

The Independent

Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton

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SANTA ALWAYS DELIVERS



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Santa couldn't stay away. He'd been coming to Holy Rosary Catholic School in Wyoming every Christmas to meet with the children but because of COVID-19 restrictions, that wouldn't be possible in 2020. So he made contact with the principal and arranged to take time during the recess break to talk to the children, who were excited to see him while they were out on break Friday.

Driver whose SUV was shredded in Alvinston crash guilty

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

The driver of an SUV that was shredded when he crashed on a dark country road outside of Alvinston has pled guilty to dangerous driving causing bodily harm.

It was shortly after midnight on Mar. 2, 2019 when Ivan Russell, 29, was driving south on Cameron Rd.

His GMC Yukon was estimated to be travelling more than double the speed limit doing 165 km/h.

Russell passed the Alvinston Cemetery

and lost control of the vehicle at the curve in the road.

The SUV collided with a hydro pole so savagely that the frame was torn off the chassis and the pole was completely severed.

The three passengers were flung along the ground. Russell stayed in the remains of the SUV which then smashed into a tree. The wreckage was so bad Brooke-Alvinston firefighters had to free him with the jaws of life.

Russell's passengers – a man from Plympton-Wyoming, a man from Dawn-

Euphemia, and a woman from Petrolia – were lucky to survive the crash. One man had severe neck and back injuries while the other man had a serious head injury. The woman sustained serious leg injuries that needed surgery.

Russell, who is from Oil Springs, appeared virtually in Sarnia Court Dec. 21 pleading guilty to three counts of dangerous driving causing bodily harm.

Justice Anne McFadyen accepted the guilty pleas and adjourned the case while a pre-sentence report is prepared. Russell returns to court on Feb. 22.

Here we go again

Businesses shuttered again as province locks down on Boxing Day

Heather Wright
The Independent

Brian Dunlop has lost close to \$600,000 in revenue in the wake of the first COVID-19 shutdown. But the Petrolia restaurateur says he'll keep operating even through the coming 28 day lockdown set to begin Boxing Day.

Premier Doug Ford announced the province wide shutdown Monday – 14 days in the north and at least 28 days in southern Ontario in an attempt to slow the spread of the virus.

The number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 in the province has topped 2,000 for nearly a week.

As Health Minister Christine Elliott says "we've reached the tipping point" and that's led to the shutdown.

Scientists projecting what could happen in the pandemic in Ontario said a province-wide shutdown for 28 days or more was necessary immediately and that by shutting down right away instead of Boxing Day as the province plans, 45,000 cases could be avoided.

Ford says the decision was made to wait five days to shut things down to give businesses a chance to prepare, including giving restaurants a chance to reduce their inventory.

Ford says a province-wide lockdown is necessary because "people are moving from region to region and they're bringing COVID with them."

Lambton is one community which has seen rapid growth of the virus. Over the weekend 46 people tested positive for COVID-19. That, according to statisticians, is a 209 per cent increase over last week.

The lockdown means all but the essential services, such as grocery stores and gas stations, will be open similar to the lockdowns already in place in Metro Toronto and Windsor-Essex.

SEE LOCKDOWN PG 2

Holiday Schedule

please note that there will be

NO PAPER - December 31st

The Office will be

CLOSED December 24th until the end of provincial COVID-19 lockdown

Please feel free to call us 226-738-0728 or e-mail us at office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

The Independent
Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton

CON’T FROM PG 1

In a government news release, provincial officials say everyone is advised to stay home as much as possible with trips outside the home limited to necessities such as food, medication, medical appointments, or supporting vulnerable community members. Employers in all industries should make every effort to allow employees to work from home.

There will be no indoor organized events except with the people you live with. Single people can socialize with one other household only.

Stores will be limited to curbside pickup and delivery. That means restricted access to malls with people entering only for prearranged pickups. Essential retail stores in the malls are permitted to be open like pharmacies and grocery stores.

Supermarkets, grocery stores and food stores and pharmacies can operate at 50 per cent capacity for in-store shopping.

Discount and big box retailers selling groceries will be limited to 25 per cent capacity for in-store shopping.

Schools will be impacted, even though Premier Ford says it is clear schools are not a major transmission source of COVID-19. Schools will be closed Jan. 4 with students going online. Elementary students are expected to return to in person learning Jan. 11 and secondary students by Jan 23.

And restaurants will take another hit as all indoor and outdoor dining is prohibited. Restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments can operate with takeout, drive through and delivery only.

Dunlop says he and his wife, Michelle, will take time to decide how they will operate during lockdown during the Christmas break.

But he says despite some large losses so far this year, he wants to continue on for his employees - many of whom have not returned to work after the first shutdown.

During a normal year, Actor’s has plenty of people dining - particularly the crowd from Victoria Playhouse Petrolia which can walk to the restaurant in about one minute.

But when it became clear there would be no theatre season this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic and his regular hometown customers were still nervous to return to in-person dining, Dunlop had to make some tough choices.

“I had 21 staff members...we ended up with like three or four come back...It’s just kind of sickening...I feel sorry for that,” says Dunlop.

The restaurateur says Actor’s has been able to continue operating because they hold their own mortgage and have rental income from the property.

And he says during the last lockdown, the takeout business did very well, so Dunlop is likely to return to that when the latest lockdown takes hold.

Mary Ann van den Broek doesn’t have as many choices. She owns New You Professional Hair Design in Petrolia. Personal services, like hair salons, will close completely.

van den Broek says she may be able to sell some styling products through Facebook, but the income will be small.

van den Broek says she’s a saver, so she made it through the last shutdown okay. And she plans to weather this storm again. “I’m not happy about it but I’m not going to stress over it hopefully it’ll only be a month.

“I can possibly sell products but we’ll have to see,” she says adding she’ll still be in the Petrolia Line salon daily doing the tasks which need to be done.

Premier Ford acknowledged another shutdown will be tough on small businesses.

But he says the province has to “ensure we do what is needed to stop the spread...it is extremely difficult but absolutely critical.”

Ford added the province will be providing support for small businesses of up to \$20,000.

And he asked that people remain “strong a little bit longer.”

Lambton-Kent-Middlesex MPP and Labour Minister, Monte McNaughton, agrees this is far from idel. But he says it is clear, even in small towns, the province needs to get a handle on the rapid spread of the virus.

In Lambton county, 46 people were diagnosed with COVID-19 over the weekend.

