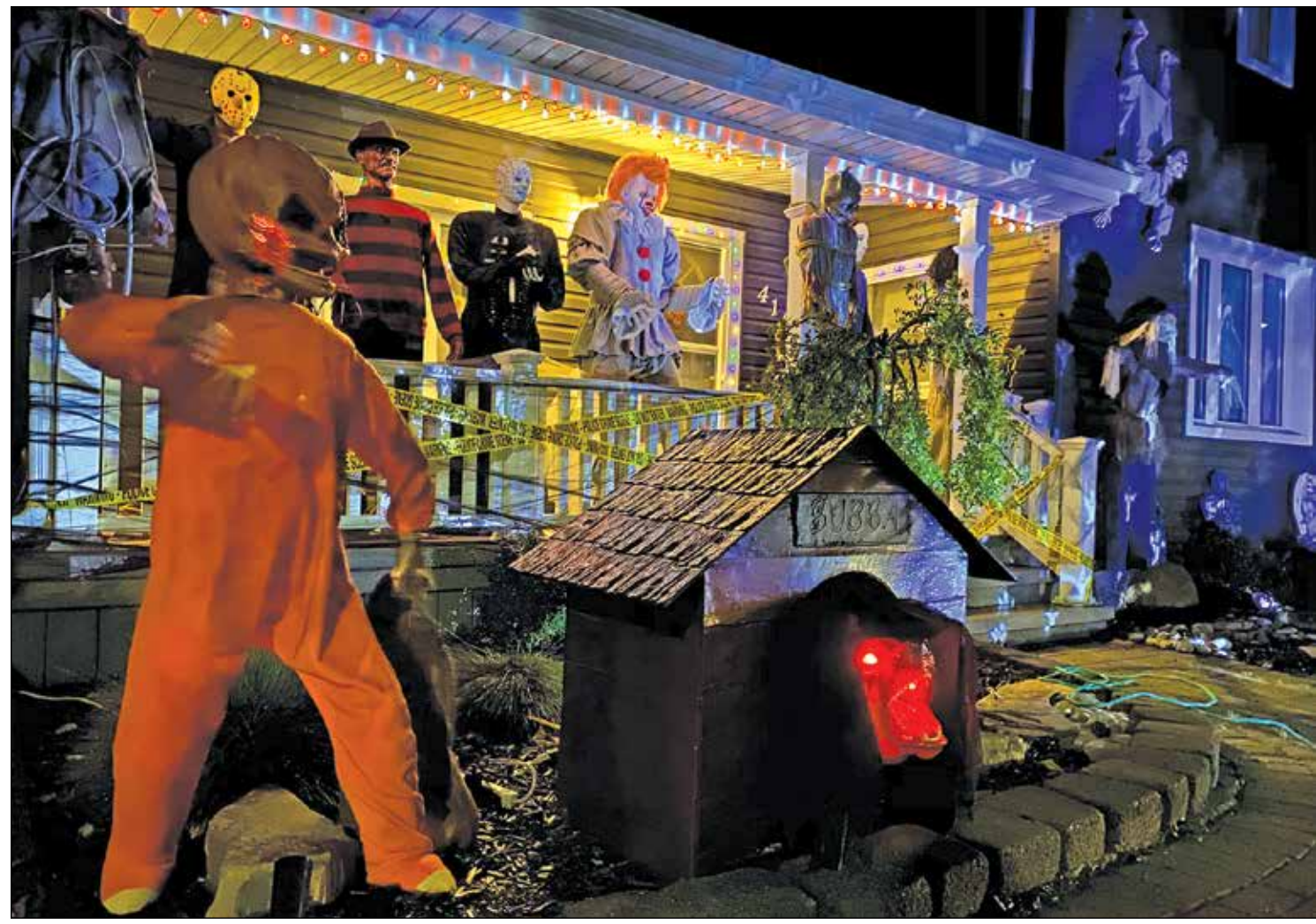




Time Falls Back This Weekend!

DUFFERIN AVE. HOUSE OF HORRORS



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Joe DeRush loves Halloween. So for the past few years, he's been turning his home on Dufferin Ave. into a very scary spot for the big day. DeRush says he has people stopping day and night in front of his house to take in the show which includes a Bubba the evil dog.

Hundreds of homes in planning stages in Petrolia

Heather Wright
The Independent

Petrolia is about to have a building boom and some developers say it can't come soon enough.

Lambton County Planner Rob Nesbitt says there are four plans of subdivision in the works for Petrolia with 356 homes in total. They will be built in a number of phases.

Nesbitt, in a report to Petrolia council Monday, says it is critical that the developers submit all the reports necessary in the next six months, to be approved.

That could be one of the difficulties. Developer Bob Leaper has been working with the county and the town on the next phase of Countryview Estates. Leaper says it is a bit more complicated because of the woodlot on the property. Aside from town and county approval, Leaper needs approval from the Ministries of Environment and Natural Resources and the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority.

And the Petrolia developer says getting those reports is more difficult because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

SEE DEVELOPMENT PG 2

Plympton-Wyoming looking for new fire chief after Clemens resignation

Heather Wright
The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming Fire Chief Steve Clemens has resigned.

Clemens, who was the first full-time chief of the combined Plympton-Wyoming department, had been off on stress leave since July.

Clemens was hired in Jan 2017. He was on leave six months later as the municipality hired an investigator after firefighters found

a camera attached to a computer in the Wyoming station. The investigation found the camera had been used for things such as video calls. Clemens returned to work and was at the helm of the department when three senior firefighters were dismissed. Those firefighters say they were fired without reason. One had filed a sexual harassment charge after a number of confrontations with another senior officer in Wyoming. The dismissals could be subject to

a lawsuit.

Clemens had resigned Oct. 23 – today – “to focus his efforts on his personal life and to pursue other professional opportunities.”

Mayor Lonny Napper, in the news release, thanked Clemens for “his valuable service and contributions” and wished him well.

The news release added the fire executive committee is looking at options to fill the vacancy.

The news comes on the heels of

three months of work at the fire executive committee on some of the internal issues within the department, reworking the Safe Operating Guidelines.

Water and Ice rescues as well as silo rescues and hazardous materials situations were suspended due to lack of training. Other area departments will be called in for help with those types of emergencies. The committee says Plympton-Wyoming firefighters will only resume action

in those situations after everyone completes training by a qualified third party trainer.

And both the Camlachie and Wyoming department have a new health and safety committee – a requirement under provincial law which had not been fulfilled.

The fire committee is also working to provide better PTSD and Peer-to-Peer support for the firefighters and their families, according to committee chair Councillor Bob Woolvett.



