

DRIVING THRU TO THE FUTURE



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Shea Milner makes her way across the outdoor stage at LCCVI Tuesday afternoon. She was one of the first members of the Class of 2021 to pick up their diploma in a modified outdoor graduation ceremony. This is the second year the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted one of the major life events of students and Principal Greg Nemcek says staff at the school wanted to find some way to mark the occasion. Over 130 of the nearly 170 graduates were a part of the ceremonies Tuesday and Wednesday. See more photos on pg 8.

Dismissed Wyoming firefighter thanked for service

Heather Wright
The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming has reached a resolution with another former Wyoming firefighter thanking him for his long service to the community.

A town news release said it had reached a “resolution of all issues related to the cessation of Mr. Lyon’s employment with the town’s fire department.”

Lyon was one of three senior firefighters let go in Feb. 2020. Wyoming District Chief Jeff Scott, Lieutenant Carrie Ann Wilson and Lyon – a firefighter and paramedic with about 26 years of service – were dismissed after two human resources investigations.

Scott, Lyon and Wilson later told

The Independent it was a case of wrongful dismissal. Wilson says she was being harassed on the job and filed a sexual harassment complaint. Lyon had defended her to then-Chief Steve Clemens. Scott said he had always told the chief his opinion plainly, including when he was wrong.

Scott reached a settlement with the town Dec. 2020. There was no comment.

Lyon’s settlement is similar. The terms of it have not been released. The town did acknowledge the training officer’s long service. “The Town of Plympton-Wyoming would like to thank Mr. Lyon for his years of dedicated service to the community. In addition, it is confirmed that Mr. Lyon’s departure from the town was effected on

a ‘without cause’ basis.” That is a term used in employment law which means they are being let go, but not for significant workplace misconduct.

A statement from the town says neither the town nor Lyon will comment further. However, at least one former firefighter who retired in the wake of the dismissal of Scott, Lyon and Wilson spoke his mind on social media.

“It has been a long road,” said Mike McGrail, who was one of four firefighters to resign immediately after the three were released. “We are glad to see that the town has issued a thank you to Bubba (Lyon) for his years of dedicated service and acknowledged his wrongful dismissal.”

SEE FIREFIGHTER PG 3

‘Why aren’t there any bathrooms?’

Heather Wright
The Independent

When the weather turned warm, Ben Dekker thought he would spend a day at the beach with his 12 grandchildren.

But the day of fun proved to be uncomfortable and embarrassing when the former Plympton-Wyoming councillor found out there wasn’t a washroom at the park.

Dekker went to Highland Glen, which is managed by the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority. The Lake Huron park is popular with boaters who, up until last year, were able to launch their boats there. At one time, it had bathrooms, but they were damaged by vandals. Now the conservation

authority places port-a-potties there to use, at least during a normal year.

Dekker arrived with his family around noon to find there wasn’t a facility for the kids to use.

As time ticked on, Dekker estimated there were 1,000 people who came in and out of the park to go for a dip or a walk. And many of them, including Dekker, needed to use a bathroom.

“I was walking between my truck and my son’s truck to go into the bushes to go pee. And there was a lady ... in the bush, right in front of me.

“It was like, This is ridiculous,” says Dekker.

SEE BATHROOM PG 3

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2021 Nicol scholars’ dreams rooted in Lambton and beyond

Heather Wright
The Independent

Janessa Labadie wants to make a difference in the world as a lawyer.
Asia Maheu wants to be an astronaut.
Peyton Moffatt is proud of her community contributions and wants to live and work in Lambton.
Angela Quiambao loves music and wants to teach in the Philippines.
The four teens are this year’s Nicol Scholars at LCCVI in Petrolia.
The Nicol Scholarship is awarded to the top academic students who participate in community and school life by a panel of judges which includes local ministers, politicians and school representatives. It was set up by Harold Nicol who went to LCCVI in 1914. When he returned he took a college business course and went to work for the company which would become AT&T.
Nicol had amassed a fortune. Without a family, he decided to set up the scholarship fund for LCCVI in his mother’s name.
June 10, the judges announced the four winners of this year’s scholarship which have once again receive \$10,000 per student. For several years, the scholarships were \$5,000 because of low funds in the foundation. Officials say in future years, the \$10,000 scholarships will continue.
Janessa Labadie was at home when Principal Greg Nemcek called with the news. “He kind of told me that I was a Nicol scholar and it was kind of like a shock. I was like, wait, like, really? Me? It was kind of just like a big surprise. And then, a sigh of just like, wow, I did it.”
Labadie wanted to be a Nicol scholar once she heard about it.
“I kind of set a goal for

myself back in Grade Nine and 10 to keep working hard at what I do in order to hopefully, one day be able to say I was a Nicol scholar.”
Labadie is continuing to dream big hoping “to make a difference in the world and to help people” with a career in law.
Asia Maheu’s dreams aim a little higher geographically speaking. “I’m going to the University of Waterloo and I’m going to be studying physics and astronomy. ...when I was younger, I always was super into – I still am obviously – space. And it’s always been the goal - to be an astronaut.”
Maheu points to a close encounter with a hometown hero as her inspiration, Sarnia Astronaut Chris Hadfield. “We got to talk to him one time when I was in Grade Five.
“I’ve always just been so fascinated with the stars, and just science in general. And I think space is super cool.”
Peyton Moffatt, like the others, became interested in becoming a Nicol scholar when she arrived at LCCVI. “I kind of had my eyes set on that as my goal and it just drove me to be involved in this campus school community and my town,” says the Watford-area teen.
“And I actually ended up liking being involved.”
Moffatt was a member of the athletic association, the student council co president, part of the health and wellness club at school and played sports. In the community, she helped coach baseball and became active in leading youth groups at local churches.
Moffatt, like the others, was excited to be told she’d been named a Nicol scholar.
“I think it’s just more like a feeling of accomplishment, that all your hard work has paid off,



Janessa Labadie, Asia Maheu, Peyton Moffatt and Angela Quiambao have been named the 2021 Nicol Scholars at LCCVI.

that you’ve worked to get somewhere, you had to put in the time and effort to get there; so I guess it proves that you’ve tried.”
Moffatt is going to the University of Waterloo and hopes to return to Lambton to work in the petrochemical industry.
Angela Quiambao has her eyes set outside Lambton’s borders. The 19 year-old from the Inwood area will be going to the University of Windsor in the fall for the concurrent education program. She also wants to take an international baccalaureate program which would allow her to teach internationally, particularly in the country she was born.
“One of the things I’d really love to do is teach over in the Philippines and get that experience, getting to be a part of different cultures and then teaching English and I’m really passionate about that,” she says.
The goal of university is a big one for the teen. She is fifth in a line of seven children and decided she would pay for her post-secondary education on her own. The Nicol Scholarship goes a long way to help.
Quiambao was hopeful she might win the Nicol for her hard work, but when the principal called, she expected to be turned down. “He was like, ‘I’m about to make your day even better.’ And like, ‘Angela, you are one of the Nicol scholars.

And afterwards, I cried.”
Nemcek says this year’s scholars – like the 400 who have gone before them – are “going to make a difference in the world. And that’s what the Nicol (Scholar program) is all about. It’s all about finding that student who is just the all-around student, that is going to come back to the community and do something wonderful... they’re going to do some great things.”
Nemcek says making the calls to the winners is the highlight of his year.
Janessa Labadie says it does take dedication to be in the running for the Nicol, adding this year’s scholars have also had to deal with two years of uncertainty through the pandemic. But she says, in a way, that’s helped her focus on her goal.
“Receiving this award was something I was like, ‘Wow, my hard work really has paid off,’” she says.
“It would have been so easy for me to be able to just be like, ‘nah I’m just giving up this year.’ You know what I mean? And I think having such a massive win as a possibility is like, ‘no, I need to kept an eye on the ball.’
“I guess that helped my tunnel vision. That’s what kept me wanting to push forward and realizing that you know, no matter what the circumstances, my hard work will pay off.”

