ca) – under “Alerts & Notifications”.

**Resumes will be accepted until**  
**Friday September 11, 2020 @ 12:00 noon,**  
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# Sports

## Junior C hockey looking at December start

Barry Wright  
The Independent

After much recent speculation, the Provincial Junior Hockey League has made it official. The league, featuring the Petrolia Flyers and Mooretown Flags, has targeted Dec. 1 as the date for a return to game action. A news release issued this week says the restart is contingent upon approvals from government, local public health officials and Hockey Canada. The league says it's anticipating a regular season of at least 24 games and a competitive playoff format for the Schmaltz Cup, emblematic of PJHL supremacy in Ontario. Typically, the PJHL plays a 40-game

regular season campaign. "Collectively, our members have worked diligently to be prepared for a safe return to competition when possible," said PJHL Chair Sandra Nieubauer in a statement. "By setting a targeted start date, we are supporting our players, teams and communities to effectively plan to resume the game." As published in *The Independent* last week, The Flyers have been told the town is aiming to open the Greenwood Recreation Complex by late September and GM Dennis Meston hopes the team can hold workouts shortly after that with strict COVID-19 protocols in place. Flags General Manager John Baker was scheduled to meet with his board Tuesday, but details of that meeting

were not available prior to press time. Meantime, the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League (GOJHL) says it hopes to drop the puck on a new one on Dec. 2. The league, which includes the Sarnia Legionnaires, plans a 40-game regular season with the regular season extending to late March. Provincial playoffs will continue until the Sutherland Cup is awarded no later than the first week in June. "Following protocols set out by Hockey Canada in their Return to Play-COVID 19 guidelines, GOJHL Teams will have the option to hold extended on-ice training from September to November," said Commissioner Mark Tuck in a new release. "We look forward to our return to hockey," he concluded.

## Dolbear chosen to represent Ontario

The Independent

Clay Dolbear is among 15 athletes named to the Team Ontario fastball squad for the provincial Summer Games next August in Grimsby. The Alvinston product has

come up through the ranks of minor ball in his hometown and has most recently played for the Alvinston Aces. He has also played hockey for the past four seasons for the PJHL's Petrolia Flyers



## Local golfers fare well in Sarnia tournament

The co-owner of Petrolia's Kingswell Glen Golf Club won his flight at the Club Championship at the Sarnia Golf and Curling Club. Joe Gorzeman had rounds of 76 and 73 to capture the 6-8 flight by three shots. Meantime, Brigden's Heath McCormick was third in the 0-2 flight with rounds of 73 and 72 over the two-day event.

Graham Hill carded a final round 64 to win the overall men's title. The senior men's and women's titles went to Brian Lynch and Kathy Pilkey respectively. Meantime, at the recent Junior Club Championship in Sarnia, a pair of Petrolia-area golfers walked away with titles. Rhett Joy carded a 75 to win

the Bantam Division crown from players 13 and under, while Liam Crummy had a 78 to win the Juvenile Division for players between 14 and 16. And, Mooretown Flags goalie Colby Ramsdale finished second in the Junior Division for players between 17 and 19. He had a 76, but lost in a playoff.

## Braves in premier league

Elite local baseball players will have another options for their talents beginning next season. The Sarnia Braves Minor Baseball Association has been awarded a franchise in the Premier Baseball League of Ontario (PBL) for the 2021 season. The season is scheduled to begin next May. The Braves plan on entering an 18U and 15U team in the league. "This says a lot about our organization to be asked to join this elite program. It represents a real step up in the level of baseball for our teams," said Braves President John Vasey in a statement. "After the city's large investment in upgrading Errol Russell Park and the success of the senior team in winning the provincial championship as well as our 12U team winning a

provincial championship last year we were really looking forward to this season until COVID-19 hit. We are now reenergized for 2021 and supporters of baseball in Sarnia should have an enjoyable experience, witnessing some top flite games at Errol Russell Park," he added. "Not everyone gets this opportunity," says Braves 18U manager Jim Bigras. "This is what the organization was created for some 25 years ago by Stan Slack and Joe Panik. "It will also give our younger teams something to look forward to as they develop through the program." The other seven league members include Tecumseh Thunder, London Badgers, Ontario Yankees, Oakville A's, Oshawa Legionnaires, Ottawa-Nepean Canadians and the Sudbury Voyageurs.

## ACED IT



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
Bill McNally had a big day at Kingswell Glen Aug. 19 when he shot a hole-in-one on the 10th hole.