“COVID is now in many of our small villages and small towns across the riding,” McNaughton tells The Independent. “The issue is that the numbers provincially are heading in the wrong direction. I mean, the mortality rates every day are increasing, as well as the COVID cases. And if the government didn’t take action, there would be over 10,000 cases per day, by the end of January.

“Newbury had the first case of COVID, Glencoe had the first case of COVID... Strathroy had seven, the other day. It really is spreading out here as well. And then, of course, the issue is why, unfortunately, we had to go to the province wide lockdown is because we need to limit travel across Ontario.”

Many doctors have been urging the province to take action for weeks now. The Ontario Hospital Association has called on Premier Ford to start a lockdown twice in the last week. Bluewater Health also joined the calls for a lockdown.

There has been criticism - including from NDP Leader Andrea Horwath - that the lockdown should start immediately. Provincial experts tracking the course of the disease say waiting until Boxing Day to impose a lockdown could mean thousands of more cases of COVID-19.

As it stands now, even with a lockdown, the experts believe Ontario will only be able to stop the increase of the spread, continuing to have about 3,000 cases per day.

McNaughton defended the province’s timing. “I think we have to be reasonable and give people advance notice. I mean, the regions that are impacted the most by COVID, right now, are already locked down. And as a government, we decided to give some time to businesses and to families and to communities.”

The premier said he wanted to give businesses a chance to bring down their inventories leading into the lockdown. That’s a particular problem for restaurants which have thousands of dollars in food and alcohol stocks that are perishable

Lambton’s Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Sudit Ranade, voiced concern about the province’s timing.

“We know that we saw in some of the areas that first went into lockdown, that the days before that lockdown, were preceded by panic buying,” he says. “I would hope to avoid that here...So groceries, and pharmacies and all of those things are still going to stay open, you’ll be able to get the things that you need and so panic buying is unnecessary.”

Ranade’s biggest concern however is the idea of people seeing the green light to have big Christmas gatherings before lockdown begins.“That would be a big mistake, that’s really putting people at risk, it’s putting you at risk, your family and your loved ones and vulnerable people in the community at risk. So please do not move up plans, gatherings that you had... to avoid the fact that it might have been during a lockdown.”



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Lambton’s warning as COVID-19 surges

Heather Wright
The Independent

Lambton’s Medical Officer of Health is sounding the alarm bells. Dr. Sudit Ranade says the recent increase in the number of people contracting COVID-19 in Lambton is a warning to the community.

In the last week there have been 79 people test positive for COVID-19 in the county. As of Monday, there is one outbreak at a long term care home - Trillium Villa in Sarnia where two workers are ill. There are six workplace outbreaks, including two at Nova Chemicals Corunna Cracker construction site and the Rokeby construction site (see below).

But public health officials say most of the spread is through social gatherings including meat raffles, dart leagues and social work gatherings for Christmas.

Ranade says people have to return to following the restrictions closely. He’s particularly concerned that people with mild COVID-19 symptoms aren’t staying home. “There are many folks who think, Oh, just a head cold, oh, it’s just this, it’s just that, it’s not a big deal, that actually could be COVID.”

Ranade urges people to stay home, even with the slightest symptoms and get a COVID-19 test to make sure it is ‘just a cold.’

And he says, the most difficult thing during Christmas break will be limiting the number of social contacts you have. Ranade says almost all of the cases Lambton Public Health investigates are from close social contact – people letting their guards down with others they know.

He’s urging employers to turn in-person holiday gatherings into virtual events. “Those are the places where people let their guards down and they think, ‘Oh, I’m with these people all the time so obviously, they’re not going to be a risk.’ But in a structured environment, where you’re kept away from each other by protocols, that’s a different story than in an unstructured environment where you get together with people that seemed to be safer, because you see them all the time.”

Ranade says people in Lambton have to treat COVID-19 as if it is “all around you. “That doesn’t mean you have to be afraid

of everyone, but it means you need to keep your distance from them. And also make sure that if you don’t feel that well, you keep your distance from everyone else and get a test.”

And Ranade is urging people to stay home this Christmas season.

“And (we need to) also restrict what we do to only that which is essential and that is a very challenging message.

“I understand this is exactly the time of year (we do socialize), we’ve had almost a full year of this pandemic. It is really challenging to say we need to continue to not be with other people, but that’s exactly what we need to do in order to protect two groups of people; one, the people who could get really, really sick or die if they get COVID-19, and two, the structures in our health care system, which allow us to treat people both with and without COVID-19 when they need help.

“I think that this is a warning sign and a message to everyone that the cases are going up. There is disease in the community here, as we knew that there was. Please do not look at the numbers and say we’re better than someone else, please look at the numbers and say, ‘it’s here, we need to treat it like it’s here.’ And we need to stop doing non-essential things in order to protect the vulnerable and our health care system.”

Lambton has so far seen fewer cases during the second wave than many communities.

Over the last week, Ontario reported about 2,000 positive COVID-19 tests per day. Windsor-Essex is already in lockdown. For the last three days, there have been more than 100 new cases a day and two nursing homes have large outbreaks.

Middlesex-London is also in the red zone of the province’s reopening framework as the number of cases surge.

Nearly 200 cases of COVID-19 have occurred in staff and patients at the local hospitals in December.

Ranade says the increasing numbers may indicate the provincial framework restrictions may not be strong enough.

“Perhaps the threshold indicators are not set at the right level, or the interventions within each threshold are not sufficient to stop transmission of disease to the next level,” says Ranade.

were in place.

McSween says the investigation is one of 1,379 workplaces that have been visited during COVID-19 related field visits in Windsor, Chatham-Kent, Sarnia and London. No tickets have been issued. No charges have been laid.

The Toronto Star reported over the week-end over 7,600 workers have contracted COVID-19 on the job, but only two charges have been laid in nearly 30,000 investigations.

There have been seven workplace outbreaks in Lambton this week alone.

Labour Minister and Lambton-Kent-Middlesex MPP, Monte McNaughton, says the inspectors have the power to lay charges when necessary. He says, for the most part, workers and employers are working together to keep workplaces safe.

Lambton’s Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Sudit Ranade, says workplaces have an inherent danger for COVID-19 because of the close contact involved.

“I think the point here really is that some activities and some settings are just risky and there is only so much you can do to mitigate that risk.”