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

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Confusion as Warwick out of running again for gas

Heather Wright
The Independent

Warwick Mayor Jackie Rombouts is shocked and confused after a natural gas pipeline project was bypassed again. The province announced 43 projects with Enbridge Wednesday in a program designed to extend natural gas service into rural, northern and Indigenous communities. This is the second round of projects which are expected to be started as early as this fall and be completed by 2025. The province is investing \$243 million in the projects saying without government help, the

projects would not be feasible. A project which would have brought gas to homes and farms in Warwick village was one of 209 the province and the Ontario Energy Board reviewed. But for the second time, it was rejected for the provincial program. “We’re very disappointed,” says Rombouts. “The reason that we thought we were going to get the funding is because Monte McNaughton, (Lambton-Kent-Middlesex MPP and now Minister of Labour) when he was the minister of infrastructure made the announcement in Warwick Township.”

The 2018 event included the minister of agriculture and was welcomed by local farm groups who would dry grain at a lower cost with natural gas. “He stood on a farm promising the farmers in Warwick Township he was going to bring natural gas to Warwick. So, we are quite confused as to why, three years later, we still haven’t gotten approval.” It is an issue Rombouts says the township will raise with the Minister of Energy at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario conference in August. The province is considering a third round of projects but no timeline was given.



FILE PHOTO

On Dec. 7, 2018, Lambton-Kent-Middlesex MPP Monte McNaughton and Agriculture Minister Ernie Hardeman announced the province planned to put cash toward the expansion of natural gas at an announcement in Warwick.

Lambton hits the big 7-0

Heather Wright
The Independent

Seventy per cent of Lambton adults have now had at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Lambton Public Health officials say after Monday’s vaccinations, 70.1 per cent of everyone over 18 has had one shot while 15 per cent of 12-17 year olds have had one dose. And 16.7 per cent of Lambton residents are now fully vaccinated against the virus which has killed 25,971 people in Canada including 8,974 in Ontario. The stream of vaccines has become a surge prompting the province to give more people the opportunity to book their second shot - including those who were injected with AstraZeneca. It was linked to a number of cases of blood clotting. The province is now allowing people who had the AstraZeneca

shot eight weeks ago to get their second shot in a clinic near them. Lambton’s Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Sudit Ranade, is pleased with the local vaccine rollout saying by July and August, the county should be providing mostly second doses at local clinics. He adds the county will be in good shape if between 75 to 80 per cent are fully vaccinated. The number of new cases is rapidly decreasing as the vaccines are distributed. Tuesday, the province reported under 300 new cases - one of the lowest case counts since September. In Lambton, there were 23 cases from June 9 to June 15, which Ranade says is “manageable.” But he cautions COVID-19 is still around. “The disease is still around and still is circulating and it’s spreading the same way it was, with people getting together.” And, he says the new Delta variant has also been detected in Sarnia in four cases.

Bathrooms a ‘basic service’ at parks says Dekker

CON’T FROM PG 1
“It doesn’t matter to me, I’ll pee anywhere. But when everybody’s peeing everywhere, it’s pretty bad.” And Dekker says it leaves a bad impression for visitors. A Muslim family from London happened to be making dinner near his family. “They were so excited to get out of London and come to this nice place. And they said, ‘Why aren’t there any bathrooms?’” Conservation authority officials say they simply haven’t got enough staff to properly maintain the port-a-potties this year. The province’s COVID-19 protocol says each bathroom should be cleaned twice a day and

staff says they simply don’t have the people to travel to all their parks to clean them. Bathrooms are maintained in parks which have overnight camping. Dekker is disappointed the conservation authority came up with “a litany of well thought out excuses as opposed to practical solutions.” “The reality is that people are using the park and need basic services, such as bathrooms.” Dekker says Plympton-Wyoming town council is going to address the issue Wednesday, adding the town has already reached out to the conservation authority to see if they can help.

Fired Wyoming firefighter thanked for service

CON’T FROM PG 1
“Bubba’s experience as a paramedic doubled with his passion for the service made him a strong asset to the department. Bubba volunteered many extra hours helping at the fire hall, working at community events and supporting other firefighters,” McGrail added. Wyoming residents also added thanks to Lyon. “Thank you for your dedication and years of service. Happy the wrong has been corrected finally,” said Lois McGrail. “Bubba was a huge asset to the department and we’re so happy this has finally been resolved,” says Joanne Hoeksema. The legal issues around Wilson’s dismissal are still outstanding. Clemens has since resigned and been replaced by Darryl Thompson.



Jason ‘Bubba’ Lyon seen here in the cab of a new fire truck in 2019. Lyon has reached a settlement with the Town of Plympton-Wyoming.

Local MPPs vote to use notwithstanding clause

The Independent

Both Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey and Lambton-Kent-Middlesex MPP, Minister of Labour Monte McNaughton were in the Ontario Legislature as history was made. The Conservative government became the first to override the rights of citizens in the province using Section 33 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the notwithstanding clause. Premier Doug Ford recalled the legisla-

ture to pass Bill 303 limiting the amount of third party advertising leading up to an election. Ford’s new rules mean individuals and groups like labour unions and farm organizations can spend \$600,000 over the course of a year before the election. Before, they were able to spend that amount in six months. Ford says he was trying to stop ‘elites’ from taking over the election while critics say the premier is trying to silence his critics. Both Bailey and McNaughton voted in favour of using the constitutional clause.

Notice of Review – Draft Terms of Reference for an Environmental Assessment
Twin Creeks Environmental Centre Landfill Optimization Project

Waste Management of Canada Corporation (WMCC), the owner and operator of the Twin Creeks Environmental Centre (TCEC) in Watford, Ontario, has initiated an Environmental Assessment (EA) seeking approval to optimize the landfill design and operation, maximizing the use of the constructed infrastructure and the significant investment made at the TCEC. The optimization could involve a vertical expansion of the landfill within the approved 101.8 ha Expansion Landfill footprint by modifying the side slopes and increasing the elevation of the landfill. This optimization could provide additional airspace of up to approximately 14M m³, which could extend the site life by approximately 12 years (from 2031 to 2043). There would be no change to the current 101.8 ha landfill footprint area, the approved service area, or the annual fill rate.

There is a need for the continued development of the TCEC as it is a significant component of the provincial waste management network and infrastructure, which is lacking in sufficient and secure long-term disposal capacity. Optimizing the future development of the TCEC allows for ongoing sustainable business operations and the continued provision of essential financial support for community services and programs.

The TCEC is located in the Township of Warwick near the Village of Watford, at the corner of Nauvoo Road and Zion Line (see Key Plan below). The purpose of the EA is to assess the potential effects of the proposed landfill optimization on the environment.

The Process

The EA will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act*. The first step in the process is the preparation of a Terms of Reference. The Terms of Reference will set out the framework and work plan for addressing the *Environmental Assessment Act* requirements when preparing the EA, including such things as the alternatives that will be considered and the public consultation and engagement activities that will be carried out. If approved by the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Terms of Reference will provide the framework and requirements for the preparation of the EA.

KEY PLAN

Draft Terms of Reference Review

The Draft Terms of Reference will be available for review from **June 15 to July 13, 2021**. Members of the public, agencies, Indigenous communities and other interested persons are encouraged to actively participate in reviewing and providing comments on the Draft Terms of Reference. We request that you provide any questions or comments to the study team using the contact information provided below by **July 13, 2021**. All comments received as part of this review will be considered in the preparation of the Final Terms of Reference, to be submitted for approval by the Minister.

The Draft Terms of Reference will be posted for review on the TCEC project website www.wm.com/ca/en/twin-creeks-landfill/landfill-optimization-project. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Draft Terms of Reference will not be available for review in person at publicly accessible locations. If you have difficulty accessing the Draft Terms of Reference on the project website, please inform WMCC using the contact information below.

Virtual Consultation and Engagement Event

WMCC invites you to attend **Virtual Consultation & Engagement Event 2** for an overview of the landfill optimization project and the contents of the Draft Terms of Reference. **Virtual Consultation & Engagement Event 2** is an online event accessible from the project website www.wm.com/ca/en/twin-creeks-landfill/landfill-optimization-project, which will run between **June 15 and July 13, 2021**. You are encouraged to participate by reviewing the information provided during the event and providing feedback. A comment form is included as part of the information.

