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## **Highland Glen's future** may be with PW: Loosley

**Heather Wright** The Independent

Petrolia's mayor says the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority should offer Highland Glen to Plympton-Wyoming.

Brad Loosley made the comment and prompted a discussion of the conservation area at the authority's board meeting.

Highland Glen is considered a regionally significant conservation area and is the only one owned by SCRCA on Lake Huron. But high water levels and warmer winters has taken a toll on the amenities. Like many other lakeshores, the cliffs at the park have been eroding, making getting to the water more difficult.

The high water and waves also heavily damaged the boat launch. The well-used launch has been closed since the beginning of 2020 as the authority tries to come up with a plan for repairs.

A recent estimate by an engineering firm estimates over \$3 million will need to be spent at Highland Glen for boat launch repairs and shoreline erosion. About \$85,000 is needed to make immediate repairs to reopen the launch, although staff says dredging would now also likely have to occur.

The authority board was discussing recent concerns about the lack of washrooms at the facility when Loosley suggested "getting out of something we don't need to be involved with" and "offering Highland Glen to Plympton-Wyoming.'

While some board members said the authority shouldn't just be getting rid of assets without looking at the whole park system, others liked the idea. Most notably, members from Sarnia seemed ready to talk about getting rid of the park, if it would save the \$3 million investment.

**SEE HIGHLAND GLEN PG 2** 

### **Revamped Oil Museum to open in August**

**Heather Wright** 

The Independent

renovation.

The Oil Museum of Canada will be ready for visitors in August. That from Laurie Webb, the manager of museums, who has been overseeing the \$880,000

In February, contractors began stripping the 60 year-old museum to the studs in many areas as part of a plan to return the building to its original design by Ian Rutherford. One of the keys will be opening up the museum again by returning the walls of windows which allowed visitors to look out over the existing oil fields. Right now, Webb says, the window frames are covered with plywood. But sometime this week, the new floor to ceiling, UV ray treated windows will be in place. "It's going to be exciting to see it open up," says Webb.

The museum is also redesigning the exhibits based on the original vision of the museum to feature things like the geology of oil, how Indigenous people used oil, the discovery of oil and the reach of Lambton's oil drillers as well as the history of Oil Springs and the boom there.

Webb says there have been some small construction delays, mostly because getting materials has been more difficult than normal. The work was originally slated to be complete by the end of June, however, Webb says the contractors have a bit of extra breathing room.

The COVID-19 pandemic restrictions mean museums across Ontario won't be opening until the beginning of August at earliest. When the restrictions ease, Webb says the oil museum will be ready for visitors to see the renewed, brighter look.

### **ALL THE WEDDING EXTRAS**



Town of Petrolia employee Annette Major leans down to straighten Lindsay Peterson's dress just moments before she and Mike Bruce were married. Richard Poore, seen here, and Clerk Mandi Pearson married nine couples Saturday. The town had originally planned to perform the ceremonies in Bridgeview Park, but the weather was threatening. The ceremonies were moved indoors at Victoria Hall. For more see page 8.





HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

The cattle in Oil Springs had a little more water than normal. Black Creek rose so high, the cattle had to swim across it to get to dry land. Central Lambton municipalities reported between one and two inches of rain Friday, however to the south, in the Dresden area, there was six inches.

### Rain welcomed in Lambton, damages in Dresden

**Heather Wright** 

The Independent

After an unusually dry spring, Lambton welcomed some rain Friday.

But the same couldn't be said to the south, where six inches of rain fell damaging almost every crop imaginable

"Most areas of Lambton are very, very dry," said Kevin Marriott, Lambton's Warden and a local director of the Grain Farmers of Lambton right before the rain started. "This is going to be a drought breaker," he says, noting wheat is about to be harvested and too much rain would ruin the quality of the grain.

For Lambton it was a breaker, with one to two inches of rain reported in Central Lambton - enough to cause local streams to rise, but causing little damage.

Just a few kilometres to the south, in Dresden, farmers are assessing the damage.

"The tomato crop without question is severely damaged in a lot of areas," says the president of the Kent Federation of Agriculture, Louis Roesch. Dresden farmers are reporting between five and six inches of rain south of the river. Mark Richards, who is north of the Sydenham near Dresden, got about two inches of rain and estimates about 10 per cent of his tomato crop is underwater. "I don't think there's going to be many tomato growers in Chatham-Kent who are not affected by this rain."

Roesch estimates half of the crop could be destroyed.



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## Petrolia asked to change new food truck bylaw

Heather Wright
The Independent

Just a couple of weeks after passing a new bylaw to regulate food trucks, Petrolia may consider making changes

In mid-June, Liz Welsh came to council for her employer, Albany Retirement Residence. The home was hoping to book an ice cream truck to bring some socially distanced entertainment to seniors who had been in the home for months during the pandemic. But under the new food truck bylaw, Albany would need to pay a \$200 fee to the town - as do all commercial businesses, private homes and industries. The one-time fee would have covered the three events planned. Welsh asked for and received an exemption based on "compassionate grounds."

Only Councillors Marty Souch and

Don Welten opposed the move saying they'd just passed the bylaw and it would set a precedent.

Once council agreed to the exemption, Mary Jo Edgar, speaking for herself and Welsh, asked council to reconsider the whole bylaw. Edgar suggested exemptions for food trucks with business licences from the town and a special event permit. She also suggested events at a private home should be free, if they last just 90 minutes.

Emily Denham Weed, in a letter to council June 28, agreed. She says having an ice cream truck at a private party would be a great, socially distanced event.

And she says, council passed the bylaw without public input. "I don't feel the voices of the community were properly heard on this topic."

Council was slated to talk about the issue during Monday's council meeting.

## Highland Glen future owner up for debate con't FROM PG 1 Plymaton Wroming Councillor Netty McEyron, who represented the town at the

Plympton-Wyoming Councillor Netty McEwen, who represented the town at the meeting, says council might consider the move if at least the preliminary repairs to the boat launch were complete. "If this conversation is going to take place in the near future, could we consider attempting to open up the boat ramp itself?" McEwen said her phone has been "ringing off the hook" since the launch

closed. "If we could open up for some sort of season yet, then if that conversation started (with Plympton-Wyoming), it would look a little more palatable."

General Manager Brian McDougall urged caution saying even if the group wanted to turn the park over to Plympton-Wyoming, the boat launch repairs may be difficult to do this year because of a lack of contractors with time available to take the project on.

