

Vol. 8, Issue 31 Newsstand Price \$1.50 per week Thursday, April 1, 2021

GOING THROUGH



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Birnam Construction has been hard at work building the connecting link for Valentina Street in Petrolia. Goldleaf Development is linking the two parts of the road and will build 50, 1,300 square foot, two bedroom luxury units on the private road which the developer will own.

Warwick residents ready to start \$2 million drive for center

Heather Wright
The Independent

Sue Engels has never seen a community behind a building project like this.

The head of Inspire Fundraising didn't find a single person grumbling about the proposed East Lambton Community Center - the \$11 million replacement for Centennial Hall in Watford. "We didn't even find them meeting at the Tim Hortons grumbling about the project," she told council Monday as she recommended Warwick Township move ahead with a \$2 million fundraising campaign for the project.

Engels talked to 47 people from all walks of life in Warwick about the project. One

hundred per cent of them were in favour of the plan.

"I'don't know if I've ever had this - 100 per cent really liked the project," she says. Engels says the community groups, families and business were interested in the details of the project but also the spark it could become for community growth.

"Most saw it as a catalyst for attracting and retaining families...for positive growth of the community," Engels says.

And that excitement translated into a readiness to not only give money but to help raise the \$2 million needed for the project. Sixty-two per cent of the people she talked to were ready to be on the fundraising team, and 90 per cent said they would give

money. In fact, Engels says there could be as much as \$550,000 in early gifts ready to be handed over.

Engels believes Warwick should set up a fundraising team, pick a chair for the group and start a quiet campaign in the hopes of raising \$1.2 million before the campaign goes public in November.

Council is behind the move. Deputy Mayor Jerry Westgate believes people are ready to get out to fundraisers and open their wallets.

"I think it is ideal timing. COVID hasn't cost people money, they haven't travelled any place...they're all ready to get out and do something and I think they have the money to do it," says Westgate.

The big building boom in Oil Springs

Heather Wright The Independent

To say 2020 has been a banner year for construction in Oil Springs is a major understatement.

And Mayor Ian Veen says 2021 is going to be even better.

Many municipalities are reporting large increases in building, particularly of single family homes, in 2020. In Petrolia, the town had nearly \$20 million in construction. Plympton-Wyoming had 72 homes built in 2020 with a total construction value of \$32.6 million, and in Brooke-Alvinston there were six more homes built the same year, however the value of construction was lower than 2019 still coming in at a healthy \$6.45 million.

But Oil Springs had by far the best year in construction, at least in percentage terms.

The village is reporting six new homes in the community in 2020, two accessory buildings, one industrial building, one institutional alteration, and two swimming pools, for a value of \$2.4 million. About \$2.2 million of that was for homes.

That's a stark difference from 2019, when one small building was constructed and one demolition, with a value of construction just under \$33,000.

Veen believes the boom in Oil Springs is a reflection of what is happening across the province. And he says the village has lots of space to live a quiet lifestyle, something people are craving in the wake of COVID-19.

Veen says the building boom will continue into 2021 with at least 11 homes to be constructed. Council also recently approved the development of three building lots at the corner of Victoria and Kelly Roads.

"People are figuring out Oil Springs is the best place to live and raise kids; our crime rate is down to next to nothing and you can walk down the streets at night without a problem."





Lambton Public Health Supervisor Anita Trusler explains how vaccinators will moved down the line of 15 cubicles at the Point Edward arena to vaccinate up to 60 people in 15 minutes at a news conference Friday.

High COVID rates in rural Lambton

Heather Wright

The Independent

The communities in Lambton Shores, Warwick and some of Plympton-Wyoming have generated more COVID-19 cases per capita than other parts of Lambton County.

Statistics from Lambton Public Health show rural Lambton is dealing with more COVID-19 cases per capita than most of Sarnia.

Throughout the pandemic, urban areas have had more COVID-19 cases. But that has changed.

Public health started logging where COVID-19 cases were occurring at the direction of Lambton county council in October.

Officials look at data in five areas, each with about 25,000 people. There are three urban areas in Sarnia and Point Edward and two rural areas, one encompassing Lambton Shores, Warwick and some of Plympton-Wyoming and the other containing municipalities south of Churchill Line.

Since the mapping began, the majority of the cases have been in urban areas. But for the past couple of weeks, rural Lambton - particularly in Lambton Shores and Warwick - have seen as much or more illness from COVID-19 than urban areas.

The area of Lambton Shores, Warwick and parts of Plympton-Wyoming had the highest number of cases per 100,000 in the last 30 days with 588 per 100,000. That's about 26 per cent of the cases in Lambton in about 20 per cent of the population.

Petrolia/St. Clair Township and Central Lambton municipalities have 456 cases per 100,000 in the last 30 days. That was just a handful of cases less than south end Sarnia. The north end of the city and Point Edward logged 340 and 392 cases per 100,000 in the last month.

Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Sudit Ranade, says people in rural areas have one advantage in the fight against COVID-19; space. Urban areas, particularly in poorer neighbourhoods, often seen more transmission of the virus because people live close together. People living in rural areas often have more space and they can easily remain distant from others who might carry the virus.

But rural areas also have strong traditions of getting together and that is causing problems. "This virus takes advantage of who we are as human beings and what we ed from our lives in order to transmit itself among us. One of the things we need from our lives is social interaction,"

"After a year of people doing the best that they can, some people are saying, 'oh, I've been socialized a little bit,' or some people never stopped. So, it's still the same activity or behavior that causes transmission.

"Once we opened things up, people started going back into their recreational sports or into their other activities, and it just creates these venues where the virus can transmit."

And he says the mapping system created by public health may give a false impression. Ranade says people in rural areas may see the increasing number of CÔVÎD cases around them and even if they're visiting, they're not getting sick. So, they continue visiting.

"The problem is, by the time we update the map, right, it's cases, they're two weeks out from where the actual transmission was. So you can't rely on the map, or the idea that because cases are low things are safer in order to avoid getting COVID."

Lambton clinic to vaccinate 2,500 a day

Heather Wright The Independent

Lambton Public Health officials say up to 2,500 people a day will soon be able to be vaccinated at the first mass vaccination center in Point Edward.

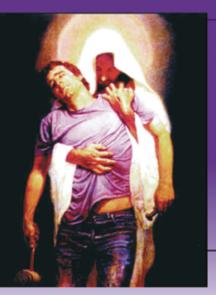
Officials gave members of the media a tour at the arena complex Friday. They call it a hockey hub design and it was first used in Grey-Bruce. There are two lines of 30 cubicles with a chair

which can hold 60 people at a time. Vaccinators will move down the lines, spending about one minute with each person, giving 60 COVID-19 shots in 15 minutes.

Anita Trusler, supervisor, health promotion with Lambton Public Health, says nearly 700 people went through the Point Edward clinic Thursday. When the province has a healthy vaccine supply, up to 2,500 people will be vaccinated at the center

Trusler says one of the biggest concerns was logistics, particularly how to get so many people in and out of the limited parking lot at the arena. The village has created a new driveway for better traffic flow and the casino and Bluewater Bridge have offered up parking lots, so people can be dropped off and then picked up in about 20 minutes.

Fifty people, including administrative clerks, vaccinators and volunteers, will be working at the clinic.



"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

Clothed in purple, a twisted crown roughly placed on His head, Mocking, striking, spitting, stripped to Golgotha He was led. Black hands of a Cyrene, were extended to bear His cross, Between two robbers He hung, a 'ransom' for the lost.

Above His head, the accusation, 'Jesus King of the Jews' read, "If you're the Son of God, come down", the blasphemers said. He opened not His mouth, but a 'somber' darkness filled the land, A cry of dereliction, the burden of humanity's sin, was in His hand.

The Holy of Holies & the Holy place veil, was split in two, Jesus sacrifice opened the Heavens, so boldly, man could pass throu. One 'irrevocable' breathe, in His 'Holy' presence we stand, Death forever defeated, holding 'no' Eternal 'victory' over man.

When you reach the end of your journey, and reflect upon your life, Will your soul 'soar' in freedom or 'agonize' in strife? You see, a 'Repentant' heart is required, a turning from our selfish ways, Confessing our sin brings 'forgiveness', inviting Jesus to the Lord, every-day.

INVITATION:

Dear Lord Jesus, "thank-you" for the price that you paid for me. Because of the sin in my life, I find myself separated from you. I ask for your forgiveness and invite you into my heart, to be Lord of all the areas of my life. Thank-you for the "gift" of salvation and the assurance of an eternal home in Heaven with you. Amen

GROGAN WATFORD

"The science doesn't know what's going on"

Heather Wright

The Independent

Brooke-Alvinston Councillor Jamie Armstrong says the "science doesn't know what is going on" when it comes to

At his suggestion, the council will write to Premier Doug Ford asking him to end lockdowns.

Lambton is currently in the Grey-Lockdown phase of Ontario's Reopening Framework as the number of COVID-19 cases rise. The community has the second highest rate of COVID-19 rates in the province at 160 cases per 100,000 people, just behind Peel Region.

There 55 people who are COVID-19 positive in 22 schools in Lambton County including Brooke Central School, where two students are still listed as COVID-19 positive. There are also five students and a teacher at LCCVI who are COVID-19 positive and two students at St. Philip in Petrolia and two at St. Peter Canisius in Watford.

Lambton Public Health reported another 18 people tested positive Tuesday and another death – a person in their 80s – due to the virus, which has lead to 50 deaths in Lambton. Ontario reported 2,336 new cases of COVID-19 Tuesday, including 14 deaths. There have been 7,351 people in Ontario and 22,921 people in all of Canada die of COVID-19 since the pandemic began a year ago.

Ontario is still trying to stop the spread of the virus, particularly since new variants of COVID-19 are appearing which spread the virus faster. The province moves regions into different zones as the prevalence of the virus increases in the community – the strictest controls are in lockdown.

But the province recently loosened the rules for communities in the Grey-Lockdown zones. Churches can now have services with up to 15 per cent of the building's capacity inside. Restaurants, which were limited to take out business in lockdown before, are now able to open their patios to serve members of the same family with up to 50 people present at one time, depending on the size of the patio. And retailers, who also were closed in earlier lockdowns, may now serve customers indoors, but only have 25 per cent of the store's capacity inside.

Armstrong told councillors at Thursday's meeting lockdowns were for a specific purpose; "We wanted to make sure that our health systems didn't get overloaded. And now we've got more people that have been affected by COVID and I failed to see what a lockdown is actually doing, as long as people follow all the social distancing and all the masking that the health system is requesting us to do.

"We keep on saying science, but every time you pick up the paper, science doesn't know what's going on with this. And I really do not believe that lockdowns are the way to go. I think it's causing a lot more mental health issues than then what we're actually solving. We've got vaccines started up. And I really think that the premier needs to hear that," added Armstrong.

THE BIG DIG



Construction is underway on the new pavilion in Alvinston. The Alvinston Optimists have been working on renovations to the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre since 2015. Plans to renovate the arena morphed to a pavilion attached to the centre with washroom facilities. Thursday, the Optimists and the municipality signed an agreement to build the structure. By that afternoon, members of the club were turning the sod. Optimist member and Councillor Jamie Armstrong says they're excited to see work begin. "It's just been such a long drawn out procedure that everybody's pretty excited. And we just want to kind of celebrate." The Optimists have raised about \$100,000 for the project and a private donor has loaned \$100,000 to the club for the project. "Then we will just pay it back as we get there," says Armstrong. He expects construction will take six to eight weeks. Pictured here are in the front, Mark Timmermans, Jeff McLachlin, Andy Triest, Les Douglas and Chad Hayter. In the back row are Dan Cumming, Tony Straatman, Kyle McEachren and Armstrong.

Vaccinated residents at Sarnia home have COVID-19

Heather Wright

The Independent

Lambton's medical officer of health says residents of a Sarnia retirement home where 20 people are now COVID-19 positive were vaccinated.

Rosewood Retirement Village now has 18 residents and two staff members listed as COVID-19 positive according to Tuesday's statistics from Lambton Public Health. Dr. Sudit Ranade says so far, the seniors have mild symptoms. And he sees this outbreak as a chance to learn more about how the virus, and the vaccines meant to fight it, work.

"We're watching it as a real world example of what happens with

Ontario Clean

COVID in a vaccinated population," the medical officer of health tells The Independent.

"Many, or most, or all of those people have had their second doses in terms of residents, so they've been considered fully immunized. Also, the timing is a little bit tight. We typically say ... you get the full protection two weeks after your second dose and they weren't quite

Ranade says many of the studies show the COVID-19 vaccines stop people from getting the virus or reduce the severity of the disease, which is important in an elderly population.

"They're two different stories

between a home that has a big outbreak and people get hospitalized and die, and a home that has a big outbreak and everyone seems like they have a cold and then it's over,"

"We're seeing the one where people have symptoms, but they're milder symptoms..

'We're not at the place where we can say that they're recovering faster, but we can say that the symptoms are milder, and we're watching to see what happens to this; does it spread

The outbreak at the retirement home is one of five in long term care in Lambton. There are 28 people in all listed as COVID-19 positive.



your clothing.

FLUSHING OF HYDRANTS AND WATERMAINS

April 19th to May 7th, 2021 7:30am to 4:30pm

The Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) will be flushing watermains throughout Petrolia. as part of the annual flushing program.

You may experience discoloured water coming from your tap. If this happens, we suggest you try the following:

• Remove the aerators from your taps and flush all the house lines until the water runs clear. • You may also decide to refrain from doing laundry during this period to avoid staining of

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

OCWA will continue to work on the flushing programs to ensure consumer satisfaction. Any concerns, please contact OCWA at the phone numbers below.

411 Greenfiels St. Petrolia, Ontario NON 1R0 519-882-2350 www.town.petrolia.on.ca

Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) Southwest Region 9210 Graham Rd. West Elgin, Ontario NOL 2PO

OCWA's 24 hour Emergency Contact # 1-888-522-0117

Bluewater hearing wants to give the gift of hearing—one free pair of hearing aids to someone who is deserving in the community.

Nominate:

Yourself, a friend, or loved one who may be in need of hearing aids but may not have access to them.

Submit your entry! Simply write a 100-word essay on why

you or someone you love deserves to have hearing aids.

bluewaterhearing.com/giftofhearing to submit your entry

Corunna 714 London Rd | 4130 Glenview Rd | 348 Lyndoch St

Visit:

🕓 519.344.8887 📵 www.bluewaterhearing.ca

*Please note: All submissions are evaluated by Bluewater Hearing staff. Contest winner must be able to travel to our clinic for all initial appointments (including, but not I limited to, initial hearing test, hearing aid fitting, and hearing aid delivery. Contest ends May 31st, 2021).

Editorial

What makes a resilient downtown

For the past five decades, small town Ontario has been wondering how they continue to make their downtowns the hub of the community - resilient enough to stand against the massive changes that face the community and even our country.

It's a question Petrolia is asking now and really, there could not be a better time to ask it.

We're in the middle of a seismic change, we believe, as businesses try to survive and thrive during a worldwide pandemic.

It has not been easy, but, as we see it, there have been some keys.

First business would not have survived COVID-19 had government not recognized the massive issues facing Canadians. Income, rent and business supports have given business in the downtown - and really in every corner of the community - time to breathe and plan what they could do to adapt.

Second, the businesses that seem to be doing better than most are creative. They don't wait for someone to suggest ways to reach their customers, they know their customers well and know how to reach them. They've set up online shops or direct delivery to make sure they're still front and centre.

And third, many of those businesses work together by teaming up with friends to offer local service bundles or to share best practices. They know they're not the only one in this pandemic and realize if they help another business, in the long run the whole town will

So, what can Petrolia draw from the COVID-19 experience to build a resilient downtown?

We need government to be involved, whether its through working to bring more business or being an encourager.

We have to be creative. Things we did 10 years ago won't necessarily work. We have to do things that will make us stand out.

And we have to work together. We have to realize that when one business in Petrolia's downtown does well, we all do.

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, NON 1R0.

The Independent reserves the right to edit letters for brevity

All letters need to be signed and must have a phone number for verification.

Our Story



DAVE BURWELL POSTCARD COLLECTION

A fine group of men who were part of the Old Boys Baseball Team at the Old Boys reunion. It appears the image from the Dave Burwell Postcard collection may have been from 1844.

Gardeners are in heaven, but I'll stay in the freezer aisle

All across Petrolia and Central Lambton gardeners are opening parcels with dozens of seed packets. They're pouring over their finds, whether they've come from the Lambton Library system or their favourite seed catalogue.

The very ambitious are likely tending little shoots of green in plastic trays sitting in warm places under bright lights.

They're all watching the outdoor elements, waiting for that moment to find their hoe and shovels and turn that wet, cool ground in preparation for the first planting.

I am not one of those people. Don't get me wrong; Î love spring, I love plants, I even love vegetables.

I do not love gardening. While my friends wax poetic about the types of flowers they'll plant or the vegetable gardens being planned, my

mind drifts back to my childhood and the horrors of a garden which was big enough for a small village.

My mom and dad teamed up with the farmers who owned the land behind our house to create a garden like no

The farmer - Bruce - would use his farm equipment to work up the land and my dad would take his rototiller to it as well occasionally. Mom and Lorna would decide what would be planted where and sometime in the spring, they would plant row after row of vegetables of every kind. Mostly, it seemed to me, peas.

I usually wasn't around for the planting extravaganza - it was the only time I was thankful to be in school.

But, I and my siblings, were around all summer to help reap the rewards of their spring effort.

I won't say the dynamic duo of

gardening ruined the art for me,

however those summers of picking bushel baskets of peas and then beans and then helping to prepare them for the endless freezing and packing that went on, certainly had an impact on my desire to garden. I'll do flowers; not well but I'll plant them. I might even have a tomato plant. But I'm glad



Heather Wright

to pay the low cost to pick up my peas from the freezer at the supermarket. Gardeners are in planting heaven; I'm glad to stay in the freezer aisle.

www.petrolialambtonindependent.ca Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton The contents of this newspaper are protected by copyright. No material from this edition may be reproduced without expressed written consent of The Independent of Petrolia & Central Lambton

Publisher / Editor: Heather Wright

news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca Reporters: Alex Kurial

Sales Associates: sales@petrolialambtonindependent.ca Classifieds / Graphics: Sarah Hills / Julli Archibald

office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

Publications Mail Registration No. 42663514

Proud host of the Local Journalism Initiative

Subscription Rates: \$55.00/year within 50 kms of Petrolia Post Office \$65.00/year outside of 50 km radius \$75.00/year other provinces (HST included on all prices) Subscriptions are non-refundable

4156 Petrolia Line, Petrolia, ON NON 1R0 • 226-738-0728



Funded by the Government of Canada Financé par le gouvernement du Canada



CHURCHILL ACCIDENT



Lambton OPP were looking for a driver after a car smashed into a hydro pole at the intersection of Marthaville Road and Churchill Line Monday. Petrolia/North Enniskillen Firefighters were called to the scene along with the OPP to secure the area. The driver fled after hitting the pole and at press time, police had not arrested the person involved in the crash.

Warning to seniors; scammers can rope you in

Heather Wright The Independent

A Dawn-Euphemia woman says she may have lost \$8,000 to scammers had the owner of a Petrolia courier company not stepped in.

Now she's telling her story, hoping others won't be fooled by the very common grandparent scam.

The elderly woman, who doesn't want to be named, got a call Thursday morning around 11 am from someone posing as a police officer. He said her grandson was in jail. He was in a car with friends and marijuana had been found in the back seat, so he'd been arrested. The 'officer' said the grandson had not done anything wrong, but he needed to talk to her. The man then turned the phone over to who the woman thought was her

"When this man came on the phone, he had a real heavy voice. And, and I said, 'Oh, you sound like you have an awful cold.' He had been to the doctor, but he was okay. He didn't have COVID and he was okay... I thought that's not my grandson's voice, he's got a fine voice. But I thought, well, he has got an awful cold.

She asked him if he'd called his parents. He had not. "I want to do it myself and I just thought you could help me and then I will call them and let them know myself," she says. Then her 'grandson' added "'so just don't you tell them.' You know, it all made sense."

The woman's grandson needed \$8,000 and he promised he would repay it in a week.

"I thought, well, if it's only for a week, then I'd get the money back next Thursday. Yeah. So I thought, well, I can give them the money. And what am I going to lose?

"I'll help him out. And my grandson is a very fine young man and I knew that he wasn't involved in anything

that he was being blamed for."

So the Dawn-Euphemia woman went to her bank and took out the money. The teller asked her about the large sum. The elderly woman had been instructed to tell anyone who asked that the money was for home repairs. She isn't a very good liar, she told The Independent, so it was convenient that her antenna had fallen on her roof and some shingles were off; it sounded plausible and she told the teller the story.

"I was at the point where you're so worried about your grandson that you don't know what you're thinking," she

She went home with the cash and packaged it as the 'officer and grandson' instructed; in an envelope, wrapped in magazine pages and put into a brown manila envelope. They told her to send it to an address in Quebec. When she questioned why the money had to go there, the scammer told her, "A lot of these offices are closed (because of COVID-19) and so all their money from all over was sent

The pair wanted the elderly woman to drive it to FedEx in Sarnia. She told them she was an old woman and was not going to drive to Sarnia. So, the scammers asked her address and found a courier company to help out.

"The guy is going to come and pick it right up at your door," the scammers told her. "So I thought, 'Oh, this is great. I don't have to even leave the house," she says.

The scammers told her, "Don't tell him anything when he gets there. Just give him the parcel. Just tell them to look after this. And to open up some money and take out \$200 and give it to him for his services."

Minutes later, Marty Souch of Shoreline Express was at her door picking up the parcel.

"He just kept saying I don't feel right. There's something wrong," the woman recounted.

Souch says there was little detail of the call for pickup, and that it didn't match what was going on.

'What made me suspicious is when the guy called me to come pick it up, he said it was legal documents. And when I got there, it wasn't legal documents. So I says to her, 'what is it you're trying to do?'"

It took some time and patience but the woman finally told Souch "I'm trying to help a family member out.' And that's what started me asking questions."

The woman confided her grandson was in trouble with the law. "Well, it's drugs. He got caught for speeding, and I says you won't go to jail for drugs, unless it's a huge amount. You won't go to jail if you get caught speeding, Something's fishy here," says Souch.

He convinced her to call her grandson who wasn't in jail but was hanging out with his girlfriend. He confirmed he didn't call. Before long, the woman's family and the OPP arrived to help out.

The OPP rarely can track down phone scammers. Often people are fooled. Just last week, a couple in Plympton-Wyoming lost \$25,000 in the same scam.

The Dawn-Euphemia woman decided to call The Independent after talking to her bank manager when returning the cash.

"The best thing for you to do is to tell people, don't hide it, because, he said, you did everything you could do. And so he said, 'be sure you tell people what happened so that they can be aware it is the elderly people that they're after."

And she said, it is very easy to be taken in.

"They had me all the way; there's no doubt about it."

And she advises seniors to do "what I know I should have done; turn right around and call my grandson."







Petrolia Dentistry



Petrolia Dentistry offers dentistry for the whole family, from cleanings and exams to natural looking fillings, crowns, bridges & more.

With convenient hours and a clean modern office, you'll feel completely comfortable.

Dr. Mike Hoben Dr. Rudha Al-Rohani Dr. Rebecca Phillips

519-882-0520

430 Albany Street • petroliadentistry.com

Tighter controls over cannabis, AirBnbs

Heather Wright

The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming and Warwick may take a tough stand against new cannabis operations.

The two municipalities are working with the Village of Point Edward, Lambton County and Niagara Planning Services on their official plan reviews. The consultants recently presented their preliminary ideas to both Plympton-Wyoming and Warwick, with identical policies on some of the most difficult planning issues the municipalities face.

Mary Lou Tanner and John Hendricks touched on a number of items including the rules around cannabis operations.

Tanner says there should be clear rules. "The indoor cannabis growing in industrial areas would be permitted, subject to site plan approval. The second is that indoor cannabis grows in agricultural areas would be subject to rezoning and site plan approval," she says.

"We put the rezoning in the agricultural areas because in our experience, that's where the most significant concerns can arise. And the odor issues can be more prevalent. So we want to make sure in the agricultural areas that council is really comfortable that applicants have addressed all of the issues that are going to need to be addressed as part of these applications."

Tanner says for now she believes outdoor or field growth should not be permitted.

Another issue both Warwick and Plympton-Wyoming face is concerns over farm severance. Tanner is suggesting instead of farmers getting approval to sever lots, the municipality deals with the zoning issues first. If they feel a home could be severed, the zoning would be changed first. Then it would be up to farmers to ask for the severance. "If you're not supportive of it moving forward, that's where you will set your policy and the applicant will have to make a decision," she says.

Tanner adds the only time a home should be severed from a farm property is when it is consolidating.

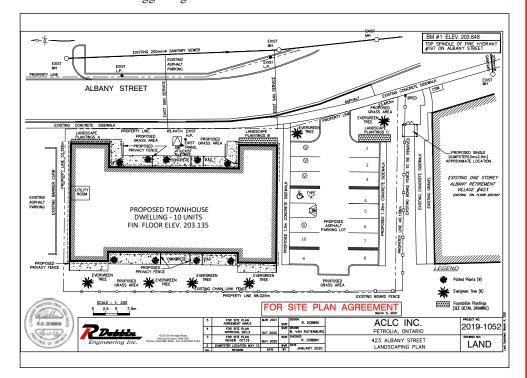
Plympton-Wyoming has also had some big concerns about accommodations. AirBnB's have sprung up along Lake Huron and have caused some huge problems for neighbours.

Hendricks says there have to be some basic ground rules. "The key piece that everybody understands well as a bed and breakfast, vacation rental, where there's an owner occupying the residence, you have visitors staying at the residence and generally getting breakfast in the morning.

"What we're hearing a lot of now are the AirBnbs, where typically, the homes are not owner occupied, and there's really isn't a lot of regulation or hasn't been a lot of regulation over that," he says.

Hendricks is suggesting rentals have three bedrooms for rent, they shouldn't be in outbuildings - detached from the home - and anything else should be rezoned.

Both Plympton-Wyoming and Warwick will now hold public meetings to discuss these ideas before the consulting group writes its final report for council. It's hoped that the Official Plan review can be complete by this summer.



The owners of Albany Retirement Village have been given the go ahead to build a 10 unit seniors development.

Seniors housing gets the green light

Heather Wright The Independent

Doug Simpson has cleared the final hurdle for a new 10 unit senior's complex next to Albany Retirement Village.

The owner of the retirement village and his late wife, Helen, bought the former Oil Rig property with a dream of building a retirement complex next to the existing facility.

The Oil Rig came down in the winter and then March 22, the site plan for the development was approved by Petrolia Council.

Simpson has said in the past the units will be completely self enclosed with an exit to the street.

"It has a common hallway that goes to a little room for socialization, but with the new way things are going to be done, is there going to be much socialization in the building?

"So what we've done is, it's going to have your own separate entrance to your unit, but also have an entrance to a common hallway."

Simpson says there will also be carports for each individual unit.

It's not clear when construction will begin on the site.

Councillor Joel Field says the development is a positive step for more housing in the downtown.



April 2021





Switch Light 40 Lumens



Powerzone Light Bar 350 Lumens

to our e-flyer list and

email: fmflorence@yahoo.com

check instore for

more monthly items



Powerzone Cordless Switch Light 220 Lumens



OFF **REG. PRICE SICO Evolution Paint**

Powerzone Rocker Switch Light 240 Lumens



Goodman

Hardware Plumbing, Farm, Building Supplies & Service G2/CDT Gas Technicians

532 Florence Road Florence, ON N0P 1R0 Ph: 519-692-4711

What will make Petrolia's downtown survive and thrive

Heather Wright The Independent

James Cox is trying to piece together a bit of a puzzle; what makes a downtown resilient.

Cox says for each downtown across the province, that is likely a little different.

The consultant has been commissioned by the Town of Petrolia to take a look at how the downtown will survive and thrive into the future.

He held a virtual open house

Tuesday where about 19 people, including 10 local businesspeople, were asked what they thought being resilient meant and what the town should be doing to keep the downtown strong.

Cox wanted to know what the town could do to help improve the business environment, where the gaps in business support might be, and what the future looks like.

Jack and Christine Greydanus were among the people online. The family is planning a hotel for the downtown. Construction was

supposed to begin this year, but then COVID struck and the cost of building materials skyrocketed.

But Jack Greydanus still believes Petrolia's future lies in bringing people to town as tourists and making Petrolia a destination.

"Our successes are going to be around it," he says. "For growth, you need people coming in ...we have to be a destination."

Some in the session suggested being resilient requires "visionary leadership" from elected officials and also from entrepreneurs. Cox heard that in the future, people want to protect some of the good things the town already has, such as a vibrant downtown with great customer service.

Other suggestions included helping developers walk through the town's requirements through one point of contact. Cox called that the concierge approach.

There were also suggestions the town could attract more service industries to the downtown, which would not only provide services to members of the community but

would become a buying force in the downtown.

And it was also suggested we need to change the mindset of young people from getting away from town to staying here because there is everything they need in Petrolia.

Cox says there is "a strong sense of what would be required to build Petrolia as a destination but also to build resiliency."

He'll be using the discussion and a survey to provide a final report to council later this year.

Negotiate or go to court

Heather Wright The Independent

There are calls for the federal government to set a firm deadline for trying to negotiate an agreement to allow Enbridge to rebuild one of the most important feeder lines to Ontario.

Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley and members of unions from the petrochemical industry spoke to a federal committee Tuesday which is trying to convince Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer to reverse a decision which stops Enbridge from replacing Line 5 to Sarnia under the Straits of Mackinac.

UA Local 633 spokesperson Scott Archer told the committee shutting down the pipeline would "effectively kill my hometown. That's not an exaggeration. It's a cold hard fact," he says. Archer says the move would cause "economic devastation and sweeping unemployment."

Both he, and the head of the Sarnia Construction Association, Andrew Pilat, said Whitmer's concern that the line will leak is unfounded.

"For three quarters of a century there hasn't been a drop leak into the Straits of Mackinac," says Archer.

"It's 80 to 100 feet below the lake bed; it's well protected," added Pilat.

Bradley is worried about the economic impact in Sarnia-Lambton and across Eastern Canada, but he's also concerned the dispute is having a "chilling effect" on new investment in the region.

The mayor says the issue has dragged on for too long and he wants the federal government to negotiate an end to the stalemate.

And he reminded the committee Whitmer could not act unilaterally since there are binational agreements which regulate the oil and gas industry.

He asked the committee to "keep on hammering home that this is illegal" and that it is damaging the US/Canada trade relationship.

Bradley says the federal government should set firm timeline negotiations with a time frame for taking the Michigan governor to court for breaking an international treaty.

Brooke-Alvinston looks at food permits Heather Wright

The Independent

At least one Brooke-Alvinston councillor wants to make sure local food businesses are not hurt by any food trucks.

The question came up after Dan Williamson, the owner of Dips Ice Cream, sent the community a letter asking if he could bring his truck to Alvinston occasionally. He'd spent last summer in Petrolia however the council there decided there would be only one food truck this year.

Mayor Dave Ferguson suggested it might be a good idea. But Councillor Wayne Deans is concerned how allowing another food truck to come to town occasionally would affect the existing businesses.

"Those are people that all have to pay taxes in the community," says Deans. "I have no problem if they want to come in for a day like on Canada Day, ask permission and pay a fee there. But as far as coming in, these other people are paying taxes year round.

"I like ice cream too. Don't get me wrong, but I don't think that we should be bringing them in when these other people are in business," says Deans.

Council tabled the request and council will take a look at what permits might apply.





Although we may be physically separated, we are never alone here in Warwick Township!







You're Invited!

Warwick Township is once again partnering with the Watford Optimist Club, Watford Rotary Club and both the Watford and Warwick Firemen's Associations to bring you the Warwick Township "Homestyle" Maple Syrup Festival! On Easter Sunday, April 4th, residents from across Warwick Township are welcomed to their own kitchen tables to enjoy some delicious, locally made maple syrup on us.

Flood social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) with photos of your families enjoying their pancakes and maple syrup using the hashtag #WARWICKisSWEET as well as sending your photos to whatsup@warwicktownship.ca so that we can share each and every delicious moment on the Townships's website!







Look for your household maple syrup delivery the week of March 29th to enjoy with your pancakes on Easter Sunday April 4th!

For more information, contact:

Manager Parks and Recreation, Theresa Klachan E: tklachan@warwicktownship.ca P: (519) 849-3926

Trio tell their stories of years of implant illness

Heather WrightThe Independent

Three Lambton women all had different reasons for getting breast implants; reconstruction after surgery to avoid breast cancer, reshaping their bodies after children and getting the curves they always wanted.

But, they all had the same reason for getting them removed; the implants made them sick.

And now the trio, brought together because of their illness, want to make sure other women know what they're getting into and how breast implants can go horribly wrong.

Jenny MacFarlane, Christy Foster and Tammy Peats didn't know each other in the early 2000's when they all decided to have breast implant surgery. It would be years before each would become ill.

"For basically 12 years, I felt like I was dying," says Foster. "Every year it seemed like there was a new symptom that would come...There was no reason as to why I should be feeling the way that I was feeling."

Multiple doctors ran multiple tests over the years. "Everything seemed normal. But you didn't feel normal. I couldn't move my arm, there was constant pain, heart palpitations, anxiety. And over the years, it just kept getting worse," says Foster.

MacFarlane felt the same way. She could never get a deep breath, her heart would race, she was anxious and she had a shooting pain in her arm. And she was constantly in a fog.

Peats felt that, too. Driving back to her Port Lambton home she would tell a friend almost every day that she felt awful. She has pictures of ankles so swollen it hurt to stand.

The three only figured out their implants were the problem when others pointed out the possible problem. Each went to the internet and found the Breast Implant Failure and Illness – Canada Facebook page.



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Jenny MacFarlane, Christy Foster and Tammy Peats are making it their mission to make sure women understand the dangers of breast implants.

Foster said it was a revelation; she was not alone and she knew what was wrong with her.

"You sit there for days on days on days and weeks and you cry."

MacFarlane admits she was angry; "I felt blame, like I blamed myself, I was angry at myself. Why the hell would I do this? And now I have to pay money to get them out...And I thought they'd be forever."

Peats said discovering the implants were the problem was a relief. "As soon as I found out that's what caused all these years of suffering, I was relieved. I was excited. I wanted them out."

That's exactly what the three did - all in August of 2020.

MacFarlane and Peats couldn't believe the immediate difference taking the now decaying "gummy bear" implants out of their bodies made.

"I was in complete disbelief at how well I could breathe," says MacFarlane. "I could actually take a full breath; it's hard to explain until you've had implants, it is almost like somebody's sitting on your chest."

Peats also noticed she was breathing normally again and, she said, her energy levels soared.

Foster's recovery has been

slower, marred by infections. She'd been dealing with the decomposing implants for 12 years and they had done more damage. Just now, she's starting to feel more like herself, although Foster says she will never regain complete health.

The three women, one from Petrolia, one from Sarnia and one from Port Lambton, are now working together to make sure no one experiences the illness they did. During March, Breast Implant Illness Awareness Month, the three shared their stories online. And they were amazed at how many people they reached. MacFarlane says 32 people reached out to her after she spoke. Foster convinced a relative not to get implants.

Peats now hosts a Facebook Page called Bold, Brave and Beautiful to convince others implants are not worth the damage they can cause.

The trio tell women with implants to have an MRI done to make sure they aren't leaking.

And Peats is part of a three year study to figure out some of the symptoms of breast implant illness.

Peats' doctor is "educating other doctors and plastic surgeons about it, saying 'this is real.'"





What do you save your money for?

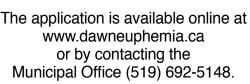
LifeLiteracyCanada



TOWNSHIP OF DAWN-EUPHEMIA

2021
MUNICIPAL
SCHOLARSHIP
AWARD

applications for the \$1,000
"Municipal Scholarship" awarded
to one student of Dawn-Euphemia,
that is pursuing a full-time
post-secondary education in a
government-related, firefighting
technology or agricultural field of
study.



The Township is now receiving

Deadline for submission is April 30th.



NOTICE OF OPEN HOUSE AND PUBLIC MEETING OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW TOWNSHIP OF WARWICK

The Township of Warwick is releasing for public comment and feedback an update to the Township's Official Plan. The Township is inviting members of the community to learn more and participate in the update to the Township's Official Plan at upcoming public engagement events.

The update of the Official Plan is being undertaken in accordance with Section 26 of the Planning Act.

One Open House and one Statutory Public Meeting will be held to provide residents, business owners, and members of the community with the opportunity to review the draft Official Plan Amendment and text, to provide feedback, and to learn more about the Official Plan Update. The Open House and Public Meeting are to hear from residents. No decision is being made on the Official Plan Update at the April open house and public meeting.

Both the Open House and Public Meeting will be virtual.

The Open House will be held on:

TUESDAY APRIL 20, 2021 6:30 P.M. VIRTUAL

The Statutory Public Meeting will be held on:

TUESDAY APRIL 27, 2021 6:30 P.M. VIRTUAL

The Draft of the Official Plan Update (text) and associated Schedules will be available on the Township's website starting on April 1, 2021.

To participate in the Open House, the Public Meeting, or both, please use the credentials below to access the meeting:

Join Zoom Meeting:

https://zoom.us/j/98220414011?pwd=UUo2bXVTdThSMk9GeEdZU2hWWlhIZz09 Meeting ID: 982 2041 4011 Passcode: 275109

Call in numbers:

+1 438 809 7799 Canada +1 587 328 1099 Canada

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

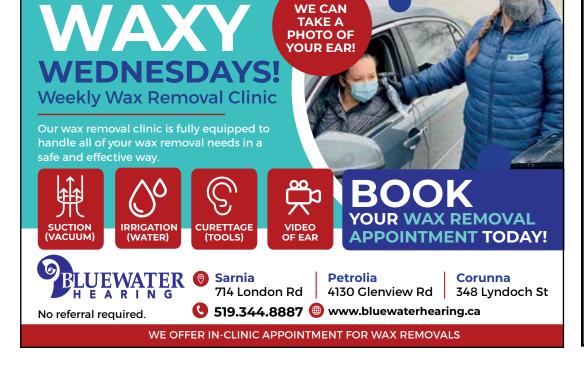
+1 647 558 0588 Canada

+1 778 907 2071 Canada +1 204 272 7920 Canada

If you have questions regarding the Official Plan Update, please contact NPG Planning Solutions, the consultant working with the Township on this update, via the following:

Mary Lou Tanner, FCIP, RPP Principal Planner mtanner@npgsolutions.ca

www.warwicktownship.ca



HIGH WINDS



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

High winds scattered garbage cans and blue boxes, and knocked down a tree on West Street Friday, taking out power lines with it. Bluewater Power was on scene in minutes and the street was reopened in a matter of hours when the tree had been moved.

Alvinston seniors townhouses given the nod

Heather Wright The Independent

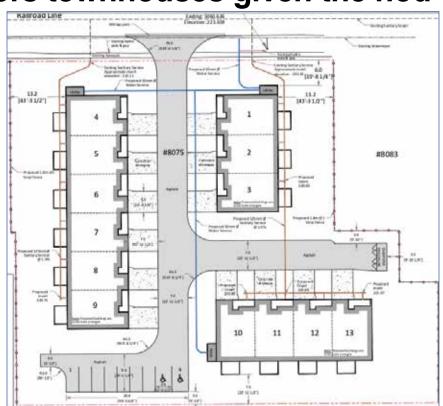
A townhouse complex has been given the okay by Brooke-Alvinston Council.

Kevin and Lisa Tizzard plan to build 13 units on Railroad Line. They're geared for seniors. The municipality's planner, Rob Nesbitt from the County of Lambton, had a few minor concerns, including adding two, barrier free parking spaces, a hard surface for the driveways, a landscaping plan, and the Tizzards had to confirm the buildings would be no more than 39 feet high.

The couple agreed to the conditions, but a building permit won't be issued until the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority provides a letter indicating it has no issues with the complex.

Nesbitt said the Tizzard's engineer had been in contact with the conservation authority who have no concerns. The municipality has to wait until a formal opinion is submitted.

Council has approved the issuing of the building permits for the complex as soon as the letter is received.



An Alvinston senior's complex has been given approval to build.

An Evening with
New York Times
Bestselling Author

Evening with LIVE on Facebook

GLCLibraryCA

K.L. Armstrong

Friday, April 9, 2021 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Register at Iclibrary.ca to receive a link.









Farm for Sale by Tender

Former Fred LeNeve property being at the Southwest corner of LaSalle Line and Oil Heritage Road; Enniskillen/Petrolia

70.94 acres workable plus 75.26 tree & bushBarn/Shed, no houses on this property
PIN43329-0062

For further information contact the owner, 553173 Ontario Ltd. c/o Mr. Rick LeNeve, 905-386-0030

Purchase to be completed May 14, 2021.

Tenders to Purchase must be in a sealed envelope plainly marked as to the contents. Submit tenders to the office of

Wallace B. Lang, Lawyer,

4245 Petrolia Line, Petrolia, Ontario or 5290 Nauvoo Road, Watford, Ontario

by 4:00p.m. Friday, April 23, 2021 \$50,000.00 deposit cashable cheque required on acceptance HST is in addition to the purchase price

If the tender is accepted, the certified cheque shall become a non-refundable deposit. If the Tenderer fails to complete the purchase of the property, the seller shall retain the deposit as liquidated damages.

Please contact the office of Mr. Lang for Tender to Purchase documents

519-876-2742 (Watford) or 519-882-0770 (Petrolia)

Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
Purchasers in each case must rely entirely on their own
knowledge and inspection of the property
independent of any representations included but not limited
to acreage made by or on behalf of the seller.

Province pledges to twin Highway 40

Province doesn't give timeline for construction

Heather Wright The Independent

After 36 years of lobbying, the provincial government says it will fund the twinning of Highway 40 from Indian Road to just north of Wellington Road. But when that might happen is not clear.

Since 1985, politicians in Sarnia and Lambton County have been calling for the province, which owns and maintains the stretch of highway, to twin the road since there is a large amount of transport traffic carrying hazardous materials heading for the 402.

There have been dozens of accidents on the highway which prompted concern of the possibility of a more serious accident.

Ontario's finance minister announced the province would fund the widening of Highway 40 for the seven kilometres while presenting the budget Wednesday.

But details are not clear. It was grouped with a number of projects in the Greater Toronto Area to be funded, which was grouped as part of \$21 billion of funding over the next 10 years including about \$2.6 billion in this fiscal year.

It's not clear when the Highway 40 project

Bob Bailey's office say they're still trying to figure out the timeline.

Michael O'Morrow, Senior Issues Advisor, at the Ministry of Transportation also couldn't give a clear timeline.

"The ministry will be undertaking a planning study for the expansion of Highway 40 from two to four lanes from Indian Road to north of Wellington Street which will continue to protect the lands required to construct the future widening,"

O'Morrow says in an email to *The Independent*, "Once the planning work is complete, design and construction can be scheduled along with other provincial expansion priorities."

O'Morrow says the ministry is currently in the detailed design phase of the Highway 40 CNR Bridge near Confederation Line.

"The existing bridge will remain open to traffic during construction and the new bridge will be built on the future Highway 40 southbound lane alignment to minimize the need for local road detours," says O'Morrow.

"The new structure will remain in place for the future four-lane configuration. As a part of this ongoing project, the intersection with Confederation Line will be reviewed.

"The timing of construction is dependent on additional approvals."

In 2009, the province estimated the cost of the twinning of Highway 40 to be about \$80 million.

IODE Margaret Stokes Chapter • Order Deadline April 3, 2021 • For Sale 3/\$10 Geraniums pink, red, salmon, white, magenta 15/^{\$}47

boston fern, fuchsia, million bells

\$17ea

12" Mixed Patio Planter

please specify either shade/sun

\$25ea

PLANT PICK UP DATE

10" Baskets

May 6, 2021 9:00-11:30am Windover Nurseries

Windover Nurseries & DeGroot's Nursery

Safe Curbside Pick Up Available

Wendy 519.882.2073 | Dawn 519.882.4919 Please no calls after 9pm



Take 20 minutes to make learning together part of your everyday.

AT YOUR WORDS



Play with your food and write words with alphabet cereal and soup.









HILLSDALE CEMETERY

NOTICE OF SPRING CLEAN UP To preserve the proper appearance of Hillsdale Cemetery, per By-Law 78-2008, we will be conducting the annual spring clean up.

Clean Up Day: All Interment Right Holders are required to remove wreaths, flowers, etc. to facilitate the clean-up. ALL ITEMS ARE TO BE REMOVED PRIOR TO MARCH

- we ask that items being placed for Easter Remembrance, not be done so until after Thursday, April 1st, thank you.
- Due to the early date of Easter Weekend in 2021, items placed for Easter Remembrance, will not be removed as part of the Spring Clean-Up.

We appreciate your assistance with this clean up, please be advised that removed items in good condition, will be temporarily stored at the Cemetery Office area. Owners are encouraged to pick items up from this area, they will be held here until May 1, 2021 $\,$

Items Placed on Graves: Artificial wreaths without glass or plastic covers may be placed on the lot after April 1st provided they are securely fastened to the monument. Where there is no monument, it shall be mounted on a stand of at least 30 inches (76.2cm) high and securely anchored to the ground.

Solar Lights: all Solar Lights must be removed by April 1st of each year. Solar Lights are only permitted at the Cemetery from November 1st - April 1st.

As a reminder these items are not permitted:

- Glass or pottery containers of any kind
- Hanging baskets, trees, hedges, shrubs, flowering or other plants
- Borders, fences, railings, walls or cut-stone coping
- Trellises, arches, or iron rods

Thank you for your co-operation, if you have any questions please feel free to contact the Municipal Office at 519-882-2350 or email clerksdepartment@petrolia.ca

> Mandi Pearson Clerk/Operations Clerk Cemetery Manager

would be built. Officials in Sarnia-Lambton MPP 'Lives have been completely and utterly devastated'

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

The man who admitted setting fire to three townhouses on Lanark Court in Sarnia once had a close relationship with the building's owner.

Three townhomes were destroyed as fire ripped through the small Sarnia cul-de-sac in the early morning hours of Nov. 3. There were no injuries, but two men living in one of the homes just managed to flee as flames engulfed their unit.

The fires appeared deliberate but the perpetrator was initially unknown. Nearly a week later though, forensic evidence and witness assistance led police to arrest 31 year-old Nathan Gardiner.

Gardiner's guilt was confirmed during a plea in February. The case was adjourned to Mar. 29 so a report could be prepared on Gardiner's mental health.

The findings revealed a long history of struggles for Gardiner, originally from Prince Edward Island. Untreated bipolar disorder combined with childhood trauma and long-term substance abuse, particularly crystal meth, were catalysts for a breakdown in Gardiner's life.

The specific trigger for the arsons appeared to be a contentious relationship between Gardiner and the owner of the townhomes, Nic Palumbo. He was Gardiner's former landlord.

At one time, Gardiner visited with the family and had meals with them and according to the defense lawyer was "in a position of dependency"

The pair had a series of serious altercations last year, including a road rage incident less than a week before the fires where Gardiner drove Palumbo off the road.

The exact cause of the dispute wasn't revealed during plea or sentencing. But a victim impact statement from Palumbo's wife showed a trusting relationship had once existed.

"I feel very betrayed by Nathan Gardiner and his actions. I have had him in my home many times over the years for meals and visits," wrote Angela Palumbo, who owned the homes with Nic.

"The actions of Nathan Gardiner have made it even more difficult for me to cope with my day to day life, let alone with the enormous task of cleaning up the devastation caused by his multiple acts of arson."

Nic Palumbo passed away this January. "It is

my firm belief that the actions of Nathan Gardiner hastened the death of my husband Nic Palumbo due to the stress of dealing with the fires," says his wife.

Defence Lawyer Sarah Donohue says the relationship between her client and Nic Palumbo was "very complicated."

Donohue says Palumbo had "control over Mr. Gardiner financially, and that was very difficult for him.

"He wishes that he could take it all back," says Donohue of her client. "He's been unable to stop thinking about it, and how different things might have been if he'd given his actions more thought."

"Just reinstate how sorry I am for everything," Gardiner said in his lone comments to the court.

Donohue and Crown Attorney Ryan Iaquinta agreed that Gardiner needs considerable help for mental health issues. They recommended he be sentenced to a further one year in jail, to be spent at the St. Lawrence Valley Treatment Centre in Brockville.

Justice Anne McFadyen says she'll make the recommendation, but it's up to the province to decide where inmates serve their sentence. She says his expressions of remorse and engagement with programs already "gives the court confidence that Mr. Gardiner may be able to return to the community and lead a pro-social life."

But, a long sentence was still necessary given the damage done.

"It's clear their lives have been completely and utterly devastated," says McFadyen of the Palumbo family.

"There's not only financial impact on the victims, but the emotional impact is evident. It is unclear at this stage whether the victims will ever be able to recoup their losses and continue their lives as planned prior to the actions of Mr. Gardiner."

Gardiner's punishment won't end when he's released from jail in a year, or anytime soon after that. Restitution orders totalling \$440,000 were ordered to a pair of insurance companies for the destroyed homes. He will be on probation for three years where he must stay away from the Palumbo's and Lanark Court, take several counselling sessions and not possess any incendiary devices. He also has a 20 year weapons ban and will provide a DNA sample.

Petrolia man found guilty of drunk driving while helping friend from the ditch

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

A Petrolia man learned the hard way you don't actually have to be found behind the wheel to be arrested for drunk driving.

Jaret Scarrow, 21, was the recipient of this lesson as his court case drew to a close Mar. 15.

It stemmed from an Oct. 9 incident last year when Scarrow

came across a friend who was having driving issues of his own.

Scarrow's friend had put his Chevy Malibu into a ditch on Confederation Road, severing a hydro pole in the process.

Scarrow happened to be passing by in his Ford Ranger and stopped to help.

Police arrived on the scene and found the Chevy driver, Scarrow and Scarrow's passenger working

to attach a tow rope to the downed Malibu.

Officers detected an alcohol odor on all three men and asked for breath samples. Scarrow objected on the grounds he wasn't driving when police arrived.

"It was after explaining to Mr. Scarrow that the police do not need to see you behind the wheel, but only have reason to believe that you were operating the motor

vehicle within the past two hours and that you may now have alcohol in your body, that they can then request the sample," Defence Lawyer Nick Cake explained to the Sarnia courtroom.

A search of Scarrow's truck also found a half-empty bottle of Smirnoff vodka and a bag of marijuana.

The Chevy driver was arrested for drunk driving while Scarrow's

passenger was later booked for causing a scene.

Justice Anne McFadyen handed Scarrow \$2,350 in fines: \$2,000 for failing to provide a sample and \$175 each for driving with readily

available alcohol and marijuana. Scarrow is also banned from driving for a year.

- THE INDEPENDENT

Fentanyl impairment led to crash which crushed power truck's front end

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

It was lights out for a Bluewater Power truck which was on the receiving end of a fentanyl induced collision.

And now it will cost a Sarnia man more than \$3,000 to repair the damage, in addition to a number of penalties from the court.

Robert Larocque, 35, learned the extent of his punishment in court

Mar. 16. But he also heard he was lucky things didn't end up worse.

Court heard shortly after noon Oct. 14 a serious crash was recorded at Campbell and Kirby St. after a vehicle swerved into the opposite lane. Police arrived to find a Dodge pickup and Bluewater Power truck each with severe front-end damage.

Workers in the power truck were unharmed, but officers found Larocque behind the wheel of the

pickup in a semi-conscious state. The cause was fentanyl, which there was ready evidence of in the truck.

Larocque remained unresponsive for some time and finally had to be removed from the truck by emergency services.

He regained some consciousness but had to be given naloxone while en route to the hospital. Larocque would eventually recover and was released "I haven't touched it since the accident," Larocque says of the offending drug.

"Fentanyl is something that this court hears about all too frequently associated with bad outcomes for people, and tragic losses and harm in our community," says Justice Deborah Austin.

"I hope you have taken that as a wake up call and realize how close you came to a tragic outcome."

Austin said this was "a very

serious concern for your safety and well-being, but also for public safety in the circumstances of this incident."

"Thankfully no one was injured and the impact was limited to property damage," says Austin.

Larocque was fined \$2,000 for impaired driving and handed a one year driving ban. He also owes \$3,452 to Bluewater Power for the damaged truck.

- THE INDEPENDENT

Voluntary COVID clinics in Lambton not attracting a lot of asymptomatic students

Pam Wright

Local Journalism Initiative

Voluntary COVID-19 asymptomatic testing for local students and staff in Chatham-Kent is now in place, but the clinics aren't very busy.

According to Kent Orr, general

manager for CLASS, a schedule for the testing clinics was finalized Friday. Clinics will be held each weekend and some Thursday evenings until May 2.

Mandated by the province, the asymptomatic testing is designed to add another layer of protection in the fight against COVID-19.

The aim is to test two per cent of schools each week, with a final goal of testing five per cent of the school population.

"This is an opportunity to test for those who don't have symptoms," Orr says. "This is for the school community, including students, staff and bus drivers. "It proactively helps the local public health unit capture cases that would otherwise go unnoticed." Orr says the clinics are open to the school community, not only the invited schools that are scheduled.

So far, voluntary asymptomatic testing has been met with a

lukewarm response. The clinics in Chatham and Sarnia are not that busy. "We've seen low participation rates," Orr explains.

Three clinics over three weekends attracted just 275 people. The testing is open to all four school boards in the region.

- The Herald

DH License #12390 50/50 License #12391



3 DAYS UNTIL FINAL DEADLINE

Purchase Deadline: April 4, 2021 | Draw: April 23, 2021





Buy Your Tickets and 50/50 Add-On ONLINE at bwhfdreamhome.com or CALL 1-844-667-3251

\$3k of cocaine gets into Sarnia jail

Austin calls the mistake 'alarming', drugs were left in duffle bag

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

A Sarnia justice was stunned after learning both Sarnia Police and local jail officials missed over \$3,000 worth of cocaine on a suspect.

That package, tucked into a duffel bag, made its way into the jail, although inmates would not have had access to it.

The revelation came at the sentencing of Ryan Dionne.

It was July 16 when Dionne, 31, was pulled over by police after leaving a Sarnia drug house. He was in breach of his curfew and a search found two stun guns, a replica firearm and a flick knife.

Dionne was lodged in the Sarnia Jail. But it wasn't until a month later that jail staff discovered what the search hadn't found: 25 grams of cocaine.

It was sitting in Dionne's duffel bag the whole time.

Austin wasn't impressed with the shoddy search. "It's alarming that police, and jail authorities upon his admission to the jail, did not locate this," she says.

"If it hadn't been detected by jail authorities, it would have been handed to you upon your release to be able to be redistributed in the community," says Austin.

"The vigilance and importance of the way in which people are arrested and their property processed, perhaps lessons can be learned from this scenario."

Austin concluded that since Dionne couldn't have expected to end up in jail that night, the arrival of the cocaine was not intentional.

Dionne also didn't have access to the duffel bag while in jail.

While he wasn't at fault for this oversight, Dionne was at fault for his actions soon after release. On Nov. 12 he was caught up in a raid at an Exmouth St. drug house following an investigation of the owner by the Sarnia Police Vice Unit.

Numerous drugs, weapons and drug paraphernalia were found in the house. Cocaine located in Dionne's possession totalled 49.48 grams, worth an estimated \$5,930.

Austin was disappointed Dionne learned nothing from his summer stint in jail. "That didn't stop you from finding more (cocaine) and getting yourself back right into that activity," she says.

"These matters are very troubling because they reflect a deep involvement in the drug subculture... in a repeat fashion."

Dionne received 15 months on the first trafficking charge and 18 months for the second. His two year, nine month sentence is offset by 209 days of time already served, leaving him just under two years and two months to spend in prison.

Austin advised Dionne take substance abuse counselling and vocational programming to assist his rehabilitation prospects.

He'll have to give up his weapons, cell phones and drug items. He will be banned from owning a firearm for 10 years and will have to submit a DNA sample.

- THE INDEPENDENT



Trafficker's lawyer says arrest 'saved his life'

'The path he was on would have led to his own death'

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

The decade will be nearly over before Steven Tasker steps foot outside of prison again.

But his lawyer thinks arrest and incarceration may save his life.

Tasker, 34, was in Sarnia Court Mar. 25 pleading guilty to trafficking fentanyl. He was carrying a massive amount of the deadly drug when he was arrested - 55.77 grams, worth approximately \$28,000.

Tasker's criminal record is just as big, with 58 convictions, including other drug trafficking pleas. Tasker was even on bail for drug offences during his fentanyl trafficking arrest.

In July 2020 police raided an Elgin St. home. Tasker and several other people were arrested.

Tasker used the drug to make money but also has a serious addiction to it. Officers said Tasker was "skeletal and mentally unaware of his circumstances and surroundings," and "on another planet."

"He's looking at 20 years wasted of his life," says Defence Lawyer Jamie Guggisberg, who says his client has been addicted since his teens.

Guggisberg says a long-term jail sentence might actually be the best thing for Tasker. "This arrest has saved Steven's life... I can say with almost certainty that the path he was on would have led to his own death." A joint submission of an eight year sentence from Guggisberg and Crown Attorney Brian Higgins was accepted by Justice Deborah Austin.

"One would think that sentences in this range would start to have an impact," says Guggisberg.

"We know sadly in our community of the intolerable risk posed by fentanyl, not only serious addiction and social ills, but the risk of death," says Austin.

Tasker knows people who have died from overdoses since his arrest but it seems he's ready to change.

"He recognizes that he is not ready to return to society and he has a lot of work to do," says Higgins. "He shows a lot of insight in terms of his addiction and what he needs to do to change himself and he seems to accept responsibility for what he's done.

"Despite everything that's brought him here today, he is still an individual with a great deal of potential," says Guggisberg. "He is looking forward to sentence today to begin the first steps of what hopefully will be the rest of his life."

Austin also found Tasker's prospects at rehabilitation high and is recommending his sentence be served in a facility that will give him "the opportunity at a clean, sober, controlled environment to engage in programming to help you to be successful."

Austin directed Tasker to take substance abuse counselling and vocational training while incarcerated.

With time served Tasker has just more than six years and 11 months remaining in jail. He's banned from owning firearms for life and must submit his DNA. He also forfeits \$3,865 cash seized during the raid.

- THE INDEPENDENT



1 E-Transfer

to: news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca with the password: renewal

Over The Phone with your credit card

Call 226-738-0728

Mail A Cheque

mail to: 4156 Petrolia Line Petrolia, ON NON 1RO



Drop off a cheque or cash with your name and address in our mail slot at 4156 Petrolia Line, beside Tim Horton's

Independent Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton

In Print - 1 Year

50 weeks of Local News

\$65 ONTARIO outside 50 km radius

\$75 OTHER PROVINCES

Sports

Brothers having solid hockey season

Barry Wright

The Independent

Kyle Brothers is the second leading scorer on the EG Diez-Limburg squad in Germany despite only playing a little more than half the regular season.

The Watford native has 15 goals and 26 assists for 41 points in 24 games this season after signing with the Oberliga third division club in early January.

Diez-Limburg is in ninth place in the 13-

team league with a record of 15-23-3 as the regular season nears conclusion.

After junior stops in Alvinston, Lambton Shores and Chatham, and a collegiate career at Adrian College in Michigan, the 27-year-old has played three straight seasons in Europe including the first two in Belgium and Sweden respectively. He won a league championship in Belgium in 2019.

He is nearing two milestones in his European career with 49 goals and 99 assists in his three seasons.

Fraser retires after lengthy pro hockey career

The Independent

After a 15-year pro hockey career, including the last 10 seasons in Austria, Sarnia's Jamie Fraser is hanging up his skates.

"It definitely was not an easy decision, but I feel I can leave the game I love with my head held high and with no regrets," said the 35-year-old in a social media post in making the announcement last weekend.

"Hockey has brought my family and I all over the world and I'll be forever grateful for the amazing memories.

"More importantly hockey has given me the opportunity to meet some of the best people on the planet. I know I will miss the game, but it's the people and relationships that I will miss and cherish the most," he

Fraser, a nephew of retired NHL referee Kerry Fraser, played 499 regular season and 69 playoff games in Europe after beginning his pro career in both the American Hockey League and the East Coast circuit.

He played one game in the NHL with the New York Rangers in the 2008-09 season.

After beginning his junior career in Brampton, he played his last two seasons in the OHL with his hometown Sting between 2004-06.

Western Counties league takes wait and see approach

The Independent

The crack of the bat and the pop of the glove will remain silent from Western Counties Senior Baseball Association ballparks, at least for now.

The ongoing COVID situation has put the season in a holding pattern as the league awaits the possible return for a 2021 season.

'There have been some small changes to Baseball Ontario's Return to Play policy which is encouraging" said a text from the league this week.

"But until more restrictions are lifted, I don't think we'll be moving forward with

any type of season."

The senior campaign typically runs from mid-May to September.

After a significant waiting period hoping to play last year, the 2020 season was officially cancelled in early July.

The league included teams in Petrolia, Wyoming, Corunna, Courtright, Port Lambton and Dresden in 2019.

Meantime, the Alvinston Aces of the Southwest Middlesex Men's Fastball League have not heard anything either about if or when their season might be allowed to begin.

Local football season bites the COVID dust

The Sarnia Imperials season has been called off for a second year in a row.

Football players from Petrolia and Central Lambton who had hoped to suit up for some semi-pro football this year in Sarnia will have to wait at least another season.

For the second consecutive season, there'll not be any Sarnia Imperials football at Norm Perry Park this Spring and Summer. Mirroring its decision from last April, the Northern Football Conference has cancelled its 2021 season following a league meeting last weekend. In a social media post this week, the league says "contact" football

is not permitted in any colour zones in the province and it doesn't see that changing until at least the fall.

The NFC says it hopes to return to the field in 2022.

Imperials President and Head Coach Jake Cherski says he and the league are "very disappointed," saying they are at the mercy of protocols put in place by the Ontario government.

But, Cherski says he'll continue to beat the bushes for new recruits so as to put the best product on the field when they are given the green light to play again.

Marinaro and partner finish sixth at World Championship

Michael Marinaro of the Point Edward Figure Skating Club and his partner Kirsten Moore-Towers of St. Catharines rallied for a sixth place finish at the World Figure Skating Championships in Stockholm.

It equalled their best finish at a world event.

They also finished sixth in Milan, Italy three years ago.

The veteran pair put themselves behind the eight ball with a 10th place finish in the short program before moving up by virtue

of a fifth place finish in the free skate the following night.

Russian pairs took three of the top four places in the competition, including the gold medals.

Chinese skaters were second and fifth. The Canadian results qualifies the two skaters in the pairs competition for the 2022 Beijing Olympics.

The two-time Canadian national champions were 11th at the Olympics in South Korea in 2018.



Have a Great Story Idea?

NEWS
Send it to us!
Independent

431 King Street, Petrolia

519-882-1880

Dr.Storozuk

Lambton

Chiropractic Centre

email us at: news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

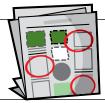


twagner@petrolia.ca

The Petrolia Business Association

Classified Deadline: Monday @ 12 noon

Classifieds



Word Classifieds: \$10 plus tax for up to 40 words Stop in at the office 9a-5p Mon-Fri 4156 Petrolia Line - Call 226-738-0728 or email: office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

Real Estate



536 McGregor St. WATFORD

Move in ready family home! This exceptional all brick 3 Bedroom home has been extensively updated and is located in a sought after location of town close to both schools, shopping, arena and amenities! Bright white kitchen opens to dining and spacious deck. New cupboards and granite counter tops, 2 new Baths and many more updates!

Call for more information!

SHANAHAN REALTY INC. BROKERAGE

7963 Egremont Road, Watford • 519.849.6783 www.shanhanrealty.com

Leo Shanahan Sales Representative
Direct: 519-878-5981 • leo@shanahanrealty.com • Fax-519.849.6683

In Memory



In loving memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather & great-grandfather.

ROBERT

who passed away 28 years ago, March 30, 1993.

Time may pass and fade away, But silent thoughts and memories stay No longer in our lives to share But in our hearts you are always there

> Always loved & remembered by Dean & Family

In Memory

In loving memory of wonderful parents and grandparents

Ruth Roberts

November 23, 1927 - April 5, 2016 who passed away 5 years ago.

Burt Roberts

February 22, 1927 - June 15, 1989 who passed away 32 years ago.

Those we love don't go away, They walk beside us everyday, Unseen, unheard, but always near, Still loved, still missed and very dear.

> Forever remembered, loved always and cherished memories, Anne Marie & Joe, Jody, Tyler and Ty

In Memory

McRAE, James - In loving memory of a dear husband and father who passed away in April of 2001.

His heart was made of pure gold, And to us who truly loved him, His memory will never grow old.

Always in our thoughts and memories and forever loved by wife Ann & family

Wanted

Small Dog - Looking for a small dog for a retired man. Apartment living in a loving home. 519-491-2607

Wanted to Buy

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.

Coming Events

COMMUNITY LAW SCHOOL (SARNIA-LAMBTON) INC. - Virtual Community Law School. April 14, 2021 virtual on zoom from 11-12am. "Legal Protections for Survivors of Labour Trafficking & Domestic Servitude" Please send any questions to sign up email virtualcommnitylawschool@gmail.com.

Celebration



Card of Thanks

Thank You The family of the late Bruce

Howard Roane wish to convey our sincerest appreciation to relatives, friends, neighbours for your kind words on social media, cards, phone calls, delicious food, special gifts of remembrance, flowers, and donations made in Bruce's memory.

A huge thanks is extended to all the extra care given to Bruce from VON, Bayshore, staff at both Sarnia & Petrolia Hospitals, most importantly the expertise of Dr.A. Crombeen, Dr.G. Maddison, Dr.J. Mall.

Special Thanks to Carey Wagner and Needham Jay funeral home staff for guiding and helping us plan a beautiful service.

Dads send off was a wonderful tribute to him, thank-you to Geoff Ainsworth for making it happen and also to Heather Wright for capturing the moment. The Bus ride to the cemetery was unique and very special to us.

Sometimes when life seems empty and you feel all alone we certainly discover the importance of the kindness out there.

Thank-you for being a light in what has been a dark difficult time for us. All these kind gestures will always be remembered by all of us.

Eleanor Pam, Ken & Family Connie, Ken & Family

Saturday April 24th

Between 5 & 6:30pm

Preorders ONLY by April 16

London Rd West

United Church

2092 London Line, Sarnia

HAM | BEANS | CHEESY HASH

BROWN POTATOES | DESSERT

Contact: Susan Wilkins 519-869-6281 or Church Office 519-542-2084

lrwunitedchurch@gmail.com

OR Delivery

Children 5-12

Curbside

Pickup

Adults \$15

or email to

Cheques, made out to "LRW UCW" or correct money in an envelope

Service

Coming Event

Bluewater Anglers - The General Membership Meeting Scheduled for Tuesday April 13th has been cancelled. The Club Spring Derby Scheduled for Saturday April 24 has been cancelled. Both events are cancelled due to COVID lockdown restrictions.

For Sale

CAMPING TRAIL - 2003 27ft Mallard Camping Trailer. Sleeps 6. 4 pc Bath. New tires. 886-2331.

BOB'S TAX SERVICE -Street, Wat-Small Farm, Warwick ford, Personal, Small Business, Rentals, Self Employed, Prior Years, e-filer, Fast Dependable Service, Reasonable Rates, Call Robert Alcock for Appointment - 519-876-2360.

Notice

Tows easily. Aluminum siding with pop out. Comes with A/C, stove and oven combo, microwave, double kitchen sink, hot water tank, furnace, mast queen size bed. All features works. No leaks. Excellent condition. One owner only. Asking \$7,500. Call or text 226-349-3604 or 226-

Notice

COMMUNITY LAW SCHOOL (SARNIA-LAMBTON) INC. - Virtual Community Law School. May 12, 2021 virtual on zoom from 11-12am. "Legal Protections for Survivors of Trafficking as Youth" Please send any questions to sign up email virtualcommnitylawschool@gmail.com.

Obituary

KERRIGAN

Timothy It is with extreme broken hearts

we announce the passing of the pillar of our family. Our husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. Timothy Philip Kerrigan died at Bluewater health, Palliative Care Unit surrounded by so much love on March 27, Husband to Johanne 2021. (nee Lacroix). Father to Chantal (Glenn) McCulloch, Bridget Brush (Scott), Robert (Jules), Mike (Jocelyn). Step-father to Keith, Jerry, Angela Berencsi (Chris), Jake (Dana), Jessica (Nick) Wiles. Papa Tim to Connor, Morgan, Jordan, Cayden McCulloch; Madi. McKenna, Riley Brush, Dray and Dylen Pepper; Dylan, Austin, Travis; Kurtis and Ellison. Telessa and Scarlett, Staysia and Trinity. Great papa to Willow, Charlie, and Bentley. Tim was the second oldest son born to Phillip and Ellen Kerrigan (deceased). Brother to Patrick (Ruth) (deceased), John (Edna), Margaret (James) McDonald, Eileen (James) Jackson, Michael (Kathy), Peter (Trudy), Kevin (deceased) (Judy), Joachim (Janis), Christopher (Lorri), Robert (deceased), and Bridget (deceased). Brother in law to Carol, Danielle (Lance) Mugford, Prima (Don (deceased) Hendra, Kathy (Robert) Shepherd, Rosanne (Gill) Ross, Nancy (Ray) Blais, Lynn Bayduk (Harry), Frank (Ann), Claude (Carrie), Pat, Rick (Gail), Nick (Randy) Coady, Gabe (Ann), and Claude (Sandy) Cormier. Uncle, nephew, and cousin to many. Tim worked hard as a farmer keeping the Kerrigan family farm where his passions were raising beef cattle and cash crop. A professional electrician a member with the IBEW Local 530 for 25 years. A founding member of Huron Shores Optimist Club. Tim was known to many for



having the most incredible ear to ear smile on his face. He was a supporting husband. The most amazing father who taught and guided his kids about what life was all about and showed us how to work hard for what we wanted. Tim always had an ear available to anyone who needed him to listen. At the same time, Tim always had an opinion even if you weren't interested in hearing it. Tim had so much love that he shared with so many people. Friends who wish to attend a driveby visitation are directed to attend to 4901 Michigan Line, Wyoming, on Saturday, April 3, 2021, from 12:00 pm - 4:30 pm. As per COVID-19 restrictions, attendees are instructed not exit their vehicles while visiting. Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Lambton Federation of Agriculture Pat and Tim Kerrigan Scholarship fund. Online condolences may be left at www.forestfuneralhome. com The family would like to sincerely thank Dr. Maddison and every amazing person that works on the Palliative Care Unit. Their compassion, care, and professionalism is really second to none. We are forever grateful for the care they provide. Funeral arrangements entrusted DENNING'S OF FOREST

Obituary

VOKES David

On Thursday, March 25, 2021, at home on his farm, surrounded by love, David Martin Vokes left this earthly realm for a better place. David was the beloved husband, partner, and best friend of Lori-Anne (nee Franz), and the proud, loving, and much-loved father of Allanah & Shannon (Kevin). David was born on December 21, 1963, in Petrolia, the youngest brother of Stephen (Marilyn), Lynn (honorary brother Ken) Smith. Robert (Janice), & Peter (Joy). Each of his nieces and nephews held a special place in his heart. He was the dear son-in-law of Anny Franz, and he will be greatly missed by his friends, family, and his loyal dog Phin. David was predeceased by his brother, Robert (1981), his mother, Dorothy (1990), his father, John (2000), and his sisterin-law, Rozelle (2015). David graduated from the University of Guelph in 1986 with a degree in Agriculture, majoring in Crop Science. Always an innovator, he became one of the first farmers to raise red deer in Ontario. He loved the land and took great pride in saying, "I farm with my brothers." Visitors will be received in the afternoon on Friday, April



2021 at the Needham-Jay Funeral Home Petrolia. Due to COVID-19 restrictions you must register in advance at https:// signup.com/go/bNXMmNp. A graveside service will be held on Saturday, April 3, 2021 at the Wyoming Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please donate in his memory to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (foodgrainsbank. the Bluewater Centre ca), Rehabilitation Raptor (www.raptorrehabilitation. com), or Lambton Wildlife (lambtonwildlife.com) and can be arranged by contacting the Needham-Jay Funeral Home www.needhamjay.com. "May your road be clear and your tunes be good."

Classified Deadline: Monday @ 12 noon



Classifieds

Word Classifieds: \$10 plus tax for up to 40 words Stop in at the office 9a-5p Mon-Fri 4156 Petrolia Line - Call 226-738-0728 or email: office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

eath Notices March 20 - March 26, 2021

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

BALCOMBE, Amy Age 61, of Sarnia

McCormack Funeral Home

VANBREE, Frank Age 86, of Forest

Denning's of Forest MCCORD, Reta

Age 90, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

SUNDAY, MARCH 21 PAYIE, Paul

Age 72, of Sarnia McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

GALLANT, Gary Age 78, of Sarnia McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

GRIMMOND, Beryl

Age 99, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

MONDAY, MARCH 22

BROOKS, Paul Age 60, of Sarnia

D.J. Robb Funeral Home **PETTIT**, Bernice Age 89, of Bright's Grove Steadman Brother's Funeral Chapel

IRWIN, Theresa Age 94, of Forest

Smith Funeral Home TUESDAY, MARCH 23

FORBES, Freida Age 97, of Sarnia McCormack Funeral Home WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

ZENICK, William

Age 50, of Sarnia Steadman Brother's Funeral Chapel

DEERY, Hylude Age 85, of Sarnia

McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

VOKES, David

Age 57, of Petrolia Needham-Jay Funeral Home

HOWES, Sharon Age 71, of Sarnia

Steadman Brother's Funeral Chapel **ALLEN**, Daisv

Age 75, of Sarnia McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

TAYLOR, Linda

Age 64, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

CORKUM, John Age 78, of Sarnia

D.J. Robb Funeral Home STEWARDSON, Ivan

Age 79, of Forest



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





We are closed due to Covid-19 at this time.

Rev. Michelle Collins-Wongkee

Church Office 519-882-1430 christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com **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

In-person services have been suspended. Services can be viewed on our facebook page, youtube page, or website.

View us on YouTube at St Paul's United Church Petrolia AV 10:30am Service

Rev. Carey Wagner

Church Office: 519-882-1390 www.stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net

First Baptist Church 418 Greenfield Street, Petrolia

WORSHIP SERVICES

Via ZOOM **Sunday Mornings 10:30am**

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

In-person services suspended at this time. Please contact our office at wyoming_united@outlook.com to be sent the Zoom link to join us for our 10am live service.

Rev. Steven Longmoore Church Office 519-845-3963 Find us on Facebook





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





Business & Service Directory



Advertise your business or service here

for as little as

\$29.50 per week.

Call and find out more 226-738-0728



Professional INCOME TAX SERVICES

519-882-2966

3927 Petrolia Line, Petrolia, ON Appointments ** Drop-Offs ** Contactless

MARK AND JOANNE JAMIESON

iam io11@hotmail.com | www.protaxpetrolia.com

COMMUNITY CORNER

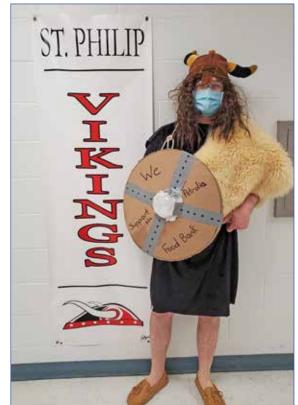


SUBMITTED PHOTO

Wanstead Farmer's Cooperative is expanding its facilities in Alvinston. The expansion includes two 150,000-bushel dry bins, two 45,000-bushel wet bins, and a new high-efficiency grain dryer. These facilities broke ground at the end of March and are expected to be up and running for corn harvest this year. The increased capacity allows Wanstead to continue serving the increased demand for space by its members, as well as position themselves for future growth. Pictured are Norm Minielly (Treasurer), Dave Minielly (Director), Gord Book (Branch Manager), Jamie Duncan (Director), Martin Gerrits (President), Mayor Dave Ferguson (Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston), Rick Patterson (Director), Peter Kelly (General Manager), Garry Straatman (Treasurer), Nathan Ikert (Director)

VIKINGS HELP

Students at St. Philip's in Petrolia raised money for a good cause and had some fun at the same time. The students raised \$150 for the annual Lent food drive the school has for the Petrolia Food Bank. If they raised the cash, teacher James Firth, said he would dress like a viking - the school's mascot. They did and so did Firth. So far, the school has raised \$600 for the food bank.





SUBMITTED PHOTO

Some Watford seniors have a new set of wheels. The Watford Rotary, with a donation from the estate of Leota Bowie, has purchased a three wheel tandem bike for Watford Quality Care Nursing Home. Pictured here are Martha McLaren, Rotary President Noel McLaren, Rotary member Fran Woods, Anita Best - Program Director and Andy from Action Health Care Inc. Sitting in the wheelchair is resident Ron Tree.