In addition to participating in **Virtual Consultation & Engagement Event 2**, you are invited to submit your comments by mail, email, or phone to the project contacts listed below. If you would like to be added to the project mailing list or have project-related questions, please contact:

Wayne Jenken Area Landfill Manager, Eastern Canada Area Waste Management of Canada Corporation 5768 Nauvoo Road, Watford, ON N0M 2S0 Phone: 519.849.5810 E-mail: wjenken@wm.com	Larry Fedec, P.Eng. M.B.A. Solid Waste Program Lead, Canada HDR Corporation 100 York Blvd., Suite 300, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 1J8 Phone: 289.695.4696 E-mail: larry.fedec@hdrinc.com
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All personal information included in a submission – such as name, address, telephone number and property location – is collected, maintained and disclosed by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for the purposes of transparency and consultation. The information is collected under the authority of the Environmental Assessment Act or is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public as described in s.37 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public unless you request that your personal information remain confidential. For more information, please contact the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator at 416-327-1434.

Published June 15, 2021

Editorial

Ford’s constitutional takeover not reasonable

We agree with Doug Ford that there has to be limits to third party political advertising. We don’t agree with how the premier of Ontario is going about it.

Monday, Premier Ford’s government, frustrated that the courts had ruled his solution to the thorny problem of third party advertising was unconstitutional, chose the nuclear option and pulled out a clause of the Canadian constitution which has never been used in Ontario before - the notwithstanding clause.

Section 33 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms gives provincial legislatures or Parliament the ability to override certain portions of the charter for a five-year term. Notably though, the section says it can’t be used to squash democratic rights according to the charter.

The issue of third party advertising is directly linked to democracy. Groups and even individuals have the right to talk about the issues which are important to them. Under the Ford solution, which is now law, if you wanted to spend \$500 of your hard earned money to make sure Ford wasn’t re-elected or to make sure he did form government again, you’ll have to go through complicated financial reporting which is enough to stop most people from getting involved. It also limits what bigger groups, say the Ontario Federation of Agriculture or Labour or Teachers, can spend to explain their issues to the public. It places a \$600,000 limit on spending for the year leading up to the election. It used to be \$600,000 for six months leading up to the election. During the 28-day election campaign, groups can spend \$100,000.

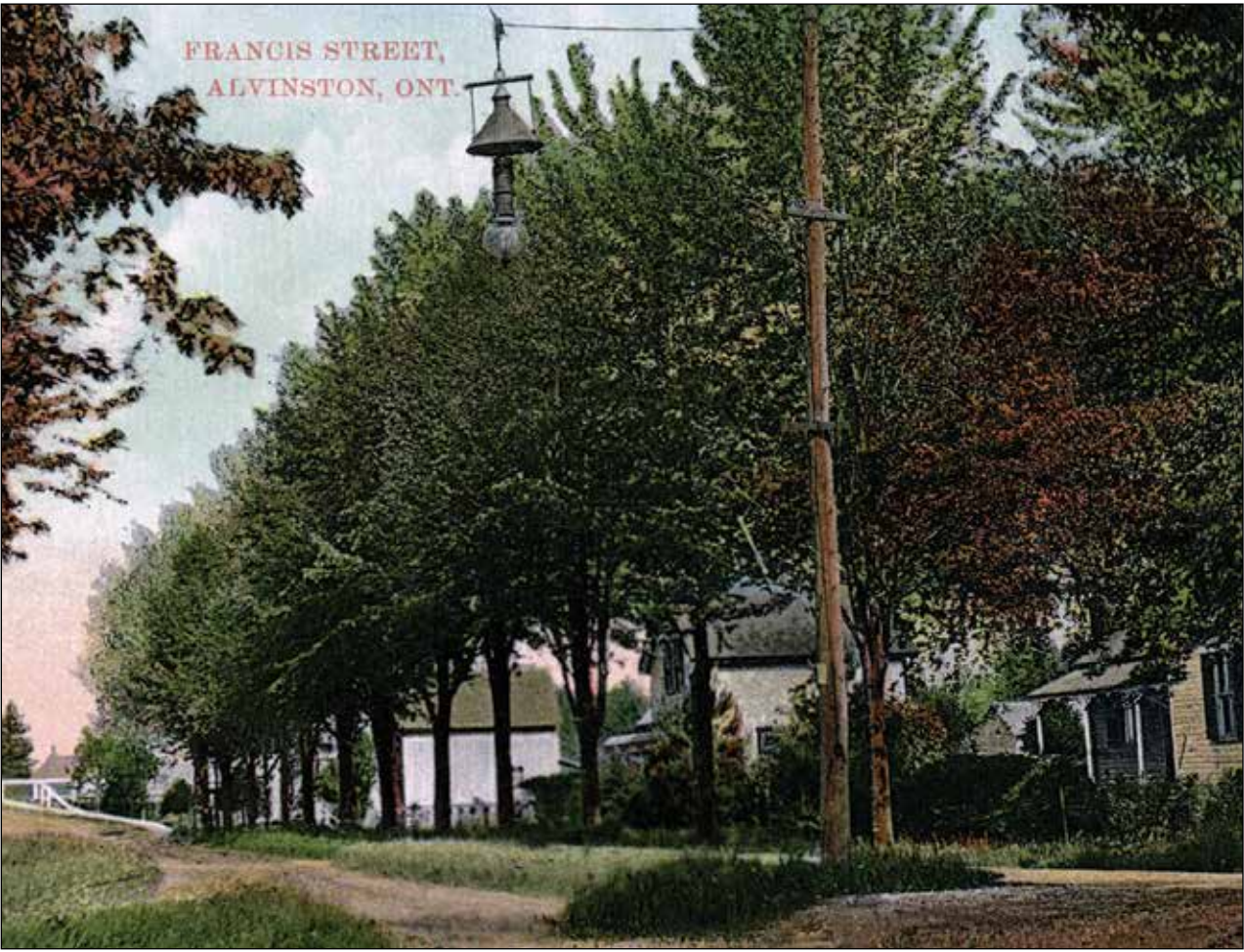
Critics say Ford’s plan puts his own political interests ahead of some of the big issues this province faces. Others believe he was in such a hurry to make this a law which could not be repealed because there is much to criticize leading into the election including school closures, lockdowns and the death of nearly 4,000 seniors in long term care during the COVID-19 crisis.

The government would have you believe it had to be done or it would a ‘wild west’ election with the ‘elites’ taking over the election. That’s not true. The new law simply removes some of the critical voices which is exactly what Ford needs to make sure the Conservative message - or propaganda depending on your view - gets out. And that’s certainly not enough to suspend our rights as citizens.

Letters to the Editor

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

Our Story



FROM THE DAVE BURWELL POSTCARD COLLECTION

A summer view of Francis Street in Alvinston which was not paved, but did have street lights.

Working hard to reach the goal when no one is watching

Since I started *The Independent*, I’ve met a lot of Lancers.

Until the pandemic, it would be unusual for me not to be at the high school for something. And I’ve met a lot of great teens. And it has been my pleasure over the years to interview the brightest and the best of LCCVI.

Each year, as the school year draws to a close, the Helen Kavanagh Nicol Scholarships are handed out with some pomp and ceremony.

Becoming a Nicol scholar isn’t something that happens in the last semester of Grade 12; almost all of the students I’ve talked to over the years said they heard about the scholarship and the prestige it holds early in their high school career. They made it a goal to be among the few to be named Nicol Scholars.

These young people are academics,

become key to the workings of the social aspects of school, serve on student government and play sports.

But there is always more than that.

It isn’t unusual for the scholars to hold jobs to earn money for university.

Almost all of them are active in their community. They do everything from teach at church camps, to work with the local fair board or baseball league.

Some do more, not just helping with community events but taking leadership roles in them or starting up charity events of their own or fundraising drives to benefit others.

This list is endless and as I talk to them, I often wonder, ‘How do they do all this?’

But likely what sticks with me the most is not what they do or how active they are, it is WHO they are.

Almost every time I’ve interviewed

Nicol scholars, I’ve finished the interview thinking, the future of these communities represented at LCCVI is in good hands. These people are going to do good things, you can sense it.

It’s not because they’re privileged or grew up in a good family, that they have loads of money or a position of power; they have a passion and excitement for the things they do and they work hard, when no one is watching, to reach their goals.