Over 1,300 workplaces in region inspected

Heather Wright
The Independent

High Park Farms is one of the 30,000 businesses across Ontario which have been inspected after complaints from employees about poor pandemic protocols.

Ministry of Labour officials confirm inspectors have been on site at the Lasalle Line greenhouse four times - the latest on Dec. 9.

But spokesperson Kalem McSween tells The Independent the company has so far not faced any orders from inspectors. The Dec. 9 investigation is ongoing.

Sources tell The Independent workers were concerned about personal protective equipment. At first, it was supplied. Then, sources say, employees were required to purchase cloth masks for themselves. They could purchase one at the greenhouse for a nominal fee. If they didn’t have the cash, sources say, they would be sent home.

McSween says labour inspectors were called to the greenhouse because of anonymous complaint from a worker but found a supply of PPE and hand sanitizer on site and that social distancing measures



This Month In Lambton

December 2020



Warden Kevin Marriott
@LambtonWarden

Council elects 159th Lambton County Warden

Enniskillen Mayor Kevin Marriott has been elected the 159th Warden of Lambton County.

Warden Marriott was elected to the position by his peers on Lambton County Council on December 2, 2020. The County Warden is the Head of Council for the County of Lambton.

Point Edward Mayor Bev Hand was elected to the position of Deputy Warden.

Borrow snowshoes from your Library

Are you looking for activities to do outdoors this winter? Snowshoes are a great way to remain physically distanced while enjoying the outdoors. Snowshoes are available in adult and children’s sizes for a 7-day loan period.

You can place holds on snowshoes for contactless curbside pickup through **lclibrary.ca**, the Iguana Library app, or by calling your local library.

Canatara Cabin on the move

The City of Sarnia and the County of Lambton have finalized details to move a historic log cabin from Canatara Park to Lambton Heritage Museum.

Working in partnership with the Save the Canatara Cabin group, Lambton Heritage Museum has raised \$11,510 in the first week of fundraising in support of the Canatara Cabin Restoration Project.

To learn more and to contribute, visit: **lambtonmuseums.ca/canatara-cabin**.

TSL launches Win Your Holiday Shopping contest

From December 1-25, Tourism Sarnia-Lambton is rewarding shoppers with a daily chance to win up to \$200 of your local holiday shopping, plus the chance to win the Discover Sarnia-Lambton \$1000 Gift Card Grand Prize Draw.

Submit a copy of your receipts along with your contact information into a ballot box located at Lambton Mall Guest Services in Sarnia, the Shores Recreation Centre in Forest, Petrolia Town Hall, or Tourism Sarnia-Lambton in Point Edward.

Contest winners will be selected daily and posted on the Tourism Sarnia-Lambton: Ontario’s Blue Coast Facebook and Instagram pages.



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To read more, go to **lambtononline.ca**



Canada 

Opinion

Ontario’s Lt. Governor wishes you peace in 2021

EDITOR:

This holiday season brings with it mixed and complicated emotions. It has been a year of challenges for all Ontarians.

My thoughts turn to those who have lost loved ones, those who will be disappointed because they cannot celebrate with extended family members in person, those who will miss out on cherished traditions and those who remain anxious and uncertain about what the near future will hold.

And yet, out of these unprecedented circumstances we have also seen the very best of humanity. Together, with creativity, courage and compassion we have supported each other – our families, neighbors and communities. We have much to be thankful for this holiday season.

I am so grateful to all those who serve. You who respond when we need

you the most. Our doctors, nurses, and personal support workers. Our first responders, teachers, scientists and countless others. Those who never tire or fail to answer the call.

Equally, I appreciate those who take risks, sometimes at great personal cost, so that the rest of us can work from home. Those who keep us fed, deliver goods we need, and clean our public spaces, doing work that we take for granted. Those who put others before themselves, like our small business owners and frontline workers. Throughout this pandemic, Ontarians have demonstrated that where the health and wellbeing of our fellow citizens is concerned, every act and sacrifice counts.

I am inspired by those who never give up hope. Those who are thinking boldly about a more just and sustainable future, where everyone finds acceptance, and every voice is

heard. One with inclusive economic prosperity, dignity for all, and a new and better normal. One that respects Indigenous communities who have stewarded and shaped this land from time immemorial.

The COVID-19 pandemic has tested the character and resolve of the people of this province. So this year, whatever your faith or tradition, I encourage you to celebrate with purpose and a renewed optimism. Let us rejoice in all that we have overcome with warmth and generosity of spirit but let us also consider how we will remain energized for all we must yet accomplish. We are all in this together. Be kind to one another.

As The Queen’s representative in Ontario, I wish you good health and happiness. Quite simply, may you find peace.

The Hon. Elizabeth Dowdeswell
Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

Settlement reached with one of three Wyoming firefighters

Heather Wright
The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming has reached a resolution with one of three firefighters dismissed last February.

Jeff Scott, who was the District Chief in Camlachie, was dismissed by then chief Steve Clemens along with Lt. Carrie Ann Wilson and Sr. Firefighter Jason Lyon in early February, 2020.

No reasons were given for the dismissal although at the time Clemens told *The Independent* there had been two separate workplace health and safety investigations.

Scott told *The Independent* in June he had not been given a reason for the dismissal but he frequently disagreed with the chief and let him know his concerns.

A news release issued by the town Dec. 16 says:

“The Town of Plympton-Wyoming wants to announce that it has reached a mutually acceptable resolution of all employment-related issues with former District Fire Chief Jeff Scott.

“The Town of Plympton-Wyoming would like to thank Mr. Scott for his years of dedicated service to the community.

“In addition, the town can confirm that Jeff Scott’s departure from the Fire Department was not related to the workplace investigation that occurred between December 2019 and January 2020, and that it was not related, in any way, to any allegations of sexual harassment.”

Mayor Lonny Napper deferred all questions to the CAO, Carolyn Tripp saying only it was “great to have the situation resolved.”

Tripp did not provide any further information saying it was a personnel matter. Scott’s lawyers also declined comment.

Plympton-Wyoming begins search for new fire chief

Heather Wright
The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming council is changing course.

A month after it turned down a request from the fire executive board to start looking for a new fire chief, it’s now given the green light to begin the search.

Steve Clemens resigned from the post in October after taking a leave of absence from the job. Clemens had been on the job three years when he took leave after the outcry surrounding

the firing of three senior officers. The town and lawyers for the three are still discussing the dismissals, which the firefighters say were not justified.