One day across rural Lambton, residents will make a difference in the lives of neighbours. On November 7 at noon, we're asking you to put canned goods & non-perishable food items on your door step for your neighbours to collect and give to local food programs.

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www.n2nfooddrive.com

DRIVER COLLAPSES ON PLANK ROAD



ALEX KURIAL/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

An older man was taken to hospital after an unusual incident Tuesday on Plank Road. A driver called Lambton OPP after finding a man lying on Plank Road near Waterworks. The man appeared to be the driver of the dump truck and got out of his vehicle and lay on the road while the vehicle was still running. He seemed to be in medical distress. The driver of the car stopped and blocked the way to protect the man. OPP and Lambton Emergency Services were called to the area and were able to help the man to a stretcher and bring him to hospital.

Wallaceburg man dies at controversial corner

The Independent

A 92 year-old Wallaceburg man has died in an accident at the corner of Petrolia Line and Kimball Road.

Around 2:30 Wednesday afternoon, police were called to the corner for an collision with two vehicles. One driver was transported to hospital with life threatening injuries. Ernie Miller, 92, of Wallaceburg died there.

Police are still investigating and have not said yet whether charges will be laid.

This is the second accident which claimed a life at that corner in the last six months. In

May, a Glencoe truck driver died in an crash there.

That led to calls from neighbours to do something to improve the corner. Jolene DeGurse-MacDonald wrote a letter to politicians in Lambton urging them to build a roundabout at the corner after seeing dozens of accidents there over her lifetime.

Lambton County councillors agreed to include a roundabout in the 2021 budget for the corner however whether it will be approved is uncertain.

Since the May accident, a four way flashing light has been installed over the intersection.

Developers have six months to complete plans

CON'T FROM PG 1

“The COVID situation hasn’t helped,” he says. Leaper’s required reports to provincial ministries are submitted and since employees are working from home, he simply has to wait for them to notify him.

“I’m really at their mercy as to when, if, and how they’re are going to get back to me,” he says. And the rest of the process depends on getting those completed reports.

And that has dragged out his timeline for getting the next phase of Countryview ready for the builders. Leaper is expecting his subdivision will be among the first approved of the four slated for development in Petrolia. GoldLeaf Development is also planning a seniors condominium unit connecting Valentina Street near the Greenwood Recreation Complex.

(See page 3 for two of the new developments.)

And it won’t be soon enough. Leaper says developers have “run out of lots” now and are turning people who want a new build away.

Leaper says Floyd Vanderwal appears to be the only developer with lots available - six on Petrolia Line near Oil Heritage Road.

The lack of available building lots also

affects the resale market - people who may have purchased a new home aren’t putting up their current home on the market.

With the available housing stock low and demand high, developers are anxious to get moving. And Leaper admits to being a bit frustrated by the situation.

“I understand the need to follow protocols,” he says but adds it shouldn’t take three years to get the next phase of an approved subdivision off the ground.

“This isn’t rocket science,” he says. “We’re not trying to do anything complicated.”

Leaper is hopeful he will be able to begin building streets in the spring.

And he’s hoping by then, it won’t be too late.

A study by Moody’s Analytics and RPS Inc in late September says average house prices could fall seven per cent as the recovery from the pandemic stalls while economic stimulus from government fades compounding Canadians’ debt problems.

“Who is to say the market will be strong in a year or two,” Leaper says about the lag time between when Petrolia’s newest housing will be ready.

“Will there be the buyers?”



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SIU investigates after Petrolia man shot

Heather Wright
The Independent

The province’s Special Investigations Unit is probing an incident in Petrolia where a 40 year old Petrolia man was critically injured. Police were called to a home in Petrolia around 7:30 pm Monday for a man in mental distress according to the SIU news release. Police went to the back of the property and secured the area. At 10:45 pm, the OPP’s Emergency Response team went into the rear of the property and found the man with a gunshot wound. He was transported to hospital where the SIU says he’s in critical condition. “Based on the preliminary information, the gunshot wound is believed to have been self-inflicted,” says the civilian agency which investigates reports involving police where there has been death or serious injury. Three investigators and one forensic investigator have been assigned to the case.

Officials have yet to say whether mental health experts were on the scene at the time. The SIU’s mandate is to figure out whether an officer has committed a criminal offence. Investigators can lay criminal charges against an officer if they find evidence. They can also close the file without charges being laid. The SIU is urging anyone who may have information about this investigation to contact the lead investigator at 1-800-787-8529. The Unit is also urging anyone who may have any video evidence related to this incident to upload that video through the SIU website.



SUBMITTED PHOTO
The latest phase of Glenview Estates will have 46 homes. The green area is not proposed for development.

New Glenview homes could go up in 2022

Heather Wright
The Independent

The developers of Glenview Estates hope to build 46 more homes around the golf course. In the last year, the developers had some of the land rezoned from open space to residential so the development could come together. Ray Dobbin, who is acting on behalf of the numbered company, says the plan of subdivision will be going to Petrolia council Nov. 6. The first homes in Glenview Estates were built in the 1990s around the historic golf

course, Dobbin says. The latest subdivision is tucked between holes 15, 16 and 17 and a pond which is the backyard of the homes fronting on First Street. Another development of 92 homes is planned around hole 14. Dobbin says the big concern about these two developments is drainage. He’s been working with the Ministry of the Environment on a plan which would ensure the water quality which will be heading into the existing pond in the area. Dobbin says the developers are hopeful, with council’s approval, to begin construction in the area in 2022.

Neighbours worried about traffic in new seniors plex

Heather Wright
The Independent

A proposed seniors condominium complex is raising concerns and getting praise. Goldleaf Development plans a 50-unit condominium development on the land on the corner of Valentina and Edward Street. The 1,300 square foot two-bedroom luxury units will be built on a private road which the developer will own. It will connect on both sides with Valentina Street. During a public meeting for the rezoning of the land, neighbour Duncan McTavish said he was concerned about water runoff on his property among other things. “One of my primary concerns is in regards to site drainage, I was prepared to have the component of the servicing peer reviewed

from the perspective of determining how the project might affect the surface water in my backyard,” says McTavish. He couldn’t do that because the information will only be available after the zoning is approved. Doug and Kathy Darrach wrote to council concerned the zoning change “would quadruple the number of dwellings in a space designed by the master plan for 11 single lots.” They also voiced concerns about “the traffic nightmare that will be created with the potential of 100 plus cars being added to the already difficult corner of Edward and Valentina.” There were also four letters of support for the project. Council decides on the zoning amendment at the next meeting of council Nov. 6.