## kingswell glen



After reopening this year under new ownership, Joe and Jenna Gorzeman are redefining what it means to be a member of Petrolia's local golf and country club.

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# SUMMER FIT TIPS

**WARM UP**  
Before hitting the links or even the back garden, consider a short activity to warm up first, like going for a short walk. Make sure to do gentle stretches to limber up muscles and joints before lifting, digging or swinging that golf club.

**LEARN THE PROPER TECHNIQUE**  
Learn the correct technique for your activity, right from the beginning. Poor technique can cause injury to joints and muscles. For example, be sure to kneel, not bend, when planting your garden. For golfers, take professional lessons to rid yourself of bad habits in your golf swing that could hurt your back.

**MAXIMIZE YOUR FLEXIBILITY**  
Maintaining good mobility for muscles and joints will contribute to your athletic ability and help prevent injury. Restrictions in muscle and joint function can hamper your technique and lead to strains and sprains. If you are a runner, take the time to stretch out calf and thigh muscles before hitting the road.

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# Petrolia Y ready for action

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

It's back to business at the Petrolia YMCA this Friday, but not at full capacity.

The facility – which has been closed since March aside from a few outdoor programs – has been preparing the Wellness Centre for social distancing rules. Users will notice them right away when they enter with a glass barrier up around the front membership desk and the Wellness Centre desk.

Arrows on the floor will guide people in and out of the centre, and there are an increased number of hand sanitizing stations.

Several pieces of equipment designated off limits to encourage better spacing. There will also be a maximum of 20 people allowed at one time on a first come-first served basis.

The Y will be open to members

only, with no guest or day passes initially available.

People must observe the town bylaw and wear a mask indoors on the way to working out, but can remove the mask while exercising.

Tracey Taylor, who manages the YMCA, says getting ready has taken a lot of work but she's confident in the end product.

"The biggest challenge is the social distancing and being able to give people the area and the equipment to work out with that they're used to while still maintaining distance and safety," says Taylor.

Taylor is not too worried about long wait times due to the 20 person limit.

"We certainly understand that we're going to have a bit of a reduced membership, so we don't foresee that there will be any problem with people being able to work out when they want to during the day," she says on the decision



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Petrolia Y, which has been holding some outdoor classes since Aug. 4, will open to the public Friday.

not to offer workout appointments.

For those on the fence, Taylor invites anyone to come for a visit to see the changes.

"We do understand that some people just aren't ready to return at this point in time," says Taylor. "But once we open they're welcome to come in and take a look around... in order to maybe reduce their anxiety a little bit."

One thing that won't be opening yet though is the pool, due to safety concerns in both the water and change rooms.

"We don't have a date yet to open the pool. We're not really sure what that looks like in terms of social distancing," says Taylor. "We're not going to open the pool until we believe that it's safe to do so."

The outdoor fitness classes will continue to be offered as long as weather is good.

These classes require registration in case the facility needs to conduct contact tracing.

Other important changes include change rooms and showers being closed and water fountains being out of order.

Users must arrive in workout clothes with their own filled water bottle.

Washrooms will be available.

## No-Bake Fruit Pie



**Preparation Time: 5 minutes**  
**Cooking Time: 5 minutes**  
**Servings: 6**

- Ingredients**
- 4 cups (1 L) fresh peeled pitted sliced Peaches and Raspberries
  - 1/2 cup (125 mL) granulated sugar
  - 3 tbsp (45 mL) cornstarch
  - 1/2 cup (125 mL) cold water
  - 2 tbsp (25 mL) lemon or orange juice
  - 1 baked 9-inch (23 cm) graham pie shell crust
  - 1 cup (250 mL) whipping cream
  - 2 tbsp (25 mL) Maple Syrup

Beat the heat and capture the fresh taste of your favourite Ontario fruit in season with this fast, easy pie.

**Directions**

In bowl, crush 1 cup (250 mL) of the fruit with potato masher; set aside. In heavy saucepan, combine sugar and cornstarch; gradually stir in water and crushed fruit. Cook, stirring, over medium heat until just beginning to boil. Reduce heat to low; simmer, stirring for 3 to 5 minutes or until thickened. Remove from heat; stir in lemon juice. Chill until just warm. Stir in remaining fruit. Spoon into pie shell. Chill for 2 to 3 hours or until set. Whip cream with maple syrup; spoon over fruit.