Municipalities don’t discuss personnel issues, but minutes from an in camera meeting show the fire executive committee sent a request to council in November asking to begin the search for a new chief.

That request, according to the minutes, was turned down and the issue sent back to the fire executive committee.

It appears council has changed its

mind. In a news release about the Dec. 9 council meeting, it’s reported the request was reconsidered in closed session and the council unanimously agreed to move ahead to fill the position.

Because the discussion was behind closed doors, it is not clear why council decided to go ahead. It’s also not clear when the new chief may be hired.



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Petrolia Shines for Christmas



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS

It may be a dreary winter, but you wouldn't know it from (most) Christmas light displays in Petrolia. Homeowners were encouraged to light up their lawns and some did it in a dramatic way. These scenes were captured in the town, including the one which catches Santa with his pants down on Eureka St.



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Town of Plympton-Wyoming WINTER MAINTENANCE NOTICE

Snow Removal

- Under the Highway Traffic Act Section 181 – Deposit of snow on Roadway, states that “No person shall deposit snow or ice on a roadway without permission in writing to do so from the Ministry of Transportation or the road authority responsible for the maintenance of the road.”
- This generally applies to the snow that accumulates in laneways from precipitation and from private or municipal snow plowing operations. Those who insist on plowing snow from private property onto public roads can be fined.

NEW for 2021 No Overnight Parking on Roadways

- There is no overnight parking on roads between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. January 7th until March 15th 2021 and November 15th to March 15th each year after.
- This allows for the Town's road crews to plow the roads safely and efficiently. We ask that you please cooperate and be considerate of the road crews when they are out doing their best to keep our roads open and in safe condition for emergency services.
- Vehicles that are not in compliance will be given a first time warning and then towed if still not in compliance.

Parking on Roadway

- Under the Highway Traffic Act Section 170 **'Vehicles Interfering with Traffic'** (12) *Despite the other provisions of this section, no person shall park or stand a vehicle on a highway in such a manner as to interfere with the movement of traffic or the clearing of snow from the highway. R.S.O. 1990, c. H.8, s. 170 (12).'*

Sidewalks

- The trail on Oil Heritage Road will get plowed once. The trail will get a second plow once all of the roads and sidewalks have been done.

Emergency Parking Ban

- As per the Town's Winter Operations Plan section 4.6.12 cars parked on the streets during a snow removal effort may be ticketed and/or towed away. A snow emergency parking ban may be declared by Operations Coordinator, or their designate. The Ontario Provincial Police, Lambton Detachment and media will be notified when the parking ban is initiated.

Optimist secure private pavilion funding

Heather Wright
The Independent

It looks like the Alvinston Optimist won’t be going to the bank of Brooke-Alvinston after all.

At a meeting Dec. 10, council agreed to secure an \$80,000 loan for the club so the long-talked about pavilion project can go ahead.

At least one person, Mayor Dave Ferguson, is concerned the club is using the township as a bank.

But now, Councillor Jamie Armstrong, who is also an Optimist member and was once the head of the building committee says it will not be needed since the group has secured its own loan.

It’s the latest in a long running saga to improve the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre with a pavilion.

The issue goes back six years when, before he became a councillor, Armstrong came to council as a member of the Optimist proposing a massive renovation of the complex. The Optimist goal in 2015 was to raise enough money to renovate washrooms and dressing rooms, build a new canteen, provide a heated viewing area, and build a pavilion in a project which was estimated to cost \$1 million at the time.

But Armstrong and the Optimist grew frustrated as they applied for grants and failed to get funding.

The project was broken into phases, but as that happened, the cost of construction climbed and the Optimist put fundraising on hold saying people in the community were not donating because the municipality was spending tax money to renovate another part of the arena.

In 2019, council agreed to work with Armstrong – now a councillor – and the club on a pavilion attached to the arena near the ball diamonds.

After years of debate, the project seemed ready to move forward with help from the municipality. Councillor Wayne Deans and Deputy Frank Nemcek asked council approve a motion by Armstrong which would see the town take out an \$80,000 loan for the project which is now estimated to be about \$356,000.

Ferguson objected, concerned in part about the optics of the municipality lending a service club money.

“Are we now a bank or a lending institution? Which group now heads to the municipality for a long-term loan for new buildings, such as the Legion which is looking forward to putting up a new facility across the road; they are a service club in the community also.”

Armstrong argued the Optimist pavilion would become municipal property, unlike the new Legion.

And while Ferguson was sharply opposed, other councillors were more concerned about the interest rate the municipal treasurer suggested – six per cent over five years.

It was the interest rate, in the end, says Armstrong, which led the Optimist to turn down the municipal offer and move ahead with private funding. “We thought - the club thought - that was a little bit excessive. So (the municipality) did send back different terms and we just decided that it wasn’t worth continuing to argue about something like that.”

Armstrong says the funding “was actually secured before we went to the council meeting, because we didn’t know how that would turn out... So, in order to quell everybody’s fears that the taxpayers were going to pick up the bill for it, we already had other plans to get money cheaper.”

Armstrong is hopeful that since financing is now in place more people will come forward and donate to the project.

Some Lambton municipalities OK ATVs on roads

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

It looks like ATV riders will be able to legally tackle some of St. Clair Township’s roads and several other rural Lambton municipalities early next year.

This week council discussed a bylaw to be voted on at their Jan. 4 meeting. It would allow off-road vehicle use on roads in St. Clair’s rural areas.

The move is prompted by changes coming to the Highway Traffic Act. Starting New Year’s Day, ATV’s and other off-road vehicles will be legal on all municipal roads in Ontario unless there is a bylaw in place to restrict them.

Earlier in the month council had asked for information on what other Lambton County municipalities were doing.

Oil Springs already allows ATV’s on all their roads, and Warwick and Dawn-Euphemia are set to join them on Jan. 1.

Brooke-Alvinston allows off-road vehicles from dusk to dawn, but only outside of town limits.

Petrolia and Enniskillen will decide off-road vehicle status at future council meetings.

St. Clair Councillor Bill Myers thinks allowing ATV’s in the more rural areas of the township is a good compromise.

“From my experience the complaints we’ve had are from the urban areas, primarily along the river.

“I personally don’t think that’s a good fit for ATV use. But I think we have a lot of area in our township that possibly is

appropriate for riding,” he says.

There are still several points to iron out though, such as which roads ATV’s will be allowed on, and during what times of the day.