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Editorial

Planning process needs streamlining

It is, in many ways, a good problem to have. Petrolia has developers in the cue ready to build hundreds of houses. Council heard Monday four developments, which will mean about 356 housing units over the next few years, are already in the hands of the planners.

But those are just the plans which the town has in its hands; developers in the area tell us there are multiple other housing projects being prepared which will add hundreds of other homes. With that comes tax dollars and new customers for local businesses.

Petrolia is a sought after community, most likely for developers because there are no development fees. The town is the only place in Lambton which doesn't charge extra fees. Developers are attracted to that.

And it helps that families see the town as a good place to raise children and are seeking out homes here. That leads to a lot of demand - demand Petrolia can't take full advantage of because the new developments are still being approved.

We're told if you would take a bare plot of land which was just right for development, it would take about three years to get through the planning process. It is amazing developers will gamble on that.

Imagine planning a 90 home development in the peak of the housing boom, spend hundreds of thousands of dollars and hours of dealing with government getting it ready only to find, three years later, the bottom has dropped out of the market and you're project isn't viable.

While developers in Petrolia say they understand the need for well thought-out plans, surely we can do better than this.

The problem lies not just with one level of government dragging its feet, it is the combination of three levels of government - municipal, county and provincial - all with different expectations.

There must be a way to make this system work better without compromising good planning. Local municipalities have to take the bull by the horns and get the county and the province to look at ways to streamline the process. Then, we will all prosper.

Letters to the Editor

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

Our Story



FROM THE LAMBTON COUNTY ARCHIVES

Sarnia residents bid farewell to their local 149th Battalion in the spring of 1916. Troops marched from the city hall square to the Grand Truck railway station amid much pomp and ceremony. Though the crowds cheered and waved flags, it was a heart-breaking moment for many who would never see their sons, husbands, brothers or friends again.

It has taken far too long to correct First Nation water problems

There was an interesting contrast between the news in our corner of the world and Northern Ontario. Four local municipalities are hoping to get a big government grant to cover the cost of improving the water system. Petrolia's Bright's Grove treatment plant needs a new water intake. It's the last piece of the puzzle to have a completely revitalized system. It's hoping for a couple million bucks to finish the job.

But, while that work goes on residents of the Neskantaga First Nation were packing up their bags and heading five hours south to Thunder Bay. The small community, which has been boiling its water for 25 years because of problems with the system, now had no water at all. There was an oil sheen on the reservoir which brought water to the taps and toilets in

the community. For days those taps were dry and the toilets could not be flushed. Just picture that for a moment. The situation quickly became a health emergency. The First Nation sent its most fragile members to Thunder Bay after three days. The rest of the community is settling there now. It is difficult to square how a community in Ontario simply has no water with the abundance of clean water in our areas.

The Neskantaga First Nations is not alone. Figures from the federal government show there are 45 communities in Ontario with long term boil water advisories. That means people can't just grab a glass of water from their tap, like we do. Everything has to be sterilized by boiling first. And they have been doing this for

decades - some communities have been boiling water for 25 years. It is the national disgrace that we hear so little about. The federal government has committed to fixing water systems in 60 communities across the nation by March 2021. I think we have an obligation to hold them to it. It has taken far too long for successive federal governments to bring clean water to First Nations.



Heather Wright

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Publisher / Editor: **Heather Wright**
news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca
Reporters: **Alex Kurial**
Sales Associates: sales@petrolialambtonindependent.ca
Classifieds / Graphics: **Sarah Hills / Julli Archibald**
office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

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DISCOVERY LINE ACCIDENT



ALEX KURIAL/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

As thunderstorms rolled in, Petrolia/North Enniskillen firefighters and police were called to a two-vehicle crash before 4 pm Friday at the Tank St. and Discovery Line intersection in Petrolia. One car was in the ditch with damage to its right side while the other vehicle remained in the intersection with heavy damage to its front end. No one was injured.

No appetite to build or pay for new Inwood hall says survey

The Independent

The idea of a community hall in Inwood appears to be dead. The results of a survey on the idea, presented to Brooke-Alvinston council Oct. 22 showed about 70 per cent of the community felt a new space was not necessary. Councillor Jamie Armstrong asked for consultation with the community

as the former Inwood fire hall - which also acted as a community center - was sold earlier in the month. He was concerned Inwood residents would not have a place to hold family gatherings without the former hall. About 10 per cent of the households in the community responded to the electronic survey. About 84 per cent felt the Brooke-Alvinston Inwood Community Centre

serves the community well. About 83 per cent agreed the library in Inwood could be used for small meetings. Nearly 73 per cent of the people said the town should not fund another hall. And about 86 per cent of the people who answered the survey were not comfortable with the idea of increasing taxes to build or acquire another hall in Inwood.

Santa making new Petrolia plans

The Independent

Santa is not about to let a pandemic get in his way. Officials with the Town of Petrolia say this year, instead of large crowds gathering for the traditional downtown parade, Santa will be making his way through the streets of Petrolia visiting homes. Local firefighters will take Santa around town starting at 9 am Dec. 5. "Families are asked to listen for the sirens and then greet Santa Claus from your porch or front yard at a safe distance. Please do not approach Santa's float or the fire trucks and please do not enter the roadway for your safety,"

says Dave Menzies, director of facilities and community services in a news release. Santa will also be at the Farmers' Market for socially distanced pictures. The Christmas in the Park event which normally includes the lighting of the Victoria Park lights and a chilli cookoff, will be replaced with a Magical Tour of Lights Dec. 4. Home-owners and businesses are asked to submit their names and addresses to be included on the tour to the town. Menzies says the town had to find a way to still celebrate Christmas but in a way that would follow provincial guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19 during the pandemic.

No compost decision

The Independent

A former Petrolia councillor says the town should scrap the idea of a compost transfer station. The town has been investigating the idea since the 2018 election saying residents were angry the town closed the compost site down in 2017. But Liz Welsh says if the town would encourage backyard composting, the site wouldn't be needed. And it would be far less expensive. Councillors debated the merits of the idea Monday but ultimately delayed the decision again until the next council meeting Nov. 5.

MP Marilyn Gladu

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Honouring Brigden’s Sgt. Duncan

A century later, ‘Lambton’s Own’ receiving proper recognition

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

Sgt. Clifford Reed Duncan has rested in Brigden’s Bear Creek Cemetery since 1921.

Now, nearly a century after Duncan’s passing, his resting place is about to be recognized with the proper honors befitting of a Canadian soldier.

Rev. Dr. Allan Miller, a retired minister with the Canadian Armed Forces, took up an interest in Duncan during research into his own great uncle’s role in Canada’s 149th Battalion, which served in Europe during World War I.