And while the engineering report is "at the extreme end of costs" McDougall says there are other things that can be done to improve the area. And for the authority an important part of the property is the link to Highland Creek.

The board has asked staff to put the idea on an agenda in July or August for discussion.

## No Brigden Fair this year, 'critical restrictions' may not be lifted in time

The Independent

A Thanksgiving Weekend tradition in Lambton County – the Brigden Fair – won't run this fall.

The Moore Agricultural Society released the decision early this morning saying the event which can draw up to 50,000 people on a weekend couldn't go on with the pandemic restrictions still easing. "Collectively, we had hoped

that the summer months would bring relaxation to pandemic related restrictions and easement to gathering limitations that would allow our celebration of agriculture to proceed as customary," the society wrote in a news release.

"Despite the progress being made in communities across the province, it is now clear to organizers that the alleviation from the critical restrictions will not be made quickly enough.

"Proceeding the Brigden Fall Fair at this time, could compromise months of slow and painstaking progress that has been made in the fight against COVID-19.

"With infection rates dropping and immunization rates on the rise, now is not the time for unnecessary risk taking." The society also recognized its traditional sponsors – local business – have been hit hard economically by the pandemic.

The society is planning smaller events including a drive-in movie night in August. "More will be announced as pandemic restrictions are relaxed and events can be conducted safely."

The group also noted the fair "has far reaching social and

economic impacts" and the society "is committed to mitigating the losses felt across the community."

This is the second year the agricultural society had to cancel the event due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Organizers say the theme planned for 2020 and 2021 – Hats off to the Brigden Fair – will now be used for the 2022 event.

## Hair salons, outdoor theatre venues, fairs back in business under new rules

The Independent

Hair salons, sports and some outdoor theatre venues are back in action

The provincial government moved Ontario into the second phase of the reopening plan June 30, which included the opening of personal care services at 25 per cent capacity, more people gathering outdoors and at religious services, children's over night camps being allowed to operate and outdoor concert, theatre and cinemas able to operate at 25 per cent. Fairs will also be able to operate at 25 per cent.

To enter step two of the

Reopening Plan, Ontario needed to have 70 per cent of adults with one dose of COVID-19 vaccine and 20 per cent with two doses for at least two weeks. The province said as of June 23, 76 per cent of adults over 18 had one dose and 29 per cent had their second.

Officials say the number of people in ICUs across the province is also declining with 305 there June 23 compared to 450 two weeks before that.

The vaccination rates actually exceed what the province wanted to open even further, but in a news release, officials said the province may remain in step two for 21 days to evaluate the impacts on the

COVID-19 rates.

Here's a more detailed list of what has changed:

- Outdoor social gatherings and organized public events with up to 25 people;
- Indoor social gatherings and organized public events with up to five people;
- Essential and other select retail
- permitted at 50 per cent capacity; • Non-essential retail permitted at 25 per cent capacity;
- Personal care services where face coverings can be worn at all times at 25 per cent capacity and other restrictions;
- Outdoor dining with up to six people per table, with exceptions

for larger households and other restrictions;

- Indoor religious services, rites, or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services permitted at up to 25 per cent capacity of the particular room;
- Outdoor fitness classes limited to the number of people who can maintain 3 metres of physical distance;
- Outdoor sports without contact or modified to avoid contact, with no specified limit on number of people or teams participating, with restrictions;
- Overnight camps for children operating in a manner consistent with the safety guidelines

produced by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health;

- Outdoor sport facilities with spectators permitted at 25 per cent capacity;
- Outdoor concert venues, theatres and cinemas, with spectators permitted at 25 per cent capacity;
- Outdoor horse racing and motor speedways, with spectators permitted at 25 per cent capacity;
- Outdoor fairs, rural exhibitions, festivals, permitted at 25 per cent capacity and with other restrictions.

Those changes were not enough to stop the Brigden Fair from cancelling this year's edition of the Thanksgiving event.

## COVID-19 outbreak at Sarnia nursing home

The Independent

Lambton Public Health is reporting another COVID-19 outbreak at a long term care facility. But we're not getting as much information about the issue as we had been in the past.

The public health statistics show Afton Park Place has an outbreak with both staff and residents involved, however public health no longer says how many people are ill, listing only that it's less than five people who have contracted the

During the height of the first and second wave

of the pandemic, long term care homes were hit hard. However in the third wave, many seniors had been vaccinated and there were far fewer deaths.

But vaccination is not mandatory for either residents or staff and there have been outbreaks throughout the province. On Monday, there were six outbreaks across the province with eight residents and nine staff members ill.

The number of cases in Lambton is also higher per 100,000 people than the rest of Ontario at 26.7 per 100,000 compared to 11.8 in Ontario. Forty people are ill in Lambton.



#### Notice of the Intention to Designate Property Under the Ontario Heritage Act

Take Notice That the Council of the Town of Petrolia plans to pass a By-law on the 9th of August 2021, under Section 29(1) of the Ontario Heritage Act, for the property described as follows:

### 4300 Garden Crescent

4300 Garden Crescent, known currently as Kingswell Glen Golf Club, (formerly Glenview Golf and Curling Club and Heritage Heights G&CC) is a semi-private course tucked away in the idyllic town of Petrolia, Ontario. It originally opened in 1892 as a six-hole private course that was inspired by St. Anne's in Scotland and founded by Jake Englehart for his fellow oil barons. Kingswell remains true to its origins and Petrolia's heritage with historic wells, pump rigging and even the restored bridge built from reclaimed well casings and flattened oil barrels crossing Bear Creek.

Jacob Englehart, President London Tecumseh's Professional Baseball Team, Owner of Englehart & Co. "in 1880, the largest refinery in the Dominion" (Beldon Historical Atlas) founding father, Vice President, and Manager of Imperial Oil 1880, Chairman of the Timiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway. Inspired by St Anne's in Scotland following the Englehart's honeymoon, Jacob Englehart built his 6-hole private golf course. It is unknown whether a designer was engaged in the original planning, as a man of many talents, it is possible Jake designed the course himself. The original course expanded to 9 holes in the early 20th Century is surrounded by conservation land with the historic vista largely unchanged since its creation in 1892. An additional 9 holes were added in 2001 with the creation of Glenview Estates.

The Heritage Designation Brief can be viewed on the Town website at <a href="https://petrolia.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingInformation.aspx?Org=Cal&Id=567">https://petrolia.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingInformation.aspx?Org=Cal&Id=567</a> or by contacting the Clerk.