Heather Wright

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Publications Mail Registration No. 42663514

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Opinion

‘This is Canada..home of the polite and the considerate’

EDITOR:

I am writing in response to your commentary titled “Don’t Give Hate a Home in Lambton County”.

Quite frankly, I was shocked by some of your statements. Perhaps I misinterpreted them.

You said “I can’t say that I am shocked by the murder of this Muslim family”. Sorry, I was shocked! I think we were all shocked. This is Canada; home of the free and the brave, home of the polite and the considerate.

You stated that “you know people who share the vile views” of this 20 year old. Personally, I know people who have diverse opinions about different issues in our country, but I do not know anybody who would do such a cowardly and hateful act.

On one hand you said “Not one race or religion is blameless. We are all the same”, but in the next sentence “how is it that a man in his 20’s... decides killing four people... is a good thing...?”

I beg to differ. We are not all the same.

I know that radical Muslims on the other side of the world who delight in murdering Christians and other

“infidels” are not the same as the “peace loving” Muslim families who have escaped the intolerance and violence of their homelands to immigrate to Canada with the hope of a better and secure future.

I also know that most Canadians, no matter what their concerns and opinions are about immigration and the changing fabric of our neighbourhoods and the changing morality in our society and education systems, at their core, are not murderers.

I believe that most immigrant families who would leave their homeland and come to Canada recognize the inherent value and beauty of a free democracy that esteems freedom of speech and the pursuit of happiness. They desire the common hope of a promising future to raise their families.

We can all take comfort in our shared commitment to peace and unity within the civilized environment that we live, even though we do not agree and share the same thoughts and opinions about faith and the other issues in life.

You suggest the “politics of division” and those who say we’re “taking back Canada” is a reference to immigrants.

I’ve never thought of immigration in regards to those statements. My thoughts always go to domineering, controlling politicians who infringe on our freedoms, who thirst for power, and forget that they are servants of the people. The remedy is the next election. Never murder.

I want all of our families to succeed. When we are committed to the safety of all the members of our society, the better chance my children and grandchildren have to grow in the peace promised in the Canadian Charter of Rights.

You conclude with “Our words and our actions need to be kind and respectful to all people, always.” I agree.

The bottom line is I don’t have to agree with your opinions or lifestyle to agree and support your right to safety and security of the person.

We can all enjoy the freedoms and safety that Canada affords us if we remain committed to the Canadian values that has brought us this far.

If we are not all safe, then none of us are safe.

Bob Maniuk
Petrolia, ON

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Thoughts on the 215 children lost in Indian residential schools

EDITOR:

So much to be said on this topic
But just with an initial thought
The Catholic Church of the times is to
blame starting from the top down
What is the value of a life?
Really immeasurable
But in the business world
I pay for 2 million liability insurance
in case I cause loss of life
So for the 215 bodies in Surrey BC
The Catholic Church owes
The Indigenous community where the
children came from
430 million dollars
As I see it.
How long should we drag out a

problem
When the answers are obvious?
And on the statues
Leave the statues standing
Not because they have done all good
It's actually not humanly possibly to
do so, or be so
But leave them for future generations
to never forget
The atrocities that may have occurred
or the great things they did achieve
Add a plaque to the statue with the
whole truth and nothing but the truth,
so help us all
This world needs learning
Not hiding
The main case is Sir John A.

MacDonald (and I use the term Sir
lightly in these days for anyone, the
time of Kings and Queens has lost its
relevance, they are just rich people
from countries)
And the controversy that swirls his
statues
Leave them up
Move them if you will, to a lest
reputable place
But add to the truth of the man's life
And let the young and even old learn
the truth.

Trevor Maw
Brigden, ON

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Petrolia backs project to put mental health resources in hands

Heather Wright
The Independent

Mental health advocate Debb Pitel wants to make it easy for people to find the help they need when they’re in crisis.

Pitel, whose son died by suicide, has written a book about her family’s journey and built a training manual to teach people how to talk to people contemplating suicide.

Now, Pitel wants to print 100,000 booklets explaining what services are available in Lambton County and place them in easily accessible spots.

“These brochures would be scattered throughout the community in a very specific way. These are brochures that could be picked up in a non-clinical sense whether they be at a local coffee shop, the library, the township office,” she told Petrolia Council Monday.

“This really broadens the connection between the average person to the professionals and it’s part of the breaking

down the stigma to get these mental health resources in our community, in front of our community in just a different way.”

She added, “these brochures would stand to be a great resource for the professionals to hand out in the field.”

Pitel is hopeful that by putting the resources in people’s hands in a place they frequent it will “take away from the stigma and the wait for people to make an appointment with professionals that may be beyond their comfort zone and have the communications in the privacy of their own home ... and make sure that they connect with the proper resource quickly, so that there’s no guesswork where the need is or what resources can best suit their need immediately.

“It’s been my research over the last 10 to 12 years that we don’t always get second and third opportunities to support people.”

Councillor Grant Purdy backed up the need for more help.

“I know myself working as a paramedic that sometimes the resources can be a bit convoluted and overwhelming and compartmentalized,” he says.

“And it makes it difficult sometimes for people to get the right resource at the right time.”


Council backed the idea of the project and will also contribute financially to help get 150 brochures into all rural Lambton communities by July.

While the council does have a small amount of money set aside for grants, it is usually given out at budget time.

Councillor Joel Field suggested some of the town’s pandemic money from the provincial and federal governments could be used since the mental health crisis has worsened during the pandemic.

Field suggested, and council agreed, to provide \$2,500 to the project. He hopes that will encourage other municipalities to get on board and help pay for the production of the booklet.

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Warwick, Alvinston look to solve ice issue

The Independent

It seems the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre will be the home for East Lambton hockey this year. Both Warwick and Brooke-Alvinston have agreed to work together on an arrangement which would see all minor hockey games played in the arena in 2021. The issue arose when it became clear Warwick would not be able to use the arena as a massive renovation is underway. Normally ice is ready by August.

Neighbours don't want volleyball next door

Heather Wright
The Independent

Garth Smith does not want a volleyball court beside his Wyoming home. And he's hoping Plympton-Wyoming councillors will see the light Wednesday. Recently, town council - after a lengthy discussion - decided to put volleyball courts in Wilpstra Tot Park. It was one of the few places without any amenities. But they didn't consult the neighbours. When Smith and his neighbours received a letter from the town saying the courts were coming to the area, they sprung into action. He's collected a petition with 70 names asking council to change their minds. Smith says the homes closest to the site are

Township staff approached staff in Brooke-Alvinston to see if the municipality would put ice in early this year. Now, both councils gave staff the task of negotiating an agreement. Warwick Mayor Jackie Rombouts says the biggest sticking point is the Brooke-Alvinston-Watford Fall Fair. It normally uses the arena in October, and then ice is put in. Rombouts is hoping the agriculture society will agree to hold those activities in the new Optimist Pavilion now under construction or a tent provided by Warwick Township.

simply too close. "These homes are approximately four to six feet away from the site of these courts and there is absolutely no buffer zone whatsoever between the residences and the courts," he tells *The Independent*. They're also concerned about damage including injuries, broken windows and mangled flower beds. "Volleyball is a high energy sport giving way to yelling, screaming, whistling cheering, and foul language making the environment for residents in close proximity intolerable." During the council debate, Chief Administrative Officer Carolyn Tripp said the decision could be changed if the neighbours objected once the letter went out. Council deliberated about the issue after press time.

Bridal blitz at Bridgeview Park June 26

Heather Wright
The Independent

They won't be going to the chapel, but they are going to have a pretty scenic place to get married. Starting at 10 am on June 26, seven couples will be married in back-to-back 30 minute ceremonies at Bridgeview Park. The Town of Petrolia decided to offer the service knowing there were lots of couples who are looking for a wedding venue this year. Laurissa Ellsworth, director of marketing, arts and communications, says they had been getting calls from people whose wedding plans were derailed during the pandemic. They were looking for a civil ceremony

as a new option. But the town had to follow the same restrictions as everyone else, making offering indoor services impossible. "We thought, 'okay, what's an option for the outdoors and safe where people can stand steady,'" she says. The answer was at the covered bridge at Bridgeview Park. For a fee of \$175, couples can chose one of three different 30 minute ceremonies and the brides and grooms can use the park for their wedding photos, too. And under provincial pandemic rules, they can have as many visitors as can stay six feet apart. "There's a lot of people that are getting, kind of stalled in the planning and if we can help them, let's do it," Ellsworth says. If there is a high demand, the town can add another day of weddings.