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August 17 - August 22, 2020

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**CLOUD, Gregory Mark**  
Age 43, of Forest  
Denning's of Forest  
**KOSKI, Rita**  
Age 85, of Sarnia  
D.J. Robb Funeral Home  
**BOURQUE, Jeanette**  
Age 91, of Petrolia  
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 18**  
**BURDETT, John Edwards**  
Age 77, of Sarnia  
Smith Funeral Home

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19**  
**TANNER, Edward Allan**  
Age 60, of Sarnia  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels  
**VAN GORP, Hendrika "Jet"**  
Age 94, of Sarnia  
Smith Funeral Home

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 20**  
**DEMERS, Jeannine**  
Age 83, of Petrolia  
Smith Funeral Home

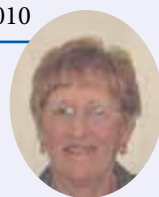
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 21**  
**ELLSMORE, Gladys**  
Age 89, of Sarnia  
Smith Funeral Home  
**JENNISKENS, Isabel**  
Age 83, of Petrolia  
Smith Funeral Home

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 22**  
**NEVILLE, Lori**  
Age 34, of Wyoming  
Needham-Jay Funeral Home  
**DAWSON, Thomas**  
Age 85, of Sarnia  
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

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

In Memory

*In loving memory of our dear*  
*Mother, Grandmother & Great Grandmother*  
**Betty May**  
who passed away August 29, 2010



*It's hard to believe that you have been gone for Ten Years already.*  
*You've been sadly missed by all your family and friend's.*

**Love; Terry, Cheryl, Sandra, Randy, Kevin & Families**

In Memory

In Loving Memory of  
**Bernice Hunter**  
Who passed away on  
**August 31, 1993.**

*A smile we will always remember.*  
*A voice we will always recall.*  
*A beautiful memory of the one she was.*  
*So special to us all.*  
*Always in our mind & missed.*

*Missed by Kay*

Obituary



**JENNISKENS**  
**Isabel**

It is with great sadness we regret Isabel Jenniskens of Petrolia, formerly of Wyoming, succumbed to Glioblastoma at St. Joseph's Hospice in Sarnia, with her family by her side on **August 21, 2020**. Born in 1937 in Bargeddie, Scotland, she immigrated to Canada in 1957. Beloved wife of the late Peter Jenniskens (2012). Isabel was the backbone of the family farm on Confederation Line; a true farmer's wife. She will be greatly missed by her three children: David (Donica), Shauna (Doak), Elaina (Mike), and her grandchildren Lauren, Sean, Doak, Lyle, Brody, Isla, Kami, and Tye. Dear sister of Sarah (Alex) Robertson, and Andrena (Jim) McAdam, and "Auntie Belle" to many nieces and nephews in Canada and Scotland. Isabel will also be lovingly remembered by Cissy (the late Tony) Jenniskens, Bill Jenniskens, Henriette (John) Gerrits, Maria (the late Warwick) Jones, Oda (Robert) Hodge, Joe (Anna) Jenniskens, and Teresa (Pete) Heynen. Isabel was predeceased by parents Andrew and Agnes Mains and sisters Dorothy, and Jessie (the late Syd) Frasier in Scotland. Isabel had several dear friends, near and far, that she loved to enjoy conversation with over a cup of tea. **Cremation has taken place. At Isabel's request, our family will hold a private service at a later date.** Sympathy may be expressed through donations to C.E.E. Hospital, Petrolia or St. Joseph's Hospice Sarnia. Arrangements entrusted to Smith Funeral Home, 1576 London Line, Sarnia. Memories and condolences may be sent online at [smithfuneralhome.ca](http://smithfuneralhome.ca)

**COVID-19**  
**IN LAMBTON**

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

**CANCELLED EVENTS**

DATE	LOCATION	EVENT
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



**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**

# Calendar

**PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

*of events*

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 Subject: FREE EVENT LISTING.