A statement of notice of objection to the designation may be served upon the Clerk in person at 411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia, ON NoN 1R0 or electronically mpearson@petrolia.ca ,within thirty days (30) after the date of this publication of the Notice of Intention to Designate, that date being June 30, 2021. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18, s. 29 (5); 1996, c. 4, s. 55 (2); 2009, c. 33, Sched. 11 s. 6 (4).

Dated this 30th day of June, 2021

Mandi Pearson Clerk/Operations Clerk

## COMMUNITY NOTICE ANNUAL VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Every year, CN is required to clear its right-of-way of any vegetation that may pose a safety hazard. Vegetation on railway right-of-way, if left uncontrolled, can contribute to trackside fires and impair proper inspection of track infrastructure. The spray program is not being done for aesthetic reasons.

For safe railway operations, CN will conduct its annual spray program on its rail lines in the province of Ontario. A certified professional will be applying herbicides on and around the railway tracks (primarily along the 16 feet graveled area/ballast). All product requirements for setbacks in the vicinity of dwellings, aquatic environments and municipal water supplies will be met.

CN may use the following herbicides and active ingredients: VP480 (Dow), Esplanade (Bayer), Overdrive (BASF), Detail (BASF), Arsenal (BASF), Navius (Bayer), Gateway (Corteva), VisionMax (Bayer) using Glyphosate (480g/L or 540g/L), Indaziflam (200 g/L), Diflufenzopyr (20%), Dicamba (50%), Saflufenacil (29.74%), imazapyr isopropylamine (26.7%), Metsulfuron-methyl (12.6%), Aminocyclopyrachlor (39.5%), Paraffinic Oil (586 g/L), Alkoxylated alcohol non-ionic surfactants (242 g/L)

CN only uses herbicides that have been approved for use in Canada and in the Province within which they are applied.

The program is expected to take place from June to October 2021.

Visit www.cn.ca/vegetation to see the list of cities as well as the updated schedule.

For more information, contact the CN Public Inquiry Line at **contact@cn.ca** or 1-888-888-5909.

CN.CA

## Editorial

## **How to mark Canada Day**

There have been calls to cancel Canada Day this year as a way to honour the Indigenous children laying in unmarked graves - victims of the residential school system. And some communities have cancelled some or all of their regular plans to mark the anniversary of the founding of the nation.

The call has angered others. The federal Conservative leader said the idea to cancel Canada Day this year was a move of the radical left and Canada is a country worthy of celebration.

We believe many people love this country. We have been richly blessed here. We are free here. But in the last few weeks, more and more Canadians have become aware of that big "but."

But, this country was built on the premise that white settlers were superior to the Indigenous people who lived here. It's build on the plan to remove the Indian from people who had a proud culture and a prosperous way of life, long before the English and French arrived to fight over this land.

And it is built on the blood of those children who never returned home after being taken from families to

When our consciousness is opened to the facts which have been there all along, although never talked about by the conquerors, it should prick our conscious at the very least on this day set to praise our country. It should move us to admit that as much as we love this country, the way our early leaders tried to crush the Indigenous on this home and native land was wrong. And it should move us to action.

We should be moved to learn more by reading the reports of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women's Commission to learn about the injustices Indigenous people faced and still face today. We should be moved to write our politicians and demand the problems of poor housing, inadequate water and children forced into our foster care system be fixed. And we should resolve to speak up for our Indigenous neighbours to our government whenever we can.

We think the best way to celebrate Canada Day, honouring those children in the unmarked graves, would be to actively work to make it a better place for our Indigenous neighbours.

## Letters to the Editor

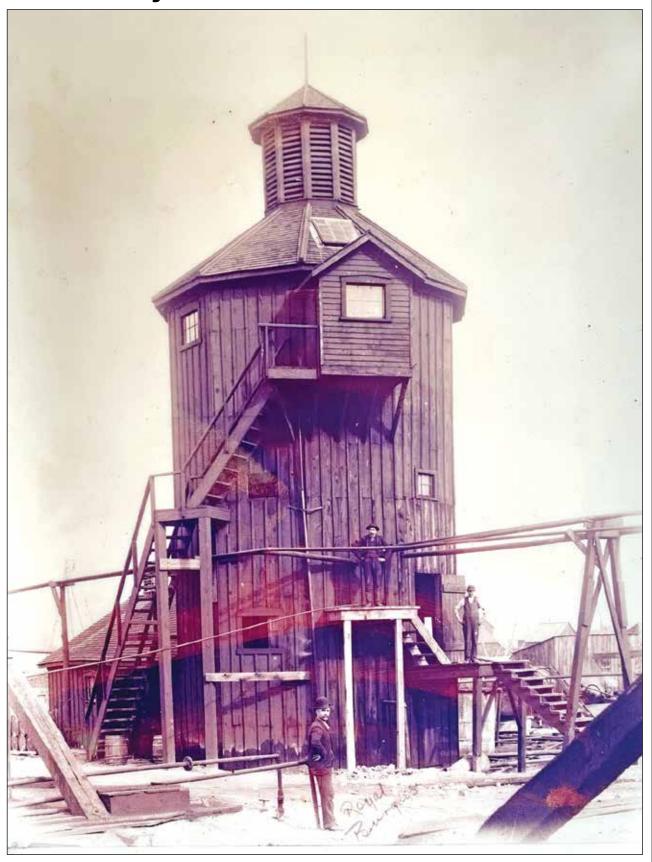
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You can also deliver letters to *The Independent* at 4156 Petrolia Line, Petrolia or drop them in the mail at *The* Independent, Petrolia, ON, NON 1R0.

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**



Imperial Oil was once a prominent business in Petrolia as hard oilers opened the regions oil field. This is a umbo agilalor localed in Petrolia. The photo, which is displayed at Petrolia Discovery, shows Hoyai Burgess ir the foreground.

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Publisher / Editor: Heather Wright

news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

Reporters: Alex Kurial

Sales Associates: sales@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

Classifieds / Graphics: Sarah Hills / Julli Archibald office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

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## Oil Springs man apologizes for life altering accident

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

An Oil Springs man says he's sorry for a crash in Alvinston which led to 'life altering' injuries to him and his

Ivan Russell, 29, plead guilty in December to dangerous driving causing bodily harm. It's now up to Justice Anne McFadyen whether he will serve his sentence in jail or in the community. He was in court Monday for legal arguments. Crown Attorney Melanie Nancekievill says a jail term is necessary and suggested one year behind bars. Defence Attorney Robert DiPietro wants Russell to serve his time in the community and countered with a conditional sentence of equal

Russell was driving south on Cameron Road shortly after midnight March 2, 2019. His GMC Yukon hit speeds of 165 km/h, more than double the speed limit, when he passed the Alvinston Cemetery and lost control of the vehicle at the curve in the road.