Speed reduction on parkway nixed, again

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

A second attempt to reduce speeds along a section of the St. Clair Parkway has failed. Last month residents in Port Lambton wrote dozens of letters requesting the speed limit between Holt Line and Riverview Central Public School be reduced from 70 km/h to 50 km/h. Staff and OPP conducted speed studies and concluded they didn't have any major safety concerns about how people were using the road. But this did little to satisfy many local residents. "Any rational person can see that there is no need to keep a speed up in a developed neighbourhood when there is a perfectly good highway that can be travelled along for those in a hurry," wrote Heather Gilhuly. "All our neighbourhood is trying to do is prevent potential accidents that could potentially cause injuries and/or fatal incidents," says Ken O'Neil. "The speed at which vehicles travel along here are dangerous and vehicles are constantly passing," writes Kim Rose, adding "I really hope a more appropriate decision

can be reached before someone is injured or worse." Residents also questioned the validity of the speed tests saying they were conducted in construction zones where people would be driving slower anyway and that the presence of police cars during the OPP study would also make people slow down. Councillor Rose Atkins agreed with the residents and made a motion to revisit the issue. "The parkway in front of my house is 50 kilometres and I can't imagine the increased safety issues if it was 70," she says. "I think about that trail that's built there. We built the trail to encourage family activity and active transportation," says Atkins. "We have kids biking from Sombra to go to Riverview School, some kids biking from Port Lambton. It's odd that's the only area near that school that's higher than 50 kilometres." Councillor Bill Myers seconded Atkins' motion but it found little support from the rest of council as the vote failed 4-2. "I think we'll be creating a problem, not solving one that doesn't exist," says Deputy Mayor Steve Miller.

- THE INDEPENDENT



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Petrolia chocolatier among best in the world

Heather Wright
The Independent

Jaclyn Sanders says she hasn't been this excited about stickers since Grade Three spelling.

The Petrolia chocolatier has won two medals at the International Chocolate Awards World Finals.

Guild Chocolates FruiTea Bonbon won a silver at the World Finals in May and a bronze for the Fruity Hibiscus Bonbon. Sanders says the International Chocolate Seal will now be placed on the boxes containing the chocolates – a big marketing advantage. "I can use the award as a way of marketing my products. When it comes to retail, that is very helpful.

"I've never been so excited about a sticker since Grade Three spelling," she joked.

The two chocolates were among the seven winners at the Canadian

competition which qualified for the world finals. Sanders says it is very expensive to enter the world finals competition particularly shipping product to be judged, so she chose just two of the seven to move on in competition. "I really wanted to send my best," she says.

Her two bonbons stood out. "Nearly every country competed. I think Peru actually came away with the most medals," she says, noting a chocolatier in Montreal also claimed some of the top prizes.

The ceremony, like almost every other during the pandemic, was virtual. "My husband had it playing on the phone while he was at work," says Sanders. "I was in the middle of changing (one of their children) and he told me 'You won a silver!'

"I was totally caught up with day-to-day life but it was pretty good to hear the news from my husband."

Sanders has made a name for herself, building her small business in Petrolia for a number of years. She also sells her unique chocolates at a store in Pittsburgh which carries chocolates from across the globe.

"I just wanted to prove I was making quality chocolates that are among some of the best in the world. Some of the companies which compete have a tremendous amount of employees...I am a one-woman operation...so this was pretty amazing."

The competition has brought fresh attention to her Petrolia shop with people from as far away as Toronto, Hamilton and Windsor making "pilgrimages" to Petrolia on a Saturday morning to get a sample.

Sanders says the demand has increased so much that she's looking for more staff to help keep up with the demand.

Lambton educators say new math curriculum a big change

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

Grade 9 students will have a new approach to math this year as Ontario dumps streaming of the subject.

Upon entering high school students are required to choose an 'academic' or 'applied' route for their classes. But after evidence mounted of negative effects on minority and lower-income kids regarding educational pursuits after high school and even graduation rates, the province promised last year to do away with the practice.

Grade 9 math is the first subject to eliminate streaming.

Lambton-Kent's Director of Education John Howitt is excited for the change.

"We really believe strongly in the concept of de-streaming for math in Grade 9 and are hopeful that it does

expand to other subject areas in the coming years."

Howitt says school district students in junior kindergarten to Grade 8 are already used to de-streamed classrooms, but that it might take some time for high school teachers to adjust to the change since "the philosophy of streaming has been there previously. That's where the change is going to be the biggest and that's why we've been anxious to get the curriculum sooner than later to begin supporting our adults to be bringing about the change," he says.

Deb Crawford, director of education for the St. Clair Catholic District School Board, also says there will be an adjustment period.

"We know that the curriculum will be very different in the fact that it's de-streamed," she says.

"All of our board teams are getting

together... with the ministry where we're going to be able to look at the documents and ask questions and get further clarification."

"Once board teams have a good understanding of what we're dealing with we'll be able to get this message out to our families and to our students so they'll have a better understanding of what this new curriculum looks like."

The new Grade 9 math course will also add lessons in areas such as financial literacy, statistical modelling and coding. It also places emphasis on science, technology, engineering and mathematics and looks at the importance of mathematics across cultures.

The change is part of a four-year government plan to change mathematics education in Ontario.

- THE INDEPENDENT

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Graduations are known to be long affairs, but the 2021 edition at LCCVI may go on record as one of the longest. The school’s staff didn’t want the second class graduating through the pandemic to be deprived of some of the joy of graduation, so they set up a drive thru ceremony. The first graduate drove through the graduation stations at 1 pm Tuesday. By Wednesday at 7: 45 pm the last of the graduates walked across the stage set up in the parking lot of the Petrolia school. Principal Greg Nemcek said teachers wanted to do something to mark this milestone event and about 80 per cent of the class signed up to cross the stage and pose for photos. Pictured at the top is Katie Clyne receiving her diploma from Vice Principal Scott Watson. Brayden Fryfogle also marked the occasion. He completed his studies online while playing hockey in Colorado. Elizabeth Colvin straightened her cap while getting ready and Dylan Rumbold drove up in his pickup. Jayde McDonald brought her fan club, including a brother who watched from the car.



The County of Lambton is an urban-rural area in southwestern Ontario that is home to over 126,000 residents. The Corporation's seven divisions operate programs and services for the residents of Lambton County such as land ambulance, provincial offences court, three Long-Term Care Homes, 25 library branches, two museums, an art gallery, archives, local roadways, public health services, housing services, social services, building services and planning and development services.

Lambton County is a community dedicated to economic growth, environmental stewardship and an enhanced quality of life through the provision of responsive and efficient services and collaborative efforts with its municipal and community partners.

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- Assist in any other capacity within the department when required, through emergency, overload, absence, etc.
- Be on call for emergency work, normally being snow removal
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These describe the general nature and level of work being performed by incumbents in this classification. They are not an exhaustive list of all job duties in the classification. Other duties may be assigned.

Applications are accepted online until 11:59 pm on Sunday, June 27, 2021. Interested applicants can visit www.lambtononline.ca/jobs and select job posting J0621-0522 Skilled Labourer to apply.

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Tasting death, he bitterly realized ‘success’, had ruled his soul,
The harsh gods of ‘power’ and ‘materialism’ had taken their toll.
The true character wasn’t built, on the rock, of God’s seed,
His thin veneer of goodness, drive by recognized deed.

If the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly appear, that day?
Allegiance to Jesus, assures Eternal peace, to ‘all’ who obey.
One irrevocable breath, determines destinies reward, for each one,
Repentance and Forgiveness are found ‘only’, in God’s Precious Son.

How will you be remembered, with consistent ‘faith’, to the end?
Or you may become more ‘famous’ for your downfall, regrets without mend.
God’s Word says, “Let’s labour therefore to enter into that rest”,
One ‘trashing’ at ‘death’s’ grip, or a worshipper, here lies the test.