Miller’s goal is to advocate for any soldier who has passed on to ensure their gravesites are properly marked and cared for, a problem he says is more widespread than many people realize.

Clifford Reed Duncan was born in Moore Township in the summer of 1898. Like many men in the area he worked as a farmer in Brigden before enlisting as an 18 year-old in the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force. The 6’1 Duncan, with light brown hair and grey eyes, signed his enlistment papers on Jan. 6, 1916. The Great War was well underway on several European and international fronts.

It would be more than a year before Duncan actually left to join the war effort though. He enrolled in the 149th Battalion – ‘Lambton’s Own’ – and began his training. Col. Thomas Bradley was in charge of the 149th, and was told to get 1,100 men to sign up for his battalion. The Colonel came close to this mark initially with more than 1,000 men of various backgrounds, even some Americans who had fought in the Mexican Revolution. Whether they were all of adult age was another story.

Retention was also an issue. Of the more than 1,000 men that signed up, only 435 boarded the transport ship left that left for Liverpool in March 1917. Duncan would not be one of them.

A medical issue had been found in the Moore Township recruit, and Duncan was kept behind. But there was still a place for him in the war effort. Duncan, a Private at the time, was transferred to the 122nd Battalion – part of the Canadian Forestry Corps. The Forestry Corps spent the war cutting down trees and even some wood homes (from families who volunteered them for the



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The current gravestone of Clifford. R. Duncan will soon be marked to recognize his service in World War One. He was a member of Lambton’s Own 149th Battalion, pictured below.



war effort) – anything to deliver the required supplies for the Allied forces.

Duncan’s new battalion left from Halifax on May 28, 1917, arriving in Liverpool on June 10. Duncan completed his sawmill training in England and set off for France at the end of June.

Duncan remained in France through the end of the war, and was promoted to Sergeant on Dec. 22, 1918. In a tragic turn of events, it was not gunfire, bombs or poison gas that ultimately killed Duncan, but rather the deadly tuberculosis following a severe cold at the end of the year. He was sent to England for evaluation, and then back to London, ON. Duncan was discharged as medically unfit on June 2, 1919.

The discovery of penicillin wouldn’t take place for several years, so the best medical treatment Duncan could receive was a spot in London’s Byron Sanatorium on Oxford St. West. Duncan was advised to spend a year in the sanatorium, and later passed away July 26, 1921, at just 23 years of age.

Duncan’s passing was even more devastating as his brother Thomas – who had enlisted in the air force – had been killed in a training crash at Toronto’s Leaside Airfield in 1918. Thomas is also buried at Bear Creek Cemetery, his gravesite bearing military honors. The only children in the family, the Duncan family died off upon the parents’ passing.

Now, Miller is determined to make sure the families’ service is properly acknowledged.

The process is not easy and even to have Duncan’s case considered for honours took extensive communication and documentation with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission – the body that overseas graves of Commonwealth casualties during the First and Second World Wars.

Miller says part of the problem is that all inquiries must go to the commission’s headquarters in Maidenhead, England. “We do not have a spokesperson for us when it comes to the research, the immediate things being asked by Canadian families or researchers.”

After several months, a breakthrough came when the commission acknowledged the pages of documents Miller provided and added Duncan’s name to their official war casualty records. The next step will be a visit to the Bear Creek Cemetery to inspect Duncan’s gravesite and make preparations for his proper commemoration.

Duncan will also be added to the World War One Remembrance Book in the Peace Tower at Parliament in Ottawa. “That’s a must,” Miller says.

Miller hopes this can take place next year before the 100th anniversary of Duncan’s death. In the meantime, he is pleased that a local Canadian hero is finally receiving the commendation he deserves. “Clifford wasn’t recognized. He’s just there. But now, there will be the recognition,” says Miller.

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Heather Wright
The Independent

Kelly’s Cupboard has turned into Kelly’s Bins, but the free food service at LCCVI is busier than ever.

Teacher Kelly Knight started stocking a cupboard in her classroom with food several years ago. Students with little to eat, whether it was because they were running late or simply didn’t have anything at home, were encouraged to help themselves to food during the course of the school day.

They could discretely sneak into the classroom and grab a bite to eat and maybe pick up personal hygiene items and school supplies while they were at it.

But then came COVID-19 and everything had to change, says Knight.

Students were not able to wander through the hallways to come for something to eat.

And Knight knew there would be many more students whose families would be feeling the economic pinch.

So, Kelly’s Cupboard turned into Kelly’s Bins. Each classroom has a bin containing snacks and some school supplies. Knight says teachers encourage everyone to take a snack and often pull something out themselves to lower the stigma of using the bin.

“It would take kids a long time to come to my class to get things let alone to get something in front of the class,” she says.

“The teachers make sure the class knows they are for everybody, including the

teacher, that way I’m going to hit the kids who don’t have stuff to bring for lunches,” says Knight.

Organizing the bins takes more work than running the cupboard. To minimize the number of hands on the items, Knight goes out to get the items she needs, then fills each of the boxes herself - using all the proper safety precautions.

And it’s also a little more difficult, she says, to figure out what to put in them. Everything needs to be prepackaged and she aims to get something nutritious in the bins for kids who have little at home.

“If they have some crackers and granola bar and a pudding, that might be enough to get them through until schools end,” she says.

And, it is more expensive than normal. Knight says she can spend up to \$500 a week on food items because more students are accessing the food.

Knight says so far, despite the increase in demand, she’s been able to meet the needs with the help of the community.

“We go on faith the community will step up...and they do all the time...they come through all the time.”

Kelly’s Cupboard will be one of the food security programs which will benefit from the Nov. 7 Neighbour2Neighbour Food Drive being organized throughout Lambton County. For more information on the drive, visit www.n2nfooddrive.com.

Roundabout considered at Egremont and Nauvoo

The Independent

A contentious corner in Warwick may be getting a roundabout.

Lambton County public works staff is recommending the county build a traffic circle at the corner of Egremont and Nauvoo Roads. Warwick Township council asked the county to consider the move saying there have been many accidents at the corner. County staff agreed a roundabout would reduce the risk of crashes at the corner and would be possible because of the large amount of land in the area. It would cost

about \$1.1 million.

But another high risk intersection, Churchill and Mandaumin, is not recommended for a roundabout. The county considered what changes could be made to the intersection after several accidents with deaths there.

County officials say there is not enough land there to create a traffic circle and there are still other measures which could be tried. Officials are recommending more lighting, and a flashing red light over the stop sign. That would cost about \$35,000.

Both items will be discussed during the 2021 budget.