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

was completely severed. The three passengers were flung along the ground.

Russell stayed in the remains of the SUV which then smashed into a tree. Brooke-Alvinston firefighters had to free him with the jaws of life.

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

Nancekievill says all three victims suffered injuries that were "lifealtering, catastrophic... The impact is such that lives are forever changed."

She says crash scene photos were "astounding... It certainly is a wonder that anyone survived this collision.'

Russell also suffered major injuries and says he was initially told he'd never walk again. He's since had reconstructive surgery done on one knee with surgery on the other

"It's a quite tragic event. If I could take back what happened I would, no matter what the cost," says Russell. "We all got thrown quite a hardball here.

"I'd just like to apologize to everyone and say how sorry I am for everything that's happened here. I hope that I can gain some forgiveness from this. But I don't expect it."

DiPietro says his client was recently diagnosed with epilepsy and that his doctor suggested this may have factored into the crash. DiPietro acknowledged that he had no hard evidence of this however.

The diagnosis has cost Russell his licence though, which is unlikely to be reinstated unless he is somehow cured of his epileptic condition. DiPietro argued that because of this a licence ban wasn't really necessary.

Nancekievill is seeking a driving ban of three years in addition to however long Russell may spend in jail. She says that if a conditional sentence is chosen it should be in the 18-24 month range instead of 12 months.

McFadyen adjourned the case until July 26 when she'll return with her decision.

-THE INDEPENDENT







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## Oil field needs to be protected from new housing says planner

**Heather Wright** 

The Independent

A plan for 46 new homes in Glenview Estates is on hold again, this time to look at the impact it will have on historic oil wells.

The developer plans to develop an area between holes 15, 16 and 17 at Kingswell Glen Golf course and a pond which is the backyard of homes fronting on First Street.

Another developer plans 94 homes around hole 14.

Earlier this year, the two developers came to council with a plan to improve the drainage in the area - a concern because currently there is just one holding pond there. The town gave approval for the plan and the developers are continuing work on it.

But the area also needs to be rezoned and the St. Clair Conservation Authority had voiced concerns. The developer of the 46 lot subdivision resubmitted his plans to address the concerns about most of the land around the development remaining zoned Environmental Protection, and the conservation authority has given the development a

green light.

But it still can't go ahead.

Walter Brand, who operates a historical oil field nearby, has voiced his concern about the development in the past. "It is a historical fact that no oil producing property in our cradle of the oil industry, Victorian Oil Town, has survived residential encroachment," he wrote in a letter to council when the developer first asked for the rezoning to allow the subdivision.

At the time, Brand said there are regulations to protect his oil field which has been in operation 150 years from residential encroachment.

Lambton County Planner Rob Nesbitt told council the town does need to consider the oil field.

Nesbitt says the developer says "two of the wells are approximately 20 metres from the proposed access road, while a third well is approximately 20 metres from one of the lots in the proposed plan of subdivision."

Nesbitt says the Provincial Policy Statement which governs planning "requires petroleum resource operations to be identified and

protected from development and activities that would preclude or hinder their expansion or continued use or which would be incompatible for reasons of public health, public safety or environmental impact.

Nesbitt told council the rezoning should be delayed so the developer can have a professional prepare a report which confirms where the wells are, if there are hazards to the wells from the proposed subdivision and find ways to mitigate any impacts.

Some councillors expressed concerns this could delay the project. Mayor Brad Loosley expressed hope the report could come to council in July for review to move the rezoning forward.

But Nesbitt cautioned the report could take some time.

"The report should be submitted to the Town. The Town will then need to submit it to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. We expect that the ministry will consult with the Ministry of Natural Resources regarding the report."

Brand also wanted to review the finished report.

## Gladu calls for federal government reopen border with US

**Heather Wright** The Independent

Marilyn Gladu is joining the chorus of Conservative MPs to reopen the Canada US border.

In March 2020, the US and Canada agreed to restrictions to the longest unprotected border in the world to stop the spread of COVID-19. Essential services including delivery of goods to Canada were maintained but the movement of people visiting family, for example, stopped. The measures have been renewed month-by-month and no changes are expected to be made now until July 21.

Business leaders, particularly those in the tourism industry, have been

calling on the federal government to come up with a plan for the border opening. Those calls have been echoed by lawmakers in the US, mostly from bordering states.

The federal health minister announced fully vaccinated Canadian travellers could leave and re-enter the country without quarantine starting July 5. But that doesn't apply to inbound Americans.

Minister Patty Hajdu said this week that the government will come back "in the near future" with a plan to reopen. The prime minister has suggested about 75 per cent of Canadians would need their first COVID-19 vaccine and 25 per cent should be fully vaccinated before

restrictions ease.

But Sarnia-Lambton's MP wants the government to act now. Gladu is calling for the "full and safe reopening" of the border saying the federal government has "utterly failed Canadians through this pandemic with inconsistent and punishing" border controls.

"Families have been separated in the midst of disease and death, and property owners have been unable to attend their properties for more than a year. In light of the calls from our US counterparts to re-open the border, I urge the Liberal government to accelerate their plan to fully open the border with safety protocols that are appropriate."



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## Educators note 'incredible sacrifices' of parents and students in 2021

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

As kids across Lambton-Kent drive by to pick up their diplomas following another virtual end to the school year, education directors offered some final thoughts on the year that was.

"It has been an unpredictable school year. But it has been a year of a lot of learning and collaboration," says Deb Crawford from St. Clair Catholic District School Board.

Both boards say their work with public health, community partners and each other were a major aid in navigating the ever-changing

pandemic guidelines.

One major area of reflection was of course technology, as students and teachers spent the majority of their day navigating a laptop, tablet, phone or other device.

We have learned a lot about using technology... so I think we'll be able to take away some really good lessons as we move into a face-to-face model, how we can leverage technology to really enhance learning," says Crawford.

The reliance on technology brought challenges though, particularly given the chronic connectivity issues in rural Lambton and Chatham-Kent. "We had to put a lot of technology out

there to address the needs in our communities and there were a lot of problems there with access to technology and reliable internet," says Crawford.