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.
Romans 10: 13

Prayer: Dear Lord Jesus, I find myself separated from you.
I want my life’s focus to be found in you.
Please forgive all my sins and unforgiveness towards others.
I invite you into my heart, to be the Lord and Master, of my life.
I will serve and live for you, thank-you for the assurance.
Of an Eternal Home in Heaven, with you. Amen

This message is presented by Grogan, Watford

Sports

Return to sports starts for elite players in Aug.

Barry Wright
The Independent

Ontario’s Minister of Sport doesn’t expect to see action on local ball diamonds or soccer pitches for several weeks still. “Sometime in August, we should be seeing a return to play scenario with controlled environments,” said Lisa MacLeod, following a recent announcement of an accelerated return to play plan for 18 leagues across the province, including the NHL, CFL, OHL, Major League Baseball and the NBA. The protocols for the professional leagues and elite

amateur athletes will include support from local public health officials as well as quarantining, daily testing, distancing, and masking. As part of phase one of Ontario’s reopening plan, local amateur athletes can take part in outdoor drills and dryland training but cannot play games. “At this time, we are not looking to accelerate anyone else, simply because we want to limit mobility and the opportunity for COVID-19 to continue to spread,” said the minister. MacLeod understands the frustration of parents but says getting kids back in the game

remains a priority of hers. “I understand where parents are coming from,” she said. “My hope is we continue to see (COVID) numbers go down and we continue to see vaccination rates go up so we can get to a place later this summer where there’ll be a fuller return to play model. “That’s very important for both the physical and mental wellbeing of our children.” While the announcement did specifically mention the OHL as a league involved in an accelerated plan to get back on the ice, it did not mention either the Provincial Junior Hockey League or the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League.

Legionnaires plan late September 2021 start

Barry Wright
The Independent

Pending approval from public health authorities throughout its catchment area, the 2021-22 GOJHL regular season is slated to kick off on Friday, September 24th. That start date along with the league’s annual Showcase event to be held in mid-January was decided at the

GOJHL’s AGM last weekend. It’s anticipated the regular season will end on March 13, 2022 with playoffs to begin three days later. “After a very long 16 months for all of our teams, players and fans, we’re very excited to get to work on our 2021-22 season with the puck dropping on Friday, September 24th,” said GOJHL Commissioner

Brent Garbutt. “Despite it being a few weeks later than normal, we believe this date will allow sufficient time for our players and teams to prepare while maintaining our top priority of their health and safety.” Meantime, the league also approved a change to allow players 18 and older the option of wearing a half face-shield.

Mooretown minor hockey grad selected by Sarnia Sting

The Independent

Owen MacDonald was one of three selections by the Sarnia Sting in the OHL’s U18 Priority Selection last week. The graduate of the Mooretown minor hockey

system was taken in the third round, 46th overall. The 16 year-old blueliner had three goals and 10 assists in 42 regular season and playoff games with the Lambton Jr. Sting in 2019-20. He only played a pair of games this past season due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Forest’s McGregor leads Canada to lopsided pre-tourney win

The Independent

Tyler McGregor completed the hat trick with a third period goal Monday to lead Team Canada to a 9-0 romp over the

host club in a pre-tournament game for the IPC World Para Hockey Championships in the Czech Republic. The North Lambton grad had scored twice in the first period.

Canada had beaten the Czechs 14-1 Sunday. The second-ranked Canadians open the tournament against the top-seeded Americans this Sunday.

Corunna’s Drouin flies high for win at event in Finland

The Independent

The defending men’s Olympic high jump champion continues his push to qualify for next month’s Summer Games in Tokyo.

Derek Drouin won a Grand Prix event in Finland last Thursday with a jump of 2.18 metres following a fourth-place finish earlier this month in the Netherlands with a jump of 2.20 metres. The Olympic qualifying

standard is 2.33 metres. The St. Pat’s and University of Indiana grad will try again at the Canadian Track and Field Championships in Montreal later this month.

Boaters need licence to stop in Walpole Island territory

Pam Wright
Local Journalism Initiative

Boaters planning to drop anchor in the waters surrounding Walpole Island now need a special \$100 licence to do so. The First Nation community requires marine travellers to purchase the document if they want to stop to enjoy the scenery. A licence is not required for those passing through. According to James Jenkins,

chief executive officer for the band, the move is an attempt to protect Walpole Island’s rich bio-diverse areas. Seadooing and water skiing will no longer be permitted in Walpole waters, but non-motorized craft such as kayaks and canoes can be used and will not require the licence. “We’re trying to put a stop to the damage that can be done to our ecologically sensitive areas,” Jenkins said, adding speeding boats are a major concern.

The fees will be used to protect areas and step up patrols. “We hope this will bring awareness and help cover costs of enforcement,” Jenkins said. Sport fishers who want to try their luck in Walpole’s waters are also required to purchase a fishing licence from the band but will not require the additional pleasure craft licence. The licences are available online.

- THE CHATHAM VOICE

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411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia during regular operating hours
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Mandi Pearson
Clerk/Operations Clerk
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Card of Thanks

Thank you

Thank-you to our President Bev Goodman and her team at Ford Motor Company, for reaching out with their sincere condolences to me, my girls and my extended family, Larry, Bonnie-jean and Shannon Grogan.

A “Special thank-you to my Pastors, family, friends and staff for their many prayers, cards, flowers and donations to Jesus Saves Charitable Foundation.

Sincerely, Jason, Sachia and Eleasha Grogan.

Card of Thanks

Thank You

A sincere “thank-you”, to Jim, Donna, Rob Hoffman and Amanda Rood of Hoffman’s Funeral Home in Dashwood, for their excellent care, through the loss of our precious daughter-in-law, Kathleen Grogan.

On behalf of Jason, Sachia and Eleasha and Shannon, Justin and Faith, we will ever be grateful for the compassion shown and the attention to every detail fulfilled, in a warm homey setting.

With sincere appreciation,
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Death Notices

June 5- June 11, 2021

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

BRESSETTE, Connie

Age 52, of Kettle Point
Gilpin Funeral Home

LAZARUK, Delores

Age 65, of Sarnia
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

BEST, Jennifer

Age 46, of Kitchener
Smith Funeral Home

MASSICOTTE, Helene

Age 66, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

FERRIS, Garry

Age 68, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

HINTON, Dorothy

Age 97, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

MONDAY, JUNE 7

SMITH, Glen

Age 64, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

CORNELL, Douglas

Age 88, of Forest
Denning’s of Forest

KING, Jessie

Age 97, of Wyoming
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

BOREHAM, Howard

Age 67, of Sarnia
Gilpin Funeral Home

WELLINGTON, Brenda Jean

Age 73, of Forest
Denning’s of Forest

MAW, Joan

Age 78, of Wyoming
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

GOGAS, Olga

Age 85, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

FRASER, Ann

Age 88, of Sarnia
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

BULK, Jacob

Age 89, of Watford
Denning’s of Watford

JOHNSON, Harry “Henry”

Age 89, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

BLONDIN, Wilma Ann

Age 90, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

BENACQUISTA, Antonia

Age 93, of Sarnia
McKenzie & blundy Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

McCORMICK, Jessica

Age 32, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

DEVEREUX, Paul

Age 73, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

PAQUETTE, Donald

Age 88, of Sarnia
McCormack Funeral Home

MacFARLANE, Dora

Age 100, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

McGOWAN, Sharron

Age 78, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

KERNIGAN, William “Bill”

Age 71, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

Obituary



MacDONALD

Karen

It is with sadness that the family of Karen MacDonad (nee Osborne) passed away at Lambton Meadowview Villa, Petrolia, in her **78th year**. She is survived by her husband of 55 years Bruce MacDonald, her sons Aaron and Stacey MacDonald and Colin and Kaithika MacDonald, and her grandchildren Chelsea MacDonald and Maya, Kaiden, and River De-MacDonald. Karen was a nurse who graduated from Hamilton General Hospital and later spent many years at Holland Memorial Hospital in Dunnville as head nurse in the operating room. And later owned and operated with her husband White Lake Marina for 25 years. In retirement she and Bruce spent seven years sailing around the Americas. Cremation has taken place. As expressions sympathy, memorial donations may be made to Lambton Meadowview Auxilliary (www.lambtoncares.ca). Arrangements by Needham-Jay Funeral Home www.needhamjay.com.