Deputy Mayor Steve Miller pointed out many people use off-road vehicles to perform work around town, and an exception would need to be made for them.

Councillor Rose Atkins hopes a network of roads can be established to connect all the rural roads in the area that allow off-road vehicle use, including in Oil Springs and Chatham-Kent.

She says the Lambton County Trails group is a good model of an organization that came together to fulfill a similar goal.

Enforcement of the proposed bylaw was also discussed.

OPP would only be able to hand out tickets based on the Highway Traffic Act, as they don’t have the power to enforce municipal bylaws.

But St. Clair clerk Jeff Baranek says that if a violation of the bylaw was discovered – such as operating an ATV on an unapproved road – OPP could still take down the person’s information and pass it along to the township for enforcement.

Baranek also says council is still prepared to hear a presentation from local ATV riders, and can always amend the bylaw based on their input.

While the bylaw is expected to pass Jan. 4, council also decided off-road vehicles will remain prohibited until the vote, despite the new provincial law set to come into play on New Year’s Day.



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**Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston
Employment Opportunity**

**Labourer / Grader / Backhoe / Truck / Heavy Equipment Operator,
Public Works Department**

This is a full time position reporting to the Lead Hand / Public Works Manager, with duties in the public works department.

Applicants are required to have valid Ontario “DZ” drivers licence and experience in grader operations as well as other heavy equipment.

The qualified person will assist the Public Works Department in the construction and maintenance of all municipal roads, bridges, culverts and other road works within the guidelines of municipal policy and under the direction of the Lead Hand / Public Works Manager. Responsible for operating heavy equipment in a safe and appropriate manner including trucks, front end loaders, dozers, graders and other pieces of equipment. Cleaning and maintenance of equipment is required.

If you are interested in this position, please submit your resume with covering letter to the undersigned by Friday, January 8, 2021 at 12 noon.

Janet Denkers
Clerk Administrator
Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston
3236 River Street, P O Box 28
Alvinston, Ontario N0N 1A0
Phone 898-2173 Email: jdenkers@brookealvinston.com

All applications will be held in strict confidence. We thank all applicants, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used for employment assessment purposes only.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS

WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

With the holidays, we will have some amendments to our waste collection pick ups.

Regular Day	For the week of: December 21-25, 2020	For the week of: Dec.28/20 - Jan. 1/21
MONDAY/TUESDAY	AS SCHEDULED	AS SCHEDULED
WEDNESDAY	NO COLLECTION	NO COLLECTION
THURSDAY	Wed., Dec. 23, 2020	Wed., Dec. 30 , 2020
FRIDAY	Thurs., Dec.24, 2020	Thurs., Dec. 31, 2020

From Mayor Loosley, Council and Staff we wish you all the best this holiday season, and send warm wishes to you and yours for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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you'll be surprised!

The Municipal Office will be Closed at noon, Dec. 24 and will re-open on Monday, Jan. 4, 2021.

Feeling effects of ‘necessary’ shutdown

Heather Wright
The Independent

Municipal services will be impacted as the province imposes a lockdown Dec. 26. During the first lockdown in March, municipalities closed their doors to the public, doing most of their business online and by phone. The Town of Petrolia has already said it will close town hall starting Dec. 24. The arena will close at the end of the day and the Petrolia Y will also be closed during the duration of the 28-day shutdown. And while the move is worrisome for busi-

ness, the head of Bluewater Health says it was necessary. CEO Mike Lapaine says Bluewater Health has a small ICU and could easily be overwhelmed if the cases in Lambton continue to rise. “What we’ve seen and the rate of acceleration in cases, and then the rate of hospitalization, particularly ICU beds, suggest that by mid to late January, on our current trajectory, we might be in that situation where we have no ICU beds left.” For now, Lapaine says, the hospitals are able to continue elective surgery.

Seniors housing in works in Alvinston

Heather Wright
The Independent

There may soon be a new seniors townhouse development in Alvinston. Brooke-Alvinston Council has given approval to change the zoning on a 1.5 acre parcel of land on Railroad Street to allow multiple units. Ken and Lisa Tizzard applied for the change saying they wished to build up to 12 townhouse units and market them to seniors. Some neighbours voiced concern the land

had once been used for bulk fuel storage. Planner Rob Nesbitt says Lambton County is not aware of any environmental issues but says when the plan returns to council for final approval, council may want to consider making an engineer’s assessment of the soil conditions part of the approval process. “The subject site is of sufficient size to accommodate several townhouse dwellings in such a manner that it will be compatible with the existing character and pattern of the nearby residential uses,” Nesbitt says. Council approved the zoning change.

Petrolia budget gets the green light

Heather Wright
The Independent

As expected, Petrolia’s municipal taxes won’t go up in 2021. Town council passed its \$5.865 million operational budget and its \$1.7 million capital budget for 2021 at the Dec. 14 council meeting unanimously. Mayor Brad Loosley says the budget is good news for taxpayers. However while the tax rate will not increase, spending will. There has also been new revenue into this years budget, according to CAO Rick Charlebois. The town will collect \$107,000 more in taxes simply because the value of housing in the town (property assessment) has increased, according to Loosley. The Ontario Municipal Partner Fund grant Petrolia receives is also up \$27,600 this year.

The town will also come in about \$200,000 under budget by the end of 2020, according to Loosley. There is also an additional \$468,000 from the most recent round of COVID-19 funding which will offset the losses at the Petrolia Y and Victoria Playhouse Petrolia. It’s not clear at press time how that will affect the town’s budget. There is also a two per cent wage increase for all town employees that factors into the budget. The town budget is only one part of the property tax bill. The province has yet to say what the education rate will be, although commercial and industrial properties will see their educational taxes drop 30 per cent. Lambton County has yet to release a preliminary budget and should pass the 2021 document in the spring.