John Howitt from the Lambton-Kent District School Board agrees. "I really thank the wardens in the rural communities who have been working so hard to get internet expanded within the rural area."

Howitt says families have really come to appreciate the role schools play in their child's life. "I think there's a far better understanding within households about the incredible work that school board staff do on behalf of students. I think there's also a better

understanding of what is expected of students by households and the supports necessary for students to have positive outcomes.

"There have been incredible sacrifices that have been made both by students as well as the adults. There are a lot of families that lost jobs and lost income coming into their house because of remote learning periods when the adults had to be home," says Howitt.

"That's caused significant stress in the community and the sacrifices that those families made really need to be recognized.'

"I think our students have learned an incredible life skill that you can't always control what's going to happen and that life can deal you unexpected things and that we are resilient when we come out," says Howitt.

As for summer school, both directors say there's been a strong interest given the nature of the past

Despite the expectation school will return in-person next year, virtual school does remain an option. Howitt says about 350 elementary and 300 secondary students have signed up for the year-long option. For the Catholic board Crawford says about 100 elementary and secondary kids each have locked in.



LAMBTON PUBLIC HEALTH PHOTO

The new mass vaccination clinic at Clearwater Arena opened Friday. It's expected to host up to 2,000 people a day for the next five to seven weeks.

## Lambton can now vaccinate 3,500 people a day

**Heather Wright** 

The Independent

Anyone over 18 can now book their second shot of the COVID-19 vaccine.

The province says this accelerates the second dose for about 1.5 million people. June 28, 77.4 per cent of Ontario adults have had their first dose of the vaccine and 35.4 per cent are fully immunized.

Ontario has received 9.9 million doses of vaccine in June. Another 3.5 million is expected in July. It will receive less Pfizer vaccine than expected in the first weeks of

About 800,000 of the anticipated 1.7 million Pfizer vaccines will arrive at the end

Meantime, a second mass vaccination site is open in Lambton. The Clearwater Arena

has been set up to give out 2,000 vaccines a day. Friday, as it opened 1,450 people were scheduled to receive a shot.

Medical Officer of Health Dr. Sudit Ranade expects the mass vaccination sites will run for another five to seven weeks.

After that, he expects the vaccinations to be delivered in occasional clinics, at the health unit and in primary care offices.

"It's good to have a light at the at the end of the tunnel," says Ranade.

"I think we'll all need a big sigh of relief and a moment, some time to breathe after this before we get back at all of the other things that we do.'

Lambton Public Health says so far 72.3 per cent of adults over 18 have had their first shot, 34.5 per cent are fully vaccinated.

There have been 118,878 vaccines administered in Lambton as of Sunday.

### Blessed are the undefiled, in the way, Who walk in the law of the Lord, day by day. His precepts and statutes they faithfully keep, Unashamed, His commandments they diligently seek. Bible in hand, our fore-fathers, settled this "great" land, Fearing God, our constitution reflected, their stand.

Have we become so morally insensitive, we can't discern the way? Do the gods of materialism, egotism and power, rule the day? Have we deceived our next generation, being politically correct? Are the statistics of divorce and suicide, the future's effect?

Prayer and God's Word, guided our courts and school,

Respect and humility, governed their rule.

Life has many choices, but eternity only two, Who will you be found serving, when your life, is thru. You see, "repentance" is required, for you and for me, Bringing Jesus unending "forgiveness", to set us free.

If we "humble" ourselves and "pray", God promises to heal our land, His righteousness exalts a Nation, with one accord, we will stand. So we say, "God Bless Canada" and earnestly pray, Forever, your mercy endures Lord, change our hearts to-day.

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14

### **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

## Petrolia to help to spay cats at local colony

The Independent

Petrolia is going to help pay for some of the bills to spay and neuter cats.

The town has allowed a cat colony to exist on public property on Robert Street. A small group of volunteers makes sure the housing for the cats is weather proof and provides food for them.

They also capture any new cats to have them fixed to keep the population at a steady

The town says it does work to keep the cat population down in Petrolia.

Recently, the town received a request from the volunteers for some financial aid. "Recently, a resident on Discovery Line abandoned over 20 cats when they moved out of their home.

"We, the volunteers of Caregivers to Petrolia Ferals have used our time, food and gas to transport these adult cats and kittens to the Humane Society for



medical needs and possible adoptions. Many of the expenses were paid out of our own pockets.

"We have been able to benefit from food donations from local caring souls. If you could find any funds to help us, we would be very appreciative," written to Dave Menzies, director of facilities and operations.

Staff suggested the town pay up to \$1,500 in veterinary bills for the group. That should help between 12 and 14 cats this year, Menzies wrote to council. More money could also be set aside in the 2022 budget.





## PW nixes zoning to allow housing outside Wyoming

**Heather Wright**The Independent

A controversial housing development outside of Wyoming in a farm field has been turned down.

406 Farms Inc, a company owned by developer Brad Zantingh, wanted to take 10 acres of farmland fronting Confederation Road and turn it into housing. It needed to be rezoned.

The plan was made possible by a deal agreed to by Plympton-Wyoming with Zantingh last year which put an end to years of wrangling about development in the community.

Zantingh had planned to appeal a number of aspects of the town's official plan before the deal was struck.

At the time, resident Mike Hanki questioned that deal saying the development of houses doesn't make sense for many reasons including that services from Wyoming would have to be installed a long way from town.

At the time, Mayor Lonny Napper and other councillors as well as the CAO, Carolyn Tripp, said the designation of the area for development of housing in the middle of farmland

came as a surprise to them.

Monday, when the plan to sever the land so homes could be built came up for review at the planning meeting in Plympton-Wyoming, Hanki pointed out a number of areas where the development directly contradicted the town's own development bylaws including a plan to use a septic system.

"I'm not against development. I'm an entrepreneur...and it's not because it's in my backyard, but it's just not right for the town to start up a separate subdivision outside (Wyoming limits). And yes, okay. It's in the settlement area now. But these two farms that are right here, they are never going to be developed in my lifetime," he tells *The Independent*.

Hanki adds there has never been an explanation why this farmland is now suitable for housing because everything was done in camera as a legal issue. "Still to this day, I have no understanding why this was all done in camera. If this was such a good deal for the town, why was it all done in camera, and that was at the county level, and it was done at the PW level,"

"Where was Lonny when it happened? Or where is our voice at County Council. He claims he never heard of this. He was, you were there. He says 'I didn't know till the last minute.' And the last minute was before we had the council meeting where I spoke, and they had a hurried in-camera meeting with the county to approve all this.