In Memory

In Memory of

Wayne RANSLEY

October 17, 1947-June 16, 2011

*Your presence we miss,
Your memory we treasure.
Loving you always,
Forgetting you never.*

*Thinking of you often,
Marlene, Kim, Julie, Jill
and families*

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY - Adult bicycles Women & Men. All sizes. Good to fair condition. All types of bikes wanted. Top prices paid. Please call 519-882-2548 and ask for Dave.

For Sale

1976 CHEVROLET STING-WAY - New Tires. New Bronze Paint. Everything New or Re-built. Super, Solid, Straight Car. Factory Aluminum Wheels. 350 Auto. Asking \$14,000

2007 CHEVROLET SILVERADO Z71 4X4 - Extended Cab. Rear Doors Open. New Tires. Excellent Shape. 3” Left. Oiled Yearly. 300,000 KM. 2nd Owner. Asking \$9,600. **Call 226-349-3604**

Obituary



KING

Jessie

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our dear mother, grandmother and great grandmother, Jessie King (nee Anderson), of Wyoming, who was in her **97th year**. Predeceased by her husband Stanley (1989), Daughter of Reid and Flora Anderson, Mother of Wayne (Wren) King and Pat (Roy) Van Damme. Granny to Derek (Lyndsey) King, Mia (Andy Sit) King, Katie King, Corey (Stephanie) Wilkinson, and Kyle Wilkinson. Great Granny to Dawson, Jacob (2003), Reid, and Hunter King, Ryan Wilkinson and Estelle Sit. Thanks to the staff of Bluewater Health, C.E.E. Petrolia for the great care of the past week. Many thanks to the V.O.N. personal support workers for the compassionate care provided over the past 8 years. **Due to COVID-19 restrictions a private family service was held, with interment in Wyoming Cemetery. A celebration of life will be held at a future date.** As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made Wyoming United Church or V.O.N. Sarnia-Lambton (von.ca). Arrangements by Needham-Jay Funeral Home www.needhamjay.com

Coming Events

GARAGE SALE - Variety of household items for sale **June 26th, 2021 at 4471 Petrolia Line, Petrolia**. Masks required, handsanitiver and masks avaibale if need be.

For Sale

ENGINE - 1970 LTI 350. 30 Over 11-1 Compression. 4 Bolt Main. Holly 750 Double Pumper Carburetor. Roller Hydraulic Can. Ford Steel Tank. Aluminum Intake Roller Rocks. Roller Double Timing Chain. Dart Heads. MSD Ignition. Moroso Deep Oil Pan. 500 Horse Power. \$15,000 Invested Into It. asking \$6,500. Call 226-349-3604

For Sale

FOR SALE - New Stearns and Foster double box spring & mattress. Asking \$600 | **New electric dryer**. Asking \$250 | **Floral couch & chair with pillows**. Like new. Asking \$550 | **2004 Mustang**. 40th Anniversary edition. 229KM. Black & gold. Loaded. Nice Interior. New tires. New battery. Excellent on gas. Little work to safety. Asking \$6,000. **Call or text 226-886-2331**

Obituary



MAW

Joan

With heavy hearts, but loving memories, and moments to last us a lifetime, we announce the peaceful passing of **Joan Ruby Maw (nee Griffith) on Tuesday, June 8th, 2021** at the age of **78 years**. Joan leaves behind her beloved husband, Maurice, of 58 years, her daughters Wanda (Brad) Burnard, Lydia (Mark) Darrach, and Coleen (Andre) Belille. She was also the caring nana to Megan and Mitchell Burnard as well as Marlee and Emma Darrach. Joan was predeceased by her parents, John (1991) and Ruby (nee Page) (1973) Griffith, stepmother Velma (2003), her brothers Arthur (2008) (Carolynne) and Barry (2014), and her brother-in-law Leslie (1998) (Doris) Maw. She is survived by her brother-in-law Harold (Heather) Maw and several nieces and nephews. As a wife, mother, and nana, Joan was best known and loved for her delicious baking, knitted socks, knotted blankets, and “fancy work”. She enjoyed playing cards with family and friends, trying new recipes that she found on Pinterest, and travelling to Lakeland, Florida, as a snowbird, for over 30 years. Our sincere thanks to the staff at St. Joseph’s Hospice and Dr. Kim for their compassionate care. **Due to Covid-19 restrictions, a private, family graveside service will be held at the Wyoming Cemetery**. As expressions of sympathy, donations may be made to St. Joseph’s Hospice, Sarnia (www.stjosephshospice.ca) and the Canadian Cancer Society (www.cancer.ca). Arrangements by Needham-Jay Funeral Home (519)882-0100 www.needhamjay.com.

For Sale

PLANT SALE - Hosta plants, Yucca Plants, Rose of Sharon Bushes and Vegetable Plants. **Self Serve. We will recycle plant pots. 458 Ignatifna St., Petrolia.**

WANTED

FARMLAND - Do you want a farmer who wants and values your opinion on how to best farm your land ? One who will work with you to develop a crop plan, discuss when your farm is fit to plant and harvest to minimize compaction and maximise profit for the long term? **Then call Shawn at Font Farms (519) 384-2855.**

**Classified Deadline:
Monday @ 12 noon**

Obituary



MacFARLANE

Dora

“A picture is worth a thousand words” This picture of Dora was taken on Friday June 4, 2021. It reflects her positive, cheerful outlook on life, enjoying nature with family and a fur baby by her side. Dora Alison (Wright) MacFarlane entered into eternal life on **Wednesday June 9, 2021** at Fiddick’s Nursing Home Petrolia in her **100th year**. Dora is reunited with her beloved husband, travel partner and best friend Robert (Bob) MacFarlane (October 2003). Dora’s spirit lives on in her 2 children, 5 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. Dora was a constant source of strength and love to her family and instilled in them strong ethics in every aspect of their lives. Dora worked along Bob’s side as a book keeper and “pay master” at the MacFarlane Dealership for over 35 years. Dora was a pillar of the Petrolia Community. She was a lifetime member of St. Paul’s United Church, a 60 year devotee to Margaret Stokes IODE, a member of the Eastern Stars and Petrolia Rotary, hosting numerous exchange students. Dora loved her time spent at “Auchterhaus” in Tobermory surrounded by family and friends feeding the chipmunks and cooking whitefish. In her spare time, Dora liked to read, play cards, host parties, knit, quilt and bake treats for her grandchildren. Dora loved to travel and was lovingly known as “Dora the Explorer”. Music and faith was always a part of Dora’s life and in 2020 a song composed by Greg Gilpin and sung by the Lambton Youth Choir was commissioned in her honor “I Love to Tell The Story” Dora was predeceased by her parents Mabel Wright (1984) and Newell Wright (1955) and “brother” Robert Wright (1999). Devoted and loving mother to Daughter Sandra Sylvestre (Vic) and Son Wayne MacFarlane (Marybelle). Proud Grandma Dora to her Grandchildren Rick Pineo (Debbie), Candie Shwanke (Wayne), Kristin MacFarlane (Chad), Jenny MacFarlane (Kevin) and Scott MacFarlane. Beloved Great Grandma Dora to Ryan and Amanda Pineo, Melissa Toole, Aaron Shwanke, Liam and Logan Crummy, Joshua, Julia and Jordan Morley, Makenna, Kylie and Cameron MacFarlane. She will be dearly missed but forever in our hearts. A very special thank you to the staff of Fiddick’s Nursing Home for their extraordinary care over the past 10 years. **A private funeral service was held on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 11am. The service can be viewed at www.facebook.com/NeedhamJay.** The Memorial donations to Petrolia Community Fund (Cheques payable to SCF/Petrolia Community Fund). Arrangments by Needham-Jay Funeral Home www.needhamjay.com

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
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or email: office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

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

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Notice

ATTENTION All "Beef Dinner" Ticket Holders for the Moore Agricultural Society - ANNUAL BEEF DINNER Previously scheduled for **Sunday, March 29, 2020 DINNER HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 2021** as a Take Out Meal. To schedule your meal, you must pre-register by sending an email to Homecraft@brigdenfair.ca Or calling 519-864-4889 asap. We will need Your Name; Your Ticket #; Telephone number/Contact Number to set up pick up time). You will need to show your ticket at time of pick up for proof of purchase. Thank you for your support. Some tickets are still available for sale.