More COVID-19 cash for Lambton municipalities

Heather Wright
The Independent

Lambton municipalities are getting more funding to help deal with COVID-19. The federal money is distributed by the province and is part of a \$4 billion package negotiated in July. The province announced Dec. 16 a total of \$299 million would go to all 444 municipalities across Ontario based on their population. Lambton County received \$722,000 in funding to use as it sees fit to balance the budget. Municipalities also received discretionary funding including: • Brooke-Alvinston, \$17,000 • Dawn-Euphemia \$16,000 • Enniskillen \$18,000 • Oil Springs \$12,000 • Petrolia \$30,000 • Plympton-Wyoming \$44,000 • St. Clair \$78,000 • Warwick \$20,000 • Sarnia \$407,000 • Pt Edward \$17,000 Municipalities could also apply for extra funding to help cover some of the unforeseen costs. In Central Lambton; Warwick Township received the most supplemental money – \$494,000. Treasurer Trevor Jarrett says it

covers losses for rental facilities such as Centennial Hall and the Watford arena where rentals are “virtually non-existent” compared to last year. Some of the money also covers lost revenue from the host agreement with Waste Management. The landfill shut down early in the pandemic so the revenue to the municipality was not as high as it could have been. Petrolia was another big winner receiving \$468,000. In a news release, CAO/Treasurer Rick Charlebois says the additional cash helps cover revenue losses at the Petrolia Y, the Greenwood Recreation Centre and the Victoria Playhouse which could not host a season this year. “Our three main revenue generating operations have a combined negative financial impact of \$538,000,” said Charlebois. Plympton-Wyoming received an extra \$143,000 for reduction in the revenue from swimming lessons and rentals at the Camlachie Community Centre, increased costs for Emergency Management expenses including PPE and increased cleaning, and equipment for virtual meetings. Point Edward received an extra \$603,000, mainly to cover lost revenue from the casino hosting agreement.

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Sports

Arenas closing down

The Independent

Arenas and gyms will once again be shuttered as the province imposes a lockdown Boxing Day to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Before the premier announced the move Monday, Mooretown minor hockey had already decided to put games on hold as the number of cases in the community rose steadily. Some had arms length connection to Moore-town Minor Hockey.

The decision was relayed in a news release on the association’s website on the weekend. The release says all programming, including clinics are cancelled for this week.

“We want to reiterate that this is a precautionary, preventative measure only, and is not due to cases within MTMHA, or anything that has

occurred at the rink,” the release stated.

In Petrolia, officials say the Greenwood Recreation Centre will see its last patrons Christmas Eve at 6:30 pm. The town has family skating planned for that afternoon which will move ahead.

The move calls into question the Petrolia Flyer’s Jr. C season.

The team had planned a series of exhibition games with Mooretown in January which now cannot go ahead.

The league hoped to begin play in February. General Manager Denis Meston says that is now doubtful.

East Lambton Minor Hockey will also have to suspend play as arenas in Watford and Alvinston are closed because of the lockdown.

The Petrolia Y, owned by the town, will also be shuttered for 28 days.

Fryfogle makes a mark at Florida tourney

The Independent

A Petrolia Minor Hockey product continues to fly high for Eagles.

Bayly Fryfogle registered four assists in four games for the Northern Colorado Eagles of the US Premier Hockey League in a pre-holiday Hub Tournament in Tampa, Florida last weekend.

Fryfogle, a Petrolia Minor Hockey graduate, is eighth in league scoring by blueliners with five goals and 17 assists in 26 games.

The Eagles won the first three

games of the tournament before losing their final game against Fraser, Michigan’s Metro Jets.

Fryfogle was held off the scoresheet in that contest snapping a six-game point scoring streak.

The Eagles are 19-6-1 and in second place in the league’s Mountain Division.

Their next game is Jan. 9.



Drunk driver doesn’t remember accident

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

A Kettle Point man with an alarming level of alcohol in his body when he hit a car has received a substantial fine.

Warren George, 66, was in Sarnia Court Dec. 21 to plead guilty to drunk driving. Readings taken by OPP after his arrest earlier this year showed a blood alcohol level of .292 – more than 3.5 times the legal limit.

Court heard that Mar. 10 at 1:45 pm George was driving his Dodge RAM south on Highway 21. He turned right at the Lakeshore Rd. intersection and sideswiped a car, damaging the bumper, headlight and driver’s mirror. George continued down the road.

The man turned around and followed George, who was swerving in and out of the oncoming lane. He drove into a ditch but managed to free the truck. George then pulled into his Lakeshore Rd. home.

The man parked behind George in his driveway and watched him get out of the truck. George collapsed onto a ladder and was unable to lift himself up. An empty bottle of whiskey fell next to him.

Police arrived at 2 pm and found George still couldn’t get up. An officer helped him to his feet and noticed a strong odor of alcohol, bloodshot eyes and slurred speech. When George was told he’d been in a collision he said he didn’t remember anything. He did admit to drinking.

“I’m sorry and I hope I never do this again,” says George during his sentencing. He says he’s working on quitting drinking.

Justice Anne McFadyen fined George \$2,500, noting he caused an accident, left the scene, and had very elevated alcohol readings. George is also banned from driving for one year.

- The Independent

Second meeting on Petrolia woodlot’s future

Neighbours worried about a plan to remove 17 acres of bush in the Countryview Subdivision will be able to have a say - again - Jan. 28 online.

The Town of Petrolia has set a second public meeting for the rezoning of the woodlot to residential because

so many people wanted to voice their concerns at the first hearing.

Developer Bob Leaper plans to remove 17 acres of woods to create up to 74 housing lots. Some buffer strips will be left to be a buffer to the property and local farmland.

TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVINCIAL LOCKDOWN ORDER, THE INDEPENDENT WILL BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC. YOU MAY REACH US AT 226-738-0728 OR BY EMAILING OFFICE@PETROLIALAMBTONINDEPENDENT.CA



NOTICE OF SECOND PUBLIC MEETING PURSUANT TO SECTION 21 AND 34 OF THE PLANNING ACT

APPLICATION FOR OFFICIAL PLAN AND ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

OWNER: Elbee Investments Sarnia Ltd.
AGENT: Bob Leaper, Bobcat Developments Petrolia Ltd.
LOCATION: West of Countryview Drive, between Joe Street and Valentina Street
ROLL NO.: 3819-000-030-00120

Purpose and Effect

The proposed official plan amendment would re-designate a portion of the lands owned by Elbee Investments Sarnia Limited and described as Part of Lot 10, Concession 10 & Part 2 RP25R8811 in the Town of Petrolia from “Significant Woodlot” to “Residential”. The proposed zoning by-law amendment would rezone the above-noted lands from “Significant Woodlot” to “Residential-1 (R1)”.

The Amendments would accommodate a proposed extension of a draft approved plan of subdivision.

The attached Key Map shows the general location of the lands to which the Amendments pertain.