LEGION HELPS HOSPITAL

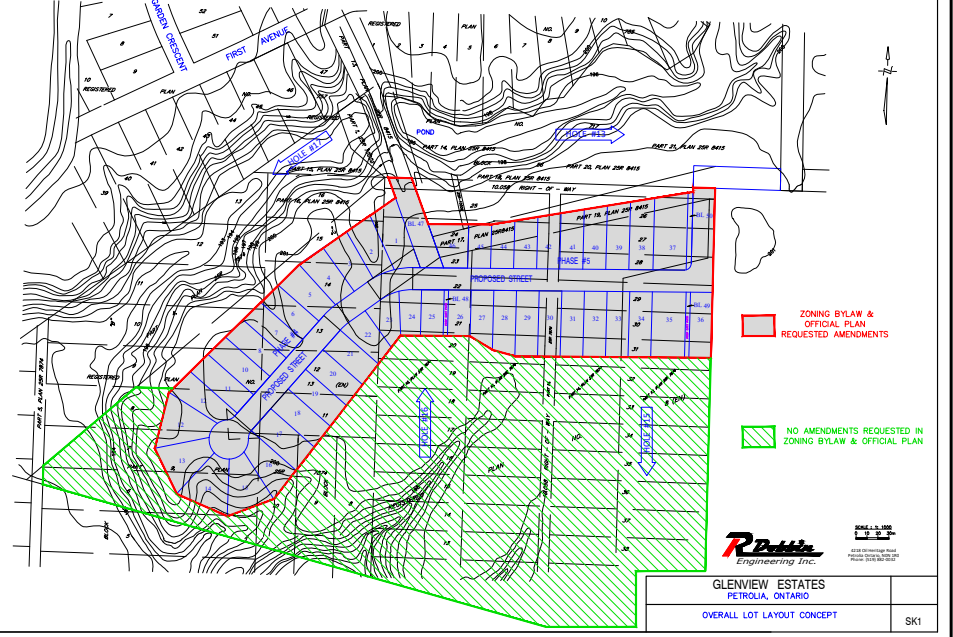


PHOTO CREDIT

Bob Chambers of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 presented CEEH Foundation Chair Owen Byers with \$4,000. The money will be used to buy a new blanket warming cabinet for the inpatient units at the Petrolia hospital.

CLARIFICATION

Glenview Estates has requested an Official Plan Amendment and a Zoning Amendment for Phases 4 and 5 of the Glenview Estates Subdivision. The proposed subdivision includes 46 residential lots. The amendments are intended for the proposed residential lots only and not the lands to the south of the proposed development. While there will be modifications to hole no. 15 and hole no. 16 of the Kingswell Glen Golf Course, the requested amendments will not eliminate those 2 holes.





NEIGHBOUR2NEIGHBOUR

Lambton County's Biggest Rural

FOOD DRIVE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 @ 12 NOON


Help us get the word out about the N2N Food Drive

Create a sign for your front lawn

...big or small we want them all - use your garage door, sidewalk chalk or your old pizza box! **Anything will do -**



just make sure people know about the N2N Food Drive on Sat, Nov 7, 2020


Businesses & Municipal Offices - you can help too, by posting the N2N Food Drive on your outdoor signage and social media accounts.



This Month In Lambton

October 2020



Warden Bill Weber
@LambtonWarden

One Book Lambton

One Book Lambton is back with an all new book for 2020-2021. Lambton County Library, in partnership with The Book Keeper, is excited to announce the selection for this year. Go to onebooklambton.ca to learn what book Lambton County will be reading!

The goal of One Book Lambton is to unite people from around Lambton County through one book. Reserve your copy of this year's selection through lclibrary.ca and follow us at onebooklambton.ca and @LCLibraryca on Facebook and Twitter to keep up to date on announcements and activities planned for One Book Lambton.

N2N - Rural Lambton County's Biggest Food Drive

COVID-19 has had an impact on us all, and among the hardest hit are food banks and those who rely on them for support.

Join us on Saturday, November 7 for Neighbour 2 Neighbour - Rural Lambton County's biggest food drive.

For more information and updates on drop off locations and pick-up routes, or information on how to volunteer, visit N2Nfooddrive.com and follow Neighbour 2 Neighbour on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Creative County Grant Program

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Lambton County has modified its annual Creative County Grant Program to support cultural organizations and events that demonstrate innovation in adapting programs and activities to pandemic restrictions and public health guidelines.

The Creative County Committee has adjusted its application criteria for the 2020-21 grant period to allow for the reimbursement of expenses to meet safety requirements that allow cultural events to proceed, or support innovative approaches to ensuring the safe re-opening of cultural destinations.

Applications are being accepted online at lambtononline.ca/creativecounty.

The application period will close on Monday, November 16, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. The committee has allocated an available budget of \$35,000 toward this initiative.


Looking Ahead

9:30 a.m., Nov. 4 - Lambton County Council

9 a.m. & 11 a.m., Nov. 18 - Committee A.M. & Committee P.M.

9:30 a.m., Nov. 25 - Lambton County Council

To read more, go to lambtononline.ca



Office of the County Warden

519-845-0801 | 1-866-324-6912

www.lambtononline.ca



Discoveries That Matter

Sports

Flyers, Flags still practice but expect season start in January

Barry Wright
The Independent

The Petrolia Flyers and Mooretown Flags continue to workout in anticipation of a shortened 2020-21 Provincial Hockey League season. Both teams are practicing weekly while following all COVID

protocols put in place by their governing body, the Ontario Hockey Federation, and local public health officials. “The PJHL start date of Dec. 1 is most likely going to move to the fallback date of Jan. 2,” said Flags General Manager John Baker. But that won’t be finalized until early November, he added.

Flyers General Manager Dennis Meston agreed, calling the Dec. 1 start date “a long shot.” Baker and Meston had previously discussed the possibility of expanding their two team bubbles to allow for some controlled scrimmages between the rivals. With pandemic numbers moving in the wrong direction throughout

Ontario, both Meston and Baker say that idea has been put on the back burner for the foreseeable future. Meantime, it’s hurry up and wait for the Sarnia Legionnaires of the Greater Ontario Hockey League, too. The GOJHL had planned on a Dec. 2 start date for the new

season, but Legionnaires President Cliff Smith says that time frame will likely be delayed to the new year as well. A firm date for opening night has not been established yet. The Legionnaires are also practicing each week in hopes of the puck eventually dropping on a 2020-21 campaign.

Alvinston arena opens up for spectators

The Brooke Alvinston Inwood Community Centre in Alvinston is the latest arena in the region to open to spectators. The change went in effect last weekend with a maximum of 25 players and coaches on the ice and 25 spectators in the stands at any one time. “People entering from the

south entrance will enter the stands from the east lobby door,” said a release posted on the East Lambton Minor Hockey website. “People entering from the north entrance will use the stairs on the west side of the stands.” The release says fans must

stay on the side of the stands they enter to and spectators must exit the rink using the same door they entered through. Spectators can not watch from along the glass. All spectators from an exiting group must leave the arena before the next group can be allowed in.