"Something's not right," says Hanki. Monday, the majority of council agreed. "I've always been told that we couldn't be more restrictive than the county Official Plan," says Councillor Netty McEwen. "So this is where we prove we can be more restrictive or do things the way our municipality wants to do it, instead of having something shoved down our throats."

Councillor Tim Wilkins argued the town had to approve the rezoning because it had already agreed to the deal with Zantingh.

Councillor Bob Woolvett disagreed. "We can make any decision we want here tonight...we can change whatever we want if we don't think it's right."

In the end, council agreed, turning down the rezoning by a vote of 5-2 with Wilkins and Napper in favour.



#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Regarding Municipal Fees and Charges including Building Permit Fees

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston is hosting a public meeting regarding the Municipal Fees and Charges By-law including Building Permit charges. The meeting will take place on July 8, 2021 at 4:00p.m..

Due to COVID-19 provincial regulations, the Council meeting will take place over Zoom electronic technology.

Connection/Call-in information for the meeting will be available on the Brooke-Alvinston website (<a href="https://www.brookealvinston.com">www.brookealvinston.com</a>).

## MP Marilyn Gladu

**Sarnia-Lambton** 

We Are Here To Serve You 1000 Finch Drive, Sarnia, Ontario N7S 6G5

519-383-6600

marilyn.gladu@parl.gc.ca www.mpmarilyngladu.ca



## Petrolia's mayor wants to shrink conservation board

The Independent

Petrolia Mayor Brad Loosley wants to reduce the number of politicians around the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority table.

He and town council have asked other municipalities to reduce the size of the board of directors from 20 to something more manageable saying

decision making is easier with fewer people.

Loosley contends this may be the best time to do it as the board is looking for a new general manager with the retirement of Brian McDougall.

Loosley suggested the board may have to consider weighted votes like the county if it moves forward. His idea is making the rounds of municipalities with a say in the board.

## $\mathbf{O}_1$

#### TOWN OF PLYMPTON-WYOMING

Wastewater Servicing Master Plan Notice of Study Commencement

The Town of Plympton-Wyoming (the Town) is undertaking a Wastewater Servicing Master Plan to see that the Town's sanitary sewer collection systems have the capacity to convey current and future wastewater flows to the Town's Wastewater Treatment Plants to 2039 based on the Town's growth plan. Wastewater Treatment Plant capacity is also being reviewed as part of this study.

The Master Plan is a plan that will investigate the Town's sanitary sewer system capacity and condition and will guide how the Town will continue to meet current and anticipated demands over the next 20 years. This plan will:

- Identify existing and future capacity constraints and other existing deficiencies within the Town's wastewater collection system, pumping stations and wastewater treatment plants.
- Identify and evaluate alternatives to determine the preferred long-term solution to provide reliable wastewater servicing in the Town.

### We want to hear from you

Wastewater management affects the Town's citizens and natural environment. Feedback is an important aspect of the planning process and we encourage you to participate.

- Stay up to date on project progress and find opportunities to provide feedback by visiting <a href="https://www.plympton-wyoming.com/en/my-plympton-wyoming/utilities-sewer-and-water.aspx?">https://www.plympton-wyoming.com/en/my-plympton-wyoming/utilities-sewer-and-water.aspx?</a> mid =12829
- Join our mailing list by sending us your name and let us know how you'd like to be contacted.

A public open house for this Master Plan will be held virtually on **August 11th, 2021 at 6:00 pm**, using the GoTo Meetings platform. The meeting link will be posted on the website (https://www.plympton-wyoming.com/en/my-plympton-wyoming/utilities-sewer-and-water.aspx? mid =12829) closer to the date of the meeting and a reminder will be sent out to those who request to be part of the mailing list. Any person wishing to speak at the meeting must pre-register a minimum of 24 hours prior to the meeting. Following the public open house, the presentation slides will be available on the website in an accessible format for two weeks (until August 26th).

### The Process

The Master Plan will be carried out according to the Municipal Engineers Association Municipal Environmental Assessment (2019, as amended), which is an approved Class of Environmental Assessment under the Environmental Assessment Act. This Master Plan will be completed as a Schedule B Class EA under Approach 2. Results from this Master Plan will be documented in a project file that will be made available for public review. At that time, residents, businesses, Indigenous communities and other interested persons or groups will be informed of when and where the environmental assessment can be reviewed.

To provide your comments, request more information or if you require this notice to be provided in an alternative format as per the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (2005), please contact:

### Jillian Schmitter, P.Eng.

Project Manager Jacobs Engineering 72 Victoria Street South, Suite 300 Kitchener, Ontario N2G 4Y9 Telephone: 519-514-1622 Email: Jillian.Schmitter@jacobs.com

### Adam Sobanski, CET, CRS.

Director of Public Works
Town of Plympton-Wyoming
546 Niagara Street P.O. Box 250
Wyoming, Ontario NON 1T0
Telephone: 519-845-3939
Email: asobanski@plympton-wyoming.ca

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 purpose 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 Section 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 Project Officer or the Ministry of the Environment's Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator at 416 819 5148.

This notice was first issued on June 30th, 2021.

### **OUTDOOR EDUCATION**



SUBMITTED PHOTO

During the pandemic, educators at the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority got creative. Instead of a normal online class, the educators took to the waters of the Sydenham River and livestreamed. About 1,300 students participated and the program will continue next year.

## Fourth time a charm for Petrolia couple

**Heather Wright** 

The Independent

Fourth time was the charm for Lindsay Peterson and Mike Bruce.

The couple have been engaged for three years and 2020 was to be their wedding year. And then came the pandemic.

"Our first date was supposed to be July 11 last year and then it was rescheduled for May 23 this year but at two different venues," she said.

"One of the venues was closed permanently in the process of lockdown number two or three. And then this lockdown again occurred again around May 23.

"So we knew, this isn't going to happen. And then of course, we just hit a road block."

Enter the Town of Petrolia. The town was getting requests from couples whose plans had been delayed because of the pandemic. So, they decided to offer one day of weddings at Bridgeview Park. Nine couples signed up including Peterson and Bruce. Peterson emailed the town immediately.

"This came up and it was like a no brainer. Like, let's just do this. Let's get it done and over with, we'll have a big party when everybody can come."

Then Mother Nature flexed her muscles with threatening weather scheduled Saturday. Clerk Mandi Pearson, who was one of the scheduled officiants, said "the town didn't want to 'invite people to be lightening rods."