UPCOMING EVENTS				
DATE	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
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 28	5-10p	Wyoming	<b>The Celtic Hillbillies</b> at the Wyoming Legion. Outside Event. Bring your lawnchair.	519-845-0072
Aug 29	7:30-12noon	Petrolia	<b>Petrolia Farmers' Market</b> directly behind the Petrolia Library	
Aug 29	3pm	Forest	Forest Legion <b>Meat Raffle and 50/50.</b> Rain or Shine.	519-786-5357
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	519-882-8728
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.	Link on Social Media
Sept 9	6:30pm	Watford	Watford Legion <b>General Meeting</b>	519-876-2360
Sept 10	6-8pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions <b>Meat Raffle</b> at Haywood's Tap & Grill	
Sept 11	6pm	Watford	Watford Legion <b>Meat Raffle</b>	519-876-2360
Sept 12	7:30-12noon	Petrolia	<b>Petrolia Farmers' Market</b> directly behind the Petrolia Library	
Sept 12	9a-12noon	Oil Springs	Oil Springs Legion <b>Bottle Drive.</b> All proceeds t go towards building upgrades.	
Sept 12	6pm	Watford	Rotary Club of Watford Annual <b>Fish Fry.</b> Check out the Club's Facebook page for more info.	
Sept 17	6-8pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions <b>Meat Raffle</b> at Haywood's Tap & Grill	
Sept 18	6pm	Watford	Watford Legion <b>Meat Raffle</b>	519-876-2360
Sept 19	7:30-12noon	Petrolia	<b>Petrolia Farmers' Market</b> directly behind the Petrolia Library	
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>Broadasted 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 25	6pm	Watford	Watford Legion <b>Meat Raffle</b>	519-876-2360
Sept 26	7:30-12noon	Petrolia	<b>Petrolia Farmers' Market</b> directly behind the Petrolia Library	
Sept 26	10-4pm	Petrolia	<b>Petrolia Discovery Public Tours</b> - 4381 Discovery Line	
Sept 26	5-6:30p	Sarnia	London Road West United Church <b>39th Annual Fall Feast Roast Beef Dinner</b> - Curbside Pickup & Delivery - PRE-ORDERS ONLY. 519-869-6281, 519-542-2084 or lrwunitedchurch@gmail.com	
Oct 2	6pm	Watford	Watford Legion <b>Meat Raffle</b>	519-876-2360
Oct 3	4-7pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions <b>Fish Fry.</b> TAKE OUT ONLY at the Lions Hall. Fresh fish, coleslaw & freshcut fries. \$20. Beers & Coolers available. Cash, debit, credit. Rain or Shine	
Oct 9	6pm	Watford	Watford Legion <b>Meat Raffle</b>	519-876-2360

**To have your event included in the above Calendar of Events the following information is required:**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Event Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # / website: \_\_\_\_\_

You can drop this off at our office or email the information to us at office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

**\*\*Deadline for submitting free events is Mondays at noon.\*\***

# Business & Service Directory

## BOURQUE RENOVATIONS

Formerly Bourque Woodworks

Additions • Renovations  
Kitchens & Baths  
Trim Work • Custom Carpentry

329 Centre St., Petrolia  
www.bourquerenovations.com

**519-882-3344**

## GB Excavating

Excavating/Septic

**Steve Greer**  
Owner

4396 Nauvoo Rd.  
Watford ON  
N0M 2S0  
519-494-1855

gbexc@brktel.on.ca  
gbexcavating.ca

## COVID-19 SOCIAL DISTANCING

**MAINTAIN A DISTANCE OF AT LEAST 6 FEET (2 METERS) FROM OTHERS & remember to WEAR YOUR MASK!**

# Church DIRECTORY

### Christ Church Anglican

414 Oil Street, Petrolia

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

Rev. Michelle Collins-Wongkee  
Church Office 519-882-1430  
christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com

### St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

416 Queen Street, Petrolia  
(Behind the Post Office)

In this time of Social distancing we invite you to join a virtual congregation and watch the Sunday morning worship at Knox Presbyterian Church in Thedford.  
9:30am Service - Live  
www.kpcthedford.com  
www.standrews-petrolia.ca

### St. Paul's United Church

4169 Petrolia Line at Centre Street

We invite you to join a virtual congregation and watch the Sunday morning worship on our Facebook Page & Website. Please Stay Safe!  
Rev. Susan Cameron  
10:30am Service  
Church Office: 519-882-1390  
stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net

### First Baptist Church

418 Greenfield Street, Petrolia

SERVICE SUSPENDED until further notice in compliance with Ontario Corona Virus meeting guidelines  
Pastor: Alex Craig  
Church Office 519-882-2480  
email: fbcpetrolia@gmail.com  
www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca  
Find us on Facebook!  
www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia

### Wyoming United Church

730 Second Street, Wyoming

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

Join Us for Worship - All are Welcome  
Church Office 519-845-3963  
Find us on Facebook



## Masks may be more important in private

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Lambton’s medical officer of health says he still does not believe masks need to be mandatory.