Flags, MMHA to host local clinics

In an effort to keep its players sharp during these unique times, the minor hockey group in Mooretown has partnered with the PJHL’s Mooretown Flags for a series of development clinics for players from U9 to U18. The eight-week sessions will take place on Tuesdays between November 17 and January 5.

The clinics are only open to minor hockey players from Mooretown and if you are registering more than one player, each player must be registered separately. For more information, contact Brad Ysebaert, MMHA Director of Development by email at development@mooretownminorhockey.com



Royal Canadian Legion Branch 216

Legion Poppy Campaign



On Friday, Oct. 30 at 11 a.m., the Petrolia Legion’s Poppy Campaign will kick off with the flag raising ceremony at the Petrolia Legion at 4129 Glenview Rd, Petrolia. The Poppy Campaign is the only national event of the Royal Canadian Legion and is held yearly from the last Friday in October until Nov. 11.

.....

Poppy boxes will be distributed to all the local stores and business as in the past however due to covid-19 restrictions many events have been canceled.

All wreaths for veterans and local businesses will be pre-placed at the cenotaph on November 8th and there will be a small service at the cenotaph on November 11th.

The executive, members and veterans of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 216 in Petrolia want to thank you for your continued support and invite you to stop by the cenotaph throughout the upcoming Poppy campaign to remember those that gave so much for the freedoms we have today.

Wreath and other donations are gratefully accepted and may be dropped off at the Legion or mailed directly to 4129 Glenview Rd, Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0 with cheques made out to the R.C.L. Petrolia Poppy Fund.





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HEIDI'S
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Poppy and
support our
local Legion**



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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

Celebration

CONGRATULATIONS
ON JOINING THE CENTENARIAN!

Edith Edgar
November 4, 1920

You have touched countless lives in the past 100 years sharing your love, laughter, and wisdom. For that, we are all grateful. We couldn't be happier for you on this very special day, and always!

All birthday wishes can be sent to Edith Edga's home:
Season's Retirement Community,
3230 Napperton Rd., Suite 328,
Strathroy, ON, N7G 3H8



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1 floor, 3 or 4 bedrm home w/insulated & heated, double detached garage on a large corner lot (66X132), close to school & shopping. This home has ceramic & hardwood thru out. Property also has a 20X8 front deck. Perfect as a starter home.

We urgently need listings for houses & farms, we have buyers waiting!

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Coming Events

**VENDOR MARKET**

Supporting Relay for Life
Saturday Nov. 7th - 10am to 3pm
Royal Canadian Navy Club
(1420 Lougar Ave, Sarnia)

Featuring 20 local vendors, baked goods, and the Hot Lunch Cafe featuring homemade chilli, walking tacos, hot dogs/chili dogs & more!

Tender

97 Acres for Sale by Tender

Tenders accepted until 5:00pm,
November 18, 2020

47 Workable acres & 50 acres woodlot (more or less)

Location: Southwest corner of Mandaumin Road and Churchill Line

Legal Description: Part Lot 1 Concession 2 Sarnia

Request tender information from
Giesbrecht, Griffin, Funk & Irvine LLP
60 College Street, Kitchener ON N2H 5A1

Contact: sfunk@ggfilaw.ca

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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

Card of Thanks

Bob Hollingsworth
"The Paint Man"

The family of the late Bob Hollingsworth wish to express our heartfelt gratitude for the continued love and support shown to us following the tragic loss of Bob. A special thank you to Dennings of Watford for their compassion and generous acts of kindness; to the Watford Veterinary Clinic Staff for their compassionate care of Lexi; to the Watford Community and area who took part in the drive by tribute; to the Watford Gun Club for the use of their facility and to family and friends who assisted with the service. Your acts of kindness mean so much and will never be forgotten. We truly are blessed to live in a such a great Community.

Wendy Hollingsworth, Lyndsey, Stephanie and Megan Cattryse, Pat Muxlow, Kathy Shea, Robin Warren, Ruth Downie, Sherry Aarts, Shelley Holbrook & families




In Memory

William "Bill" Minielly

In loving memory of our dear husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather who passed away October 26, 2018.

Treasured memories keep you near,
As time unfolds another year.
So many things we'd till like to share,
But in our hearts you're always there.
You gave us many things in life,
Gifts both great and small.
But most of all you gave us love,
The greatest gift of all.



Forever loved and deeply missed by wife, Shirley, daughters Cindy (John) and Sam & their families

Death Notices

October 19 - October 25, 2020

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

WELLINGTON, David
Age 88, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

PETTIT, Kyle
Age 27, of Corunna
Knight Funeral Home

GEORGE, Josephine
Age 73, of Kettle Point
Denning's of Forest

FORBES, Edward
Age 91, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

LUCAS, Charles
Age 52, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

SUTHERLAND, Leslie
Age 72, of Mooretown
Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels

MILLER, Craig
Age 84, of Brigden
Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels

BONITACIO, Francesco
Age 87, of Corunna
Knight Funeral Home

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

CROSSETT, Ian
Age 63, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

JONES, Evelyn
Age 85, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

DE BORGER, Frank
Age 90, of Forest
Denning's of Forest

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

SHANNON, Elizabeth Ann
Age 82, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

BURROWS, Ross john
Age 83, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

VIENNEAU, Ruth
Age 84, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

RICHTER, Elsbeth
Age 98, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

PARKER, Adam
Age 37, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

DRAKES, Gail Ann
Age 73, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

GOULD, Arthur Robert
Age 75, of Petrolia
Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels

LANE, Ronald
Age 87, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

JOHNSTON, Mary
Age 91, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home


MITCHELL, Wilford
Age 94, of Brigden
Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels

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

Notice

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In Memory




In loving memory of Kristy Hyatt
Dec. 12/84 - Nov. 1/96

To my precious Kristy:
*Each day I look to heaven,
Each day I call your name.
Each day just feels so different,
It hasn't been the same.
Each day I always question,
I often wonder why?
You had to go away from me,
My Angel in the sky.
I keep you in my memories,
Since we've been apart,
And I'll always have a part of you
Locked safely in my heart*

Loved and missed so much, Mom


To my Kristy,
How much richer our lives would have been with you in it.