In true 2021 style, the town pivoted and set up Victoria Hall for the events.

"It is so 2021 ... it's par for the course at this point," laughed Pearson.

The weddings all went off without a hitch

The weddings all went off without a hitch Saturday. Peterson and Bruce were all smiles, happy to finally be married, know-



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOT

Darcie Gray claps as her daughter, Lindsay Peterson and her new husband finish signing the register at their Victoria Hall wedding. They were one of nine couples married by the town's officiants Saturday.

ing they can always renew their vows in front of family and friends in the future. But Peterson says if 2021 has taught the couple anything, it's to seize your chances when you can.

"We weren't going to do like the full on dress today," she says as she wore the dress she purchased three years ago. "And I was like, 'screw it.' Like, what if we don't get to do this again - things happen." Retirolias
Farmers

COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols in place.

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## PETROLIA FARMERS' MARKET GRAND OPENING FREE TAKE OUT COMMUNITY BBQ

Take Out BBQ with thanks to The Petrolia Lions Club & The Lambton Central Petrolia Optimist Club!

July 3, 2021 | 9 am | 396 Fletcher St., Petrolia



## Notice of the Intention to Designate Property Under the Ontario Heritage Act

Take Notice That the Council of the Town of Petrolia plans to pass a By-law on the 9th of August 2021, under Section 29(1) of the Ontario Heritage Act, for the property described as follows:

#### **425 Chestnut Street**

425 Chestnut Street is a two-story brick structure that is built in the Italianate Villa style. It was constructed in the early 1880's and completed in 1885, and located on Chestnut Street at the corner of School Street and Hickory Street. Built in the Victorian time period, in the Italianate Villa style, and constructed largely due to the oil boom. It was built near the historic Van Tuyl oil lands, and adjacent to Crescent Park, and a block from National Heritage site - Victoria Hall. John MacDonald was a well-known oil man in the area that served on Petrolia Council, the school board and issued patents, he founded the boiler works and produced oil. He was one of the first oil barons to import casing and tubing for oil wells from England. He was one of the largest oil producers in Petrolia and was engaged in the refining business. He built a refinery which he operated for over 20 years under the national Oil Company.

It is an outstanding example of Italianate architecture, with the common attributes including a low pitched roof, projecting eaves supported by corbels, floor to ceiling windows on the front of the home (one of very few known homes with this characteristic in Petrolia), and a cranberry transom window above the front door. Inside, the home features an original slate fireplace with a faux marble finish with an original tiled hearth. The kitchen ceiling features a coloured plaster decorative medallion featuring fruit, birds, a basket and plants that features the original finish. Original porch with decorative corbels, unique radiators with pierced cast iron covers and marble tops, and high baseboards, wide door casings and window trim. A second original plaster medallion is featured in the dining room ceiling with a harvest vegetable design. A third plaster medallion that features thistle plants is on the ceiling in the entry. The front door is original to the home - made from wood and glazed glass inserts. Ceilings on both floors of the two-storey home are 11' respectively. The basement features a built in safe, with the original builders name visible on the door. I he nome features it's original slate roof. The home is a butter brick coloured exterior - a popular colour of the time. The home features a quarried stone foundation, and has the decorative roof cresting typical of the era. The home also features four bay windows, two with plaster decorative corbels.

The Heritage Designation Brief can be viewed on the Town website at <a href="https://petrolia.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingInformation.">https://petrolia.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingInformation.</a>
<a href="mailto:aspx?Org=Cal&Id=567">aspx?Org=Cal&Id=567</a> or by contacting the Clerk.

A statement of notice of objection to the designation may be served upon the Clerk in person at 411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia, ON NON 1R0 or electronically <a href="mailto:mpearson@petrolia.ca">mpearson@petrolia.ca</a>, within thirty days (30) after the date of this publication of the Notice of Intention to Designate, that date being June 30, 2021. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18, s. 29 (5); 1996, c. 4, s. 55 (2); 2009, c. 33, Sched. 11 s. 6 (4).

Dated this 30th day of June, 2021

Mandi Pearson Clerk/Operations Clerk

## Fentanyl fuelled driving incidents lead to fines

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

A man found behind the wheel while impaired by fentanyl and a host of other drugs twice will be off the road for the next two years.

Robert Shepherd, 31, will pay \$3,000 in fines for the 2019 incidents which spanned two different jurisdictions. He was first found passed out in a Sarnia parking lot and later that year pulled over after erratic driving on the 401 near Woodstock.

"Clearly we see that there was an underlying opiate addiction in 2019," says Defence Lawyer Nick Cake.

Shepherd's problems came to light when Sarnia Police found him slumped over behind the wheel of a running SUV at 9:30 on a June morning. He was covered in tin foil patches, lighters and rolled up Canadian Tire money. After a lengthy operation to wake him up, Shepherd was arrested and taken to police headquarters where he tested positive for fentanyl, carfentanil and methadone.

Shepherd was still using drugs Boxing Day when officers were called to investigate an impaired driver on Highway 401. Around 7 pm police saw a Ford Escape driving aggressively and swerving between lanes, at more than 130 km/h. It took three police cars more than two kilometres to get Shepherd to pull over.

Shepherd was glossy eyed, confused and unable to put the car in park. This provided grounds for an arrest. Shepherd needed to be held up while police searched him and later tested positive for fentanyl, methadone and methamphetamines.

"He is the first one that will acknowledge that he had struggled with opioids and that of course they led to his involvement in the criminal justice system. He's very lucky and happy that no one was injured," says Cake.

"Every day is a struggle with addiction but he's on the better end of it and he no longer sees opioids as a major consumer of his time. He's sober now... and he's working very hard to remain out of active addiction on a daily basis."

Shepherd has been taking Narcotics Anonymous classes since shortly after the Woodstock incident and has stayed clean since. Cake says he's looking for work in his trained field of extermination, however "COVID-19 kind of exterminated the extermination industry."

"I just wanted to say sorry," says Shepherd.

Despite his progress Justice Krista Leszczynski felt the proposal from the Crown and Defence was surprisingly lenient given the extent of Shepherd's actions.

"You are lucky that neither yourself or anyone else was injured or killed as a result of your conduct."

Still the justice ceded to the agreement. "I'm pleased to hear that you've taken active and serious steps to address that addiction and that issue and I encourage you to continue to do so, recognizing the serious nature of that substance as well as its addictive qualities," she says to Shepherd as the sentence was imposed.