The Town of Petrolia Senior Planner has deemed the application for the proposed Official Plan Amendment to be complete under 21 of the Planning Act and the application for the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment to be complete under Section 34 of the Planning Act.

Description and Location of Subject Property

The property is approximately 9.9 hectares (24 acres) in size. The property is located west of Countryview Drive, between Joe Street and Valentina Street.

Second Public Meeting

Town Council held a public meeting on December 14, 2020 to consider the applications for an official plan amendment and zoning by-law amendment. Town Council will hold a **second public meeting** to consider the application on:

Date: Thursday January 28th, 2021
Time: 5:00pm
Place: Via Zoom

You are invited to attend the public meeting and to present verbal and written comments regarding this matter. If you wish to submit a written or make an oral presentation at the public hearing, please contact the Town of Petrolia no later than 4:30 p.m on January 21, 2021.

Other Planning Act Applications

None

Other Information:

If a person or public body that files an appeal of a decision of the Town of Petrolia in respect of the proposed Official Plan Amendment and/or Zoning By-law Amendment, does not make oral submissions at the Public Meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Petrolia before the proposed Official Plan Amendment is adopted and the Zoning By-law Amendment is passed, the Local Planning Appeals Tribunal may dismiss all or part of the appeal.

If a person or public body that files a notice of appeal of a decision of the Approval Authority, the County of Lambton, in respect of the proposed Official Plan Amendment does not make oral submissions at the Public Meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Petrolia before the proposed Official Plan Amendment is adopted, the Local Planning Appeals Tribunal may dismiss all or part of the appeal.

If you wish to be notified of the adoption of the proposed Official Plan Amendment and/or the passing of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment, you must make a written request to the Town of Petrolia, by contacting the undersigned during regular business hours.

Additional information regarding this application is available for public for inspection at the Town of Petrolia Municipal Office, 411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia, Ontario, N0N 1R0. If you have any questions regarding the application, please contact Rob Nesbitt, Town Planner, at 519.882.2350.

DATED AT PETROLIA, ONTARIO this 18th day of December 2020

Mandi Pearson, Clerk/Operations Clerk
Township of Petrolia
411 Greenfield Street
Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0
519.882.2350
mpearson@petrolia.ca

APPLICATION FOR ZONING BY-LAW & OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENTS
Elbee Investments Sarnia Ltd. (owner)
Bob Leaper, Bobcat Developments Petrolia Ltd. (agent)
West of Countryview Drive, between Joe Street and Valentina Street
Legal Description Part of Lot 10, Concession 10 & Part 2 RP25R8811 (geographic Town of Petrolia)

Town of PETROLIA KEY MAP

Published by the County of Lambton Planning Department 789 Broadway Street, Wyoming, ON N0N 1T0 (519) 845-0801 DATE	SUBJECT LANDS	Disclaimer: This map is for illustrative purposes only. Do not rely on it as being a precise indicator of routes, locations of features, nor as a guide to navigation.
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Classified Deadline:
Monday @ 12 noon

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In Memory

In loving memory of a dear husband, dad, grandfather & brother in-law
ROBERT “BILL” D. ELLIOTT
November 11, 1936 - January 6, 2020
*You are always in our thoughts and hearts.
Hope you are playing cards in Heaven.*

Margaret Elliott,
Greg and Colleen Elliott & Family,
Janice and Chris Francis & Family,
Dorothy Vogt

In Memory


Missing Each of You
Each of you are missed at Christmas and each and every day.
For each of you were someone special, who meant more than words can say.
Mom - Sarah (Wagner) Rees - Dec. 10, 1989
Dad - Samuel Rees - Oct. 5, 1977
Sister - Delores Broad - Dec. 23, 2009
Brother - Gerald Rees - Aug. 5, 2002
Brother - Sam Jr. Rees - Jun. 5, 2013
Luv & Hugs Geraldine Duffy

Our Loving Son
John Duffy - May 22, 2016
Of all the special gifts in life, However great or small.
To have you “John” as our son, Was the greatest gift of all.
A special time.
A special place.
A special son,
We can’t replace.
With an aching heart,
We whisper low,
We miss you “John”,
We love you so!!!
*Mom & Dad,
Myrna Duffy*

Card of Thanks

THANK YOU
Allen Douglas
1965 – 2020

I wish to express my sincere thanks to everyone who offered support and kindness during Allen's illness and since his passing.
Many thanks for the special care Allen received from Dr. Butler, VON, Nursing Staff at Bluewater Health Sarnia & CEE Hospitals and the Paramedics. Special thanks to Steve and Laura of Needham Jay Funeral Home for their guidance and compassion.
Thanks to Rev. Robert Gibson for his meaningful and comforting words.
At this difficult time it all means more than words can ever say.
SHIRLEY DOUGLAS

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

Obituary


**CARPENTER**
Jeannine Marie

**WESTELAKEN**
Henderina

It is with the saddest of hearts that we announce the passing of Jeannine Marie “Jean” Carpenter, 87, of Petrolia, ON. Jeannine is predeceased by her loving husband William John “Jack” Carpenter, her mother and father Yvonne and Fred Rochon, her brothers Leo Rochon (Georgette), Fern Rochon, Marcel Rochon (Joyce), Ronald Rochon (Monique) and her sisters Ermine Rochon and Lou McLean (Clay). She is survived by her children, William John “Bill” Carpenter (Julie), Sherry Carpenter and David Carpenter. Also survived by her grandchildren William John “John” Carpenter, Summer Carpenter, Mitchell Carpenter, Cameron Carpenter (Miranda), Ashley Carpenter (Ben), and Paul Carpenter. She leaves behind many great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild who will miss her dearly. At Jeannine’s request, there will be no funeral services held. **Cremation has already taken place.** Sympathy may be expressed through donations to the Alzheimer Society Sarnia Lambton (cheques only at the funeral home please). Arrangements entrusted to SMITH FUNERAL HOME, 1576 London Line, Sarnia. Memories and condolences may be sent online at www.smithfuneralhome.ca