**Love you forever, Ricky**

In loving memory of our precious granddaughter **Kristy**, who was tragically taken from us 24 years ago on **Nov. 1, 1996.**

*We blow you kisses to the sky
And off to you we let them fly
Each one a wish we wrap in love
Then send to you so high above
We feel you watching as we do
And know you hear each "I Love You"
So every day we'll send them high
These kisses we blow to the sky.*

Loved & sadly missed, Nana & Papa



In Loving Memory of Kristy
*Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us everyday,
unseen, unheard, but always near,
still loved, still missed and forever dear.*

Love Aunt Bonnie, Brittany, Brianne & Bailey Kristyn


In Memory

In Loving Memory of Willard Kelly
Oct. 17, 1931 - Oct. 30, 2019

*As I walked through the fields and woods this past year,
something felt like it was missing.
I realized after a time that it wasn't really missing,
it had evolved and I had been looking in the wrong place.
Dad you will always be in our hearts and missing you will be something that never goes away.*

Love Jim, Shelley and all the Grand and Great Grandchildren

Obituary



KOBLER Frank Paul

September 6, 1949 – October 6, 2020

Died peacefully on **Tuesday, October 6, 2020** at the Calgary Foothills Hospital. He is survived by his daughter Cindy Kobler of Granum, AB. Son of Frank Kobler Sr. (predeceased) of Oil Springs and Friederike Kobler of Sarnia. He will be missed by his brother James (Lise) Kobler of Oil Springs, his brother John (Shirley) Kobler of Oil Springs, his sister Susan Georgescu of Detroit, MI and his niece and nephews Paul Kobler (Vancouver), Matthew Kobler (London), Jennifer Kobler (Halifax) and Geoff Kobler (London). Frank graduated from the University of Waterloo and joined the Canadian Armed Forces where he served as a Captain in Civil Engineering. He then farmed in Northern Ontario followed by Computer Programming career in Calgary. In his free time, Frank enjoyed downhill skiing and had a passion for ballroom dancing. Frank's sudden loss resulted from a vehicle collision while he was a pedestrian. **A memorial service will be held at a later date.**

In Memory


Georgine Mitchell STRANGWAY

In loving memory of a dear sister Georgine who passed away October 29, 2007.

*We miss your wonderful smile and your sparkling brown eyes and caring ways.
You will always be in our hearts and will never be forgotten.*

Love Always, The Mitchell Family

Obituary




GOULD Arthur Robert

GOULD, Arthur Robert – Age 75 of Petrolia, passed away peacefully on **Saturday, October 24th, 2020** at C.E.E Hospital-Bluewater Health, Petrolia. He is survived by his brother, Ross Gould, sister Carolyn Gould Faith, and brother-in-law, David Faith. He is predeceased by his parents Marjorie (1991) and Ottis Gould (1990). Art was a Polymer Retiree and a long time member of Sarnia Yacht Club. **Cremation has taken place and there will be a private family interment at Hillsdale Cemetery, Petrolia.** Sympathy may be expressed through donations to charity of choice. Memories and condolences may be sent online at **www.steadmanbrothers.ca.** Arrangements entrusted to **STEADMAN BROTHERS FUNERAL CHAPELS**, Brigden 519-864-1193.

In Memory

In loving memory of Kristy Hyatt
Dec. 12/84 - Nov. 1/96

*We miss you and think of you often.
We look forward to the day we can see you again.
Until then, the memory of your enthusiasm and infectious smile will remain with us.*

**Love Tom, Nancy, Kaitlyn, Courtney and Cami**


In Memory

Remembering a beloved husband, father & grandfather

MELVIN Merriam

Who passed away November 1, 2018

*When family ties are broken,
And loved ones have to part,
It leaves a scar that never heals,
And an ever breaking heart.
As time goes by without you,
And days turn into years.
They hold a million memories,
And a thousand silent tears.
You left a beautiful memory,
And sorrow too great to be told,
But to us who loved & lost you,
Your memory will never grow old.*

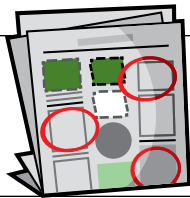


In our hearts forever; Marilyn & Family

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY - **ANYTHING OLD** including signs, bottles, canning jars, jewelry, tins, paper items, pottery, old lighters, old razors, rustic pieces, etc. Single items to entire estates. **CALL CHAD 519-639-9102.**

Classified Deadline:
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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
Oct 29	6-8pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions Meat Raffle at Haywood's Tap & Grill	
Oct 29	7-10pm	Petrolia	Coldcase at the Kingswell Clubhouse . Do you think you have what it takes to catch a killer? Max team size 10. \$20 a person. Register today! Space limited info@kingswellpetrolia.com	
Oct 30	6pm	Watford	Watford Legion Meat Raffle, Catch the Ace & 50/50	519-876-2360
Oct 31	1-3pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Legion Meatloaf sliders . 2 of \$5. No per-order needed. Take out or eat-in. Bar open downstairs.	
Oct 31	3:30pm	Forest	Forest Legion Meat Raffle & 50/50 Draw	
Nov 4	5-7pm	Alvinston	Hope United Church Drive-Thru Turkey Dinner at the B.A.I.C.C.C.. \$18/meal. Advance tickets only. Call 519-847-5494.	
Nov 4	8-10pm	Petrolia	Join Michael Vanhevel for Trivia Night at Kingswell Clubhouse (4300 Garden Cres). Max Team size of 6.	
Nov 5	6-8pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions Meat Raffle at Haywood's Tap & Grill	
Nov 6	6pm	Watford	Watford Legion Meat Raffle, Catch the Ace & 50/50	519-876-2360
Nov 7	12noon	Lambton	Neighbour 2 Neighbour Food Drive . Lambton's Largest rural food drive. n2nfooddrive.com	
Nov 7	3:30pm	Forest	Forest Legion Meat Raffle & 50/50 Draw	
Nov 10	5-6:30p	Corunna	Corunna Legion Drive by BBQ Rib Dinner . Dinner includes: ribs, baked potato, beans, coleslaw, bun, dessert. \$15 donation to Legion. Cash only. Limited meals. Call Legion 519-862-1240 to reserve your meal 7 pickup time. Sale closes Nov 3 at 6pm.	
Nov 11	10:45a	Forest	Forest Legion reduced attendance for the Remembrance Day Service at Cenotaph. Legion Colour Party and invited guests. No post ceremonies at the Legion. Service will be taped and streamed as soon as possible on Facebook and website.	
Nov 12	6-8pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions Meat Raffle at Haywood's Tap & Grill	
Nov 13	4-7pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions Wing Night at the Petrolia Lions Hall. 10 wings for \$15 served with veggies. Please per-order. Call 519-882-8728 by Nov 12. Take out only.	
Nov 13	6pm	Watford	Watford Legion Meat Raffle, Catch the Ace & 50/50	
Nov 14	3:30pm	Forest	Forest Legion Meat Raffle & 50/50 Draw	
Nov 18	8-10pm	Petrolia	Join Michael Vanhevel for Trivia Night at Kingswell Clubhouse (4300 Garden Cres). Max Team size of 6.	
Nov 19	6-8pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Lions Meat Raffle at Haywood's Tap & Grill	
Nov 20	6pm	Watford	Watford Legion Meat Raffle, Catch the Ace & 50/50	519-876-2360
Nov 21	9-2pm	Wyoming	Wyoming Vendor/Craft Show at the Wyoming Legion. 100's of products available. All covid-19 rules will be followed. Lunch Available.	
Nov 21	3:30pm	Forest	Forest Legion Meat Raffle & 50/50 Draw	