"I wish you luck both in terms of continuing to address substance abuse issues and efforts to obtain employment and obtaining your other goals."

- THE INDEPENDENT

## **Sports**

## Corunna's Drouin will sit out Olympics

**Barry Wright** 

The Independent

A familiar face will be conspicuous by his absence later this summer at the Olympics. Derek Drouin pulled out of the Canadian Track and Field Championships in Montreal ending his hopes of qualifying for the Games and defending the gold he won in 2016.

"Unfortunately, my body hasn't recovered during my two-week quarantine the way we had hoped it would following my recent competition schedule in Europe," the Corunna native wrote on Instagram.

"Over the past couple of days, my team and I have decided that it is not in my interest to jump (at nationals). My body isn't ready, but I take comfort in knowing that we did absolutely everything in our power to get on that 'start line.'

"Sometimes things just don't work out," he concluded.

The St. Pat's grad would have had to jump 2.33 metres to qualify for the Games. His best this season to date is 2.24 metres. He won gold in Rio with a leap of 2.38 metres.

After a series of injuries over the past several years, the 31 year-old is now ranked 80th in the



Derek Drouin

world.

Meantime, at the nationals, Connor Black of Forest was third in the men's 5k race last Saturday.

He finished less than two seconds behind his London-Western Track Club teammate Mike Tate in a time of 14:17.87. Brittany Simon of the Sarnia Athletics Southwest club was sixth in the women's 400 metre hurdles.

## Camlachie's Whitbread signs with Sarnia Brigade

The Independent

The Sarnia Brigade senior AAA baseball team has signed four players including right handed pitcher Tyler Whitbread. The Camlachie product is coming off a four-year NCAA career at Indiana State. He was 9-2 in his final season with the Sycamores in 2019, including a post-season victory over Ohio State.

The others to sign are first baseman Mitch Bigras, infielder Nick George and pitcher Jack Symington.

Bigras, son of local 18U coach Jim Bigras, played his collegiate career with Boston College of the NCAA's Atlantic Coast Conference.

Nick George comes to the team care of William-Penn University where he is the teammate of Sarnia's 2019 championship tournament star Jameson Hart. He played locally with the Great Lakes Canadians.

Symington is a graduate of the Sarnia Baseball Club system and moves straight to the AAA club after a strong career locally. His father, Tim, led Sarnia to the 1994 Ontario AAA title.

## Step Two in reopening good news for local sports

The Independent

Moving to phase two of the province's Return to Sport plan means activity at area diamonds and pitches will ramp up. The updated phase allows outdoor sports without contact, or modified to avoid contact, to resume on Wednesday, June 30.

Baseball Ontario and the Ontario Soccer Association have given their member affiliates the green light to begin what will be an

abbreviated 2021 season this week.

Some leagues have expressed a desire to get games going as soon as possible while others will take some time to digest the regulations and what they mean to their individual organizations. Either way, those wishing to play this season should check with their local leagues to determine plans moving forward as they will likely differ from league to league.

## Silver for McGregor, Team Canada in sledge hockey

The Independent

Forest's Tyler McGregor and his Team Canada mates bowed 5-1 to Team USA in the gold medal game at the IPC World Para Hockey Championships in the Czech Republic.

McGregor assisted on Canada's lone goal and wound up with eight goals and 11 points in five games. He finished sixth in tournament scoring. The North Lambton grad had the game-winning goal in a 2-1 win over Russia in the semifinals Friday.

Canada was 3-0 in the preliminary round including a 2-1 win over the Americans.

The North American nations have now met in five straight world championship title games with the US winning three times to Canada's two.

## Sarnia Sting sign first round priority selection pick

Angus MacDonnell is coming to Sarnia.

The Sting's first round selection, 13th overall, at the recent OHL Priority Selection, committed to the team late last week.

"I am extremely honoured to get to be a part of such an amazing organization. I cannot wait to get down to Sarnia and meet all of my teammates, the staff and fans," said the 16 yearold centreman in a statement.

"I am excited to get to camp and play with such talented players and learn from all the supporting

"This is an incredible opportunity; one I plan on making the most of."

MacDonnell was the captain of the Toronto Marlboros during the 2019-20 season where he connected on 23 goals and 32 points in 27 games.



After 38 years in business we are taking a holiday. We will be closed July 5<sup>th</sup> - July 12<sup>th</sup>.

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#### **Notice of the Intention to Designate Property** Under the Ontario Heritage Act

Take Notice That the Council of the Town of Petrolia plans to pass a By-law on the 9th of August 2021, under Section 29(1) of the Ontario Heritage Act, for the property described as follows:

### 4233 Emma Street (Crescent Park)

4233 Emma Street is Italianate style home built during the Victorian Oil Boom in 1870. This two-story largely brick home is located in Crescent Park has a low pitched roof projecting eave supported by corbels, bay windows, glazed door and tall windows.

Built by Henry Warren Lancey, the home was first owned by Charles Jenkins (Petrolia Crude Oil and Tank Company) and was later owned by Frederick Edwards (prominent oil driller who was purported to have been rescued by Lawrence of Arabia in the Middle East.

The home features many heritage attributes:

- the original wrap around porch and front stairway
- Arts and Crafts style tiled fireplace
- **Butlers Pantry**
- Unique radiators with lattice design on top (E&C Gurney Company)
- Original stained glass around front door and in dining hall
- various wood ceilings throughout the house
- original high baseboard and crown molding
- decorative corbels around porch
- two sets of bay windows
- original sun room sliding doors

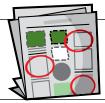
The Heritage Designation Brief can be viewed on the Town website at https://petrolia.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingInformation. aspx?Org=Cal&Id=362 or by contacting the Clerk.

A statement of notice of objection to the designation may be served upon the Clerk in person at 411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia, ON NON 1R0 or electronically mpearson@petrolia.ca, within thirty days (30) after the date of this publication of the Notice of Intention to Designate, that date being June 30, 2021. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18, s. 29 (5); 1996, c. 4, s. 55 (2); 2009, c. 33, Sched. 11 s. 6 (4).

Dated this 30th day of June, 2021

Mandi Pearson Clerk/Operations Clerk **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**



### 252 John St. WATFORD

This completely renovated 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom family home has been completely renovated top to bottom. Updated hardwood floors, huge white kitchen with island, granite counter tops, updated windows, siding, electrical, plumbing and so much more There is a front wrap around porch and an enclosed porch at the rear with a spacious deck