And he believes that in part because the biggest danger for spreading COVID-19 isn’t in public spaces, but with family and friends.

Dr. Sudit Ranade was answering a question from reporters during a teleconference Monday.

In July, Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley urged Lambton county councillors to pass a county-wide mandatory mask bylaw for indoor public spaces hoping to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and avoid a second wave of disease.

At the time, Ranade told council he didn’t think a mandatory mask bylaw necessary because most of the local cases of COVID-19 could be traced back to known cases.

Since then, Sarnia, Petrolia, Pt. Edward and Lambton Shores have adopted local bylaws. Samia Mayor Mike Bradley will attempt to bring up the concept of a county-wide mandatory mask bylaw again Sept. 2.

Ranade told reporters Monday he would be giving the politicians the same advice this time.

“Municipalities in the county have a really good understanding of what the needs are, and if they feel that the needs are now different service and the intervention should be mandated

they can go ahead and do that,” he says. “I would be providing pretty much the same kind of information or advice.”

Ranade added a mandatory order does translate to more people wearing masks, it doesn’t stop all cases.

“The real question that I have is whether or not it makes a tremendous difference in terms of the disease transmission,” Ranade told reporters.

“What you’re seeing over and over again, in places that previously had a mask bylaw or even if it was something different, not by law just a good culture around masking, they still have outbreaks. And that’s because people are socializing in places where that would not be used or required.

“The point is that they (masks) need to be used under different circumstances, such as close family gatherings, such as places where you’re going to spend lots and lots of time with other people with people you like actually, not necessarily with people that you don’t know. “And those situations that a bylaw would not apply because they’re largely private gatherings.”

Ranade told Lambton County councillors Wednesday he might consider making a recommendation around using masks in private, when with larger family gatherings, in the fall when more people start socializing inside.

## Warwick says no to mandatory masks

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Warwick residents won’t be forced to wear a mask to help slow the spread of COVID-19.

Councillor Todd White’s motion to put a mandatory mask bylaw in place was defeated by a vote of 4-1.

White called the proposed bylaw “an ounce of prevention” as we head into fall, when there is more chance of illness.

“People say to me we have had only one case in community I believe it’s true – but one case...grows very quickly....that person who is infected may not even know and may be infecting others,” says White who owns Brookside Retirement Living in Watford.

Councillor Jerry Westgate – whose wife was among the first to make masks in the community in the early days of the pandemic – seconded the motion so it could be discussed. But he didn’t support the move even though two days ago he did.

“There aren’t very many people, and not very much chance of getting

COVID,” he told councillors.

Westgate personally wears a mask but worries many who do have the on, don’t wear them properly, limiting their effectiveness. And he says if there is a mandatory mask bylaw, there would have to be penalties. “How are we going to enforce it? Leave it up to the stores themselves to enforce it, or the churches or whatever?”

Mayor Jackie Rombouts also voted against a mandatory bylaw saying she didn’t want to force anyone to wear a mask. She said she makes her decisions based on the advice of Lambton’s medical officer of health. Dr. Sudit Ranade has said in rural areas with low population spread and most COVID-19 cases can be traced back to close contact.

“As Councillor White says we are at a low point in this epidemic – if Dr Ranade recommendation to community changes, because of the way this disease changes...we need to revisit this,” Rombouts added.

Lambton County council will revisit a mask bylaw across the region Sept. 2.

## Lambton Shores, Point Edward say yes

Point Edward and Lambton Shores have both passed mandatory mask bylaws which are now in effect.

Lambton Shores councillors approved the move Aug 18. Mayor Bill Weber, who is also the warden of Lambton, voted in favour.