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

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

GB Excavating Excavating/Septic

Steve Greer
Owner

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

gbexc@brktel.on.ca
gbexcavating.ca

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Church DIRECTORY

Christ Church Anglican 414 Oil Street, Petrolia

Sunday Service at 11am

*Please follow all Covid-19
guidelines and wear you mask.*

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



St. Paul's United Church 4169 Petrolia Line at Centre Street

St. Paul's United Church is now open to the public for Sunday Services. New protocols will be in place for everyone's safety.

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



St. Andrew's Prebyterian Church

416 Queen Street, Petrolia
(Behind the Post Office)

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

www.standrews-petrolia.ca

Wyoming United Church 730 Second Street, Wyoming

Welcome Back!
We invite you to join our congregation for Sunday Worship at 11am
Masks are required!

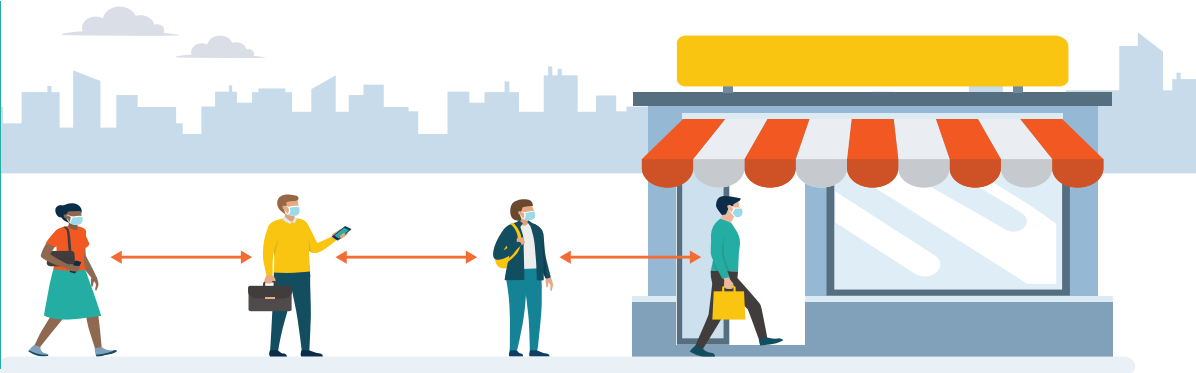
Join Us for Worship - All are Welcome
Church Office 519-845-3963
Find us on Facebook



COVID-19

SOCIAL DISTANCING

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



BOTTLE BONANZA



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of Parents for Parks got a little help from their friends, Marty Souch of Shoreline Express and Bob Tanner of Tanner Landscaping to move thousands of bottles and cans from a recent bottle drive. The effort raised \$3,667 for the group’s park project on land donated by the Petrolia Enniskillen Agricultural Society at Greenwood Park.

House arrest for ‘ultimate betrayal’

Editor’s Note: This story contains some graphic language.

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

A St. Clair woman says it is the “ultimate betrayal of a husband to a wife.” But in the end, her husband received only a conditional sentence of house arrest and probation.

Sarnia Court heard on Oct. 19 of how the man shared intimate photos of his wife without her knowledge which is a criminal offense.

The woman found the photos in December, while looking for a shopping list on her husband’s phone. Instead, she discovered her husband was sending sexually explicit images of her to another man. The men swapped photos and described sex acts in detail. The woman collected screenshots of her husband’s conversations as evidence. The man turned himself into OPP in March.

The woman, in her victim impact statement read during the teleconference sentencing, said she was shattered.

“I expected him to love, honor, and protect me. He did not protect me. He did not love me. And he certainly did not respect or honor me.”

She told the court it was difficult to describe finding the images. “In that moment I instantly felt like my heart was being stabbed over and over. My stomach had felt like it had been punched. My hands and body shook, and tears rolled down my face. I’ve never experienced such a strong, physiological reaction. It impacted every part of my being,” the woman says.

“I am still sick to my stomach when I think about the conversation... The vulgar, repulsive, offensive and revolting language that (her husband) used to describe what he wanted another person to do to me sexually. I could not have imagined a scenario

more degrading.”

And her husband’s defense of his actions was worse, she said.

“I’ll never forget him saying ‘It isn’t as bad as you think it is.’ When I close my eyes, I can see the look on his face in that moment, and his voice trying to explain to me what he did was not a big deal, that I was overreacting.”

“There was no remorse or repentance in his voice or his body language. That was almost as hurtful as his actions themselves. In my opinion this is the ultimate betrayal of a husband to a wife.”

The woman says she is left to deal with ongoing medical issues following the discovery including the loss of sleep, stomach issues due to stress and financial worries. “I live with this every day, and I have to live with this the rest of my life... He broke my heart, and he broke the law. I have changed forever. I’ve been damaged forever.

“I’m a survivor of a heinous and horrendous act... I hope that one day I’m able to love and trust again... I will move forward.”

The husband responded in a monotone saying he was sorry. “I hope to be a better person moving forward.”

Justice Deborah Austin did not mince words. “This is a shocking and egregious crime of intimate partner abuse that blindsided an unsuspecting spouse. It is an offense of deep and fundamental betrayal of trust, and it is an offense of exploitation of the relationship between partners.

“He violated her trust in a most demeaning and dehumanizing way. He exploited her both sexually and emotionally. It is a kind of abuse which had a devastating impact.”

The man will be under house arrest for a year followed by 18 months of probation. He cannot have any contact with the woman during the two and a half years. He must also undergo counselling.

The solution to COVID-19 starts with keeping your distance.

- Wear a face covering.
- Keep 2m apart from anyone outside of your household.
- Limit your close contact to your household only.
- Wash your hands often.



Stopping the spread starts with you.
Visit ontario.ca/coronavirus to learn more

Paid for by the Government of Ontario