Today we are mourning the passing of our mother Henderina (Rina, Renee) Westelaken (Donkers). She passed away peacefully in her 86th year on **December 15** in St. Marys Ontario. In 1951 Mom emigrated from the Netherlands with our grandparents Hubert and Marie Donkers and nine of her cherished siblings. Joining three who had already emigrated and leaving two behind. The Donkers family settled in Camlachie Ontario. Five years later she married our father Chris (died 2005). Our amazing Mom will be remembered for her zest for life. She loved to have a laugh and make friends. She taught us that anything was possible. She earned her high school diploma while her youngest child entered grade one. She studied French, took swimming lessons (even though she was afraid of water) and learned how to skate at 61 years old so she could skate with her grandchildren. She loved to cook, loved to drive and most certainly loved to help out others in times of need. On a social note she never turned down a yummy shot of Advocaat. She is survived by her five children Deb McKay (Bill), Rose-Anne Seccareccia (Robert), Peter (Barb), Paul (Beth), Lisa Passarelli (Vittorio). Grandmother was dearly loved by her grandchildren Christopher, Nicholas and Sarah McKay, Michael, Jordan and Stephen Seccareccia, Carly, Rachel and Ellen Westelaken, Mackenzie, Ryan and Olivia Westelaken, Morgan, Chiara, Giacomo, Livia and Giuseppe Passarelli. Great Grandmother did not get enough precious time to spend with Fox, Addie, Jack and Billy. As adults we will certainly remember her energy, her humour and her strong sense of family. Her grandkids will remember her for her love, her hugs and her homemade chicken soup. Good bye mom you will be deeply missed and forever loved. Many thanks to the wonderful caregivers at Wildwood Nursing Home. **At mom’s request there will not be a visitation at this time. Later when conditions permit a celebration of life will be held.** Donations in memory of mom can be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Arrangements with the Andrew L. Hodges Funeral Home, St. Marys (519-284-2820). Online condolences at www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca.

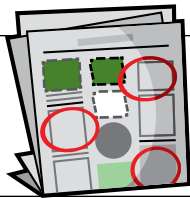
In Memory

*In Memory of*
JOHN F. Hull
A cherished Husband,
Father & Grandfather

Your in our thoughts at Christmas,
So we say this little prayer.
May angels always bless you
And keep you in their care.
And may the heavens angels,
Light a Christmas Star to shine on you,
All year through no matter where you are.
Love and Miss you
Myrtle, Kathy, Paul & Grandchildren

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Death Notices

December 13 - December 20, 2020

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

BARR, Kathleen

Age 66, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

VASEY, James

Age 82, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

HUCTWITH, Robert

Age 84, of Forest
Denning's of Forest

FINLEY, Eleanor "Laurie"

Age 97, of Sarnia
McCormick Funeral Home

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14

GAUTHIER, Loretta

Age 78, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

MORNINGSTAR, A. Donald

Age 88, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

TOWLER, Theresa

Age 88, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

COOK, Beverley

Age 99, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15

FULTON, Robert

Age 72, of Corunna
Knight Funeral Home

HOVEY, Hilda "Marie"

Age 92, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

SYKES, Ross "Clint"

Age 96, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

WATERS, Anthony

Age 65, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

BLYTH, Billy

Age 55, of Sarnia
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

SINGLETON, David

Age 73, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

COOPER, Allen "Alfie"

Age 76, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

HAZELHOFF, Joan Louise

Age 79, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

JENNINGS, Sally Ann

Age 86, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

CARPENTER, Jeannine "Jean"

Age 87, of Petrolia
Smith Funeral Home

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

ARNOLD, Clifford

Age 67, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

JOHNSON, Gwyneth

Age 86, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

DILLABOUGH, Noreen

Age 92, of Kettle Point
Denning's of Forest

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

MITCHELL, Brendon

Age 25, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

BANNINGA, Marvin

Age 64, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

MILLS, John

Age 97, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

BOYLE, Matthew

Age 63, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

DAVIES, Judith

Age 65, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

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



COVID-19 SOCIAL DISTANCING

MAINTAIN A DISTANCE
OF AT LEAST 6 FEET
(2 METERS) FROM
OTHERS & remember to
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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 your mask.*

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 St. Andrew's.
10am Service - Live**

www.standrews-petrolia.ca

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.

10:30am Service

Rev. Carey Wagner

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

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

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* Totum Research; Canadians 18+, weekly readership, March 2019

Community Corner

LIONESS CLUB GIVES



SUBMITTED PHOTO
The Wyoming Lioness Club donated \$500 to Christmas For Everyone, \$500 to Petrolia Food Bank, \$500 to LCCVI Kelly's Cupboard and \$500 to North Lambton Community Health Centre - Opening Doors program.

FOOD BANK HELP

SUBMITTED PHOTO
The Seaway Kiwanis Club recently donated \$2,000 to the Petrolia Food Bank. The funds, accepted here by Brian McManaman from Kiwanis past president Donna Kelso, will be used for the Christmas for Everyone program.



MADD HONOURS OFFICER



Const. Zachary Gast is recognized as MADD Sarnia/Lambton's 2020 Distinguished Lambton OPP officer for his exemplary work to make local roads safer. MADD Sarnia/Lambton President Erin Pollard, left, presented Const. Gast with a plaque of appreciation with Insp. Chris Avery.



The Seaway Kiwanis Club recently donated \$3,500 to Lambton County Circles organization which helps people to transition out of poverty. Michelle Fitzpatrick, Circles Manager, and Seaway Kiwanis Club member, Kim Godin, of the National Circles Canada receive the cheque from Kiwanis Club Past President Donna Kelso.

REBOUND CASH

TOY DRIVE



Monday was delivery day for the many games and activities sets collected for Lambton County Development Services for Christmas. The first annual Holiday Helpers Drive was organized by the Women's March Sarnia-Lambton chapter. Donation bins were set up in Petrolia and Corunna for people to drop off games and other fun items for kids. Co-organizer Angela Salaris says the goal was to gather items for a smaller community charity. Fellow organizer Lila Palychuk, Christina Fazio and Nick Salaris from LCDS, and Angela Salaris show off the haul at LCDS Monday before the toys and games are delivered in time for Christmas.

FOOD BANK SUPPORT



SUBMITTED PHOTO
McCann Redi-Mix recently supported the Watford Food Bank with a \$2,500 donation which was part of \$15,000 given to local organizations in the region helping with hunger, homelessness and mental health issues. Here Rob Waas of McCann Redi-Mix presented the cheque to Watford Food Bank representative Carole Lupton.

MADD Sarnia/Lambton President Erin Pollard, left, accepts a cheque for \$256 from Heidi Soudant, owner of Heidi's Your Independent Grocer in Petrolia. The money was raised during a recent Cashier Ask Day fundraiser to fight impaired driving.



MADD MONEY