“I have some concerns...We are hearing stories of people not being kind other people or people policing other people...That’s why (Medical Officer of Health Dr. Sudit) Ranade had problems with this – that people

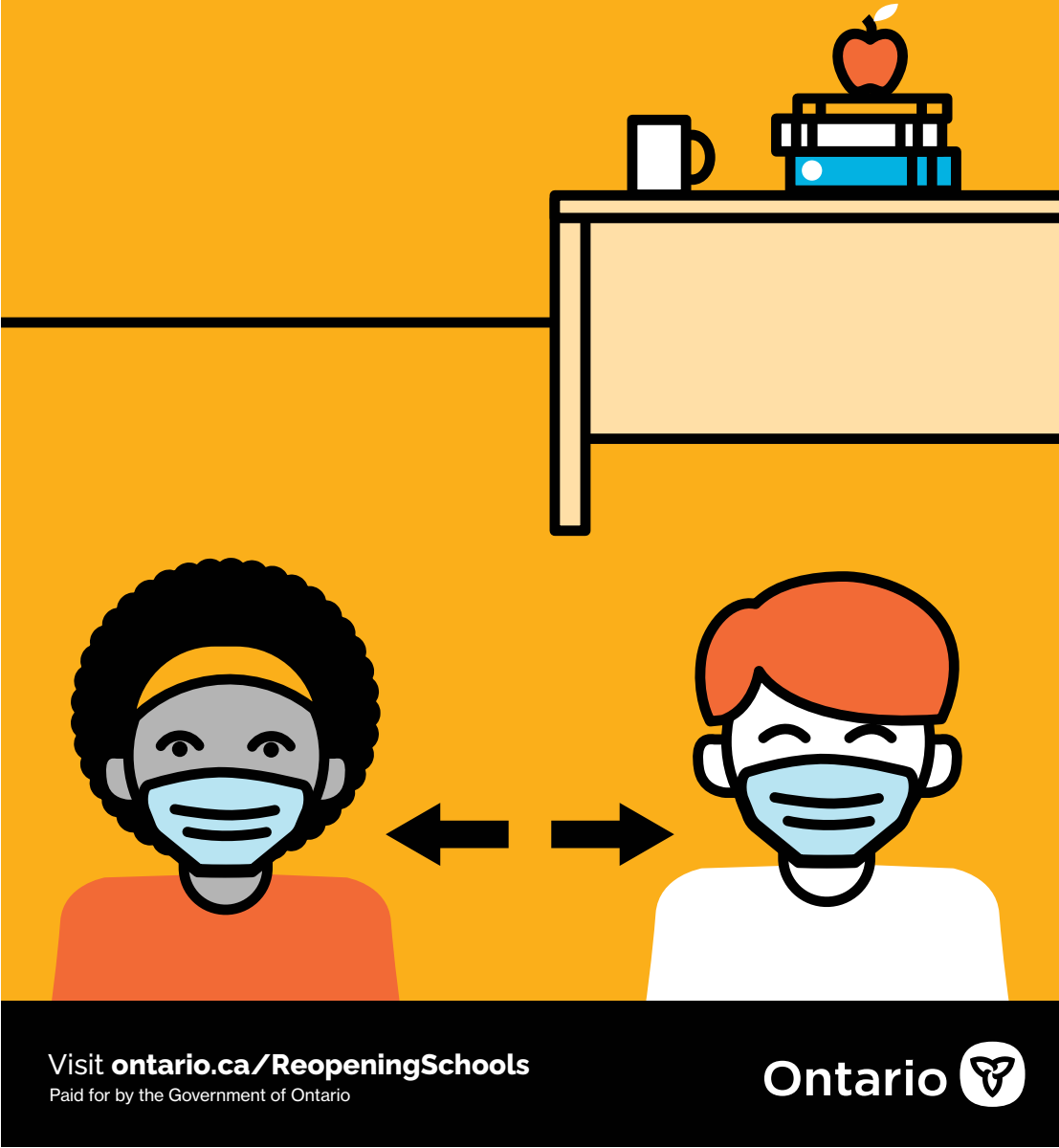
will become enforcement officers ...It will become a harm on the community,” says Weber.

In Point Edward, Councillor Larry Gordon led the charge. “Health authorities tell us that mask wearing is a central action toward the goal of keeping our residents and families safer by reducing virus transmission,” says Gordon. “Let there be no question and no confusion that Point Edward is not a mask free zone. This virus knows no boundaries.”

# Reopening schools safely matters to everyone

**That's why** the government of Ontario has worked with health officials, school boards and educators to develop a comprehensive plan to keep kids and staff safe.

- **Physical distancing** measures will be implemented such as desk separation, signs, floor markings and one-way hallways.
- **Face coverings** will be required for staff and students in Grades 4-12.
- **Hand hygiene** will be enabled with hand sanitizer and hand washing.
- **More nurses** will be in schools.
- **School cleaning** will be enhanced.



Visit [ontario.ca/ReopeningSchools](https://ontario.ca/ReopeningSchools)

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