NOTICE

IODE Margaret Stokes Chapter is pleased to offer four scholarships and bursaries to graduating LCCVI students for post-secondary education at college or university. For further information, and applications, please contact Student Services or refer to the IODE website. <https://www.iodemargaretstokespetrolia.ca/bursary-application.html>

Calendar

PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
June 18-20		Sarina	Sarina Kingsmen Drive Thru Ribfest presented by Carpenters Local 1256. Held at Lambton College. For more info www.sarniakirinribfest.com	
Jun 19	7:30-noon	Petrolia	The Petrolia Farmers' Market with local vender's. 396 Fletcher St. Behind the Library. COVID-19 guidelines in place.	
Jun 19	10-3p	Petrolia	Petrolia Discovery Antique & Unique Sale . Hundreds of items including crystal, china, figurines, household oddities and boxes of books! All public health protocols will be followed. Masks mandatory indoors. Admission by donation. Admission to site for tours and sales is donation.	
Jun 19	2-8pm	Forest	Forest Legion is OPEN . Back patio. Social distancing and masks please.	
Jun 16	7:30-noon	Petrolia	The Petrolia Farmers' Market with local vender's. 396 Fletcher St. Behind the Library. COVID-19 guidelines in place.	
Jun 23	8a-1p	Grand Bend	Grand Bend Farmers' Market at the Lambton Heritage Museum Parking lot. Visit the new website for vendor & safety protocols. www.lambtonshorem Markets.com	
Jun 26	2-8p	Forest	Forest Legion is OPEN . Back patio. Social distancing and masks please.	
Jun 30	8a-1p	Grand Bend	Grand Bend Farmers' Market at the Lambton Heritage Museum Parking lot. Visit the new website for vendor & safety protocols. www.lambtonshorem Markets.com	
Jul 1	4-8p	Forest	Forest Farmers' Market at the corner of Jefferson and Main St. Visit the new website for vendor & safety protocols. www.lambtonshorem Markets.com	
Jul 1	4:30-6:30p	Alvinston	Brooke-Alvinston Canada Day. 1/2Chicken Dinner . Take out only. \$17.50 per meal. Tickets at Three Maples in Alvinston, Inwood Variety, Brooke-Alvinston Township Office, and Jeannette Douglas 519-8785-303	
Jul 3	7:30-noon	Petrolia	The Petrolia Farmers' Market with local vender's. 396 Fletcher St. Behind the Library. COVID-19 guidelines in place.	
Jul 3	7-noon	Sombra	Sombra Days Family Fishing Event . Free activity for all children, youth and families. Sign up at the Sombra Township Optimist booth at the public dock in Sombra.	
Jul 7	8a-1p	Grand Bend	Grand Bend Farmers' Market at the Lambton Heritage Museum Parking lot. Visit the new website for vendor & safety protocols. www.lambtonshorem Markets.com	
Jul 8	4-8p	Forest	Forest Farmers' Market at the corner of Jefferson and Main St. Visit the new website for vendor & safety protocols. www.lambtonshorem Markets.com	

Deadline for submitting free events is Mondays at noon.

To have your event included in the above Calendar of Events the following information is required:
Date: _____
Time: _____
Town: _____
Event Title: _____
Phone # / website: _____
You can drop this off at our office or email the information to us at office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

Church DIRECTORY

Christ Anglican Church
414 Oil Street, Petrolia

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

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

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 wyoing_united@outlook.com to be sent the Zoom link to join us for our 10am live service.

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Church Office 519-845-3963
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Jail time for mom who didn’t help child

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

Pamela Noble found her five-month old son wasn’t breathing. There’s no evidence the mother’s actions caused baby Blaine to become lifeless, but what she did afterward was “shocking” and a “serious obstruction of justice.” That from Justice Deborah Austin, who sentenced the Sarnia mother to seven months in jail.

The night of May 19, 2018 Noble drove with Blaine from Sarnia to London to see her boyfriend. The boyfriend was under a court order not to see Noble, a bail term she ignored.

When she checked on Blaine in the morning, he wasn’t breathing. “Arguably this was the most critical time when an infant needs a parent to act in the most protective way... This baby and any child in an emergency medical state or condition is entitled to their parent accessing and responding in the quickest way that is reasonably available to access medical care.”

But that’s not what Noble did. She feared calling for emergency help would lead to questions about why she was in London and would ultimately put her boyfriend in jail.

Instead, Noble put Blaine in the car and drove all the way back to Sarnia. She stopped at home before taking her baby to Bluewater Health, two hours after she found him in distress.

Noble told hospital workers she had just discovered her baby not breathing. Despite their efforts Blaine could not be revived. “She rushed into the hospital with that baby cold and lifeless in a baby carrier. She told a lie to represent herself in a way she knew a parent should respond,” says Austin.

“And in this case, she knew she hadn’t.”

Noble confessed what really happened to police some time later.

A cause of death couldn’t be

determined. Post-mortem exams showed Blaine was otherwise healthy and well cared for with no injuries. Austin noted it will never be known if Blaine could have been saved even if he’d been treated immediately.

But Austin says Noble shouldn’t “play God or doctor in declaring her own baby to be beyond help.

“The act in these circumstances, lying about a child’s situation and delaying emergency care and medical intervention all in the aid and protection of a boyfriend is extremely serious and far below the standard of a reasonable parent.”

Austin concluded “a jail sentence is the only reasonable alternative and the only sentence to reflect the gravity of the offence.”

Austin decided on a seven month jail sentence, essentially in line with Crown Attorney David Rows’ request of eight to 12 months. The justice lowered it slightly given some of the traumas Noble has experienced in her own life and that she’s “grieving significantly herself and she is remorseful for some of the decisions that she made.”

Any possibility of a conditional sentence, argued for by Defence Lawyer Robert McFadden, was ruled out following an unfavourable pre-sentence report where Noble’s answers placed “great doubt about the reliability about the basic information provided by Ms. Noble, even about where she is or has been living or what is going on in her life,” says Austin.

Austin imposed the jail term “with a heavy heart, because I know that Ms. Noble has suffered a tremendous loss. But this decision is aimed at condemning the protection of a partner - the adult’s interest - over the protection of a child.”

- THE INDEPENDENT

Seven years for sexual assault of teen

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

A Lambton man with a history of sexual assault in Ontario has been sentenced to seven years in jail with Justice John Desotti saying there was no point in ordering counselling for the man.

Desotti says William James Epp, who has a prior conviction for aggravated sexual assault, “has not expressed any remorse” for his latest crime of sexually assaulting a 16 year-old girl.

Desotti found the 56 year-old man guilty earlier this year following a trial. Epp returned to Superior Court last week. Many details of the case are under a publication ban to protect the identity of the victim who was a child.

The girl and two other people had gone to Epp’s house one evening where she passed out on the couch after drinking. Epp came into the room and sexually assaulted her while she was passed out.

Two other people at the house testified they saw evidence of the assault.

The girl experienced “excruciating pain” when she woke up at Epp’s house. It was so bad an ambulance was called when she got home. Samples taken at the hospital proved a DNA

match to Epp.

“The victim has undergone severe emotional and psychological trauma since this sexual assault,” says Desotti, which affected her school, relationships and her mental and physical health. She continues counselling to manage the traumas.

This wasn’t even Epp’s first conviction for this crime. Thirty years ago in Parry Sound the man was handed a six year sentence for aggravated sexual assault. He received statutory release after four years. Prior to that the man was found guilty of two counts of assault and mischief endangering life in separate cases in Powassan.

Desotti was “satisfied that a significant penitentiary term is warranted,” as he landed on a seven year term. The alarming pre-sentence report led Desotti to not even bother ordering counselling for Epp, however “if consented to I would strongly recommend a psychological assessment as this is the second serious sexual assault occasioned by this accused.”

Epp will also be placed on the Sexual Offence Registry for life, has a lifetime weapons ban, must provide a DNA sample and cannot make any attempts to contact the girl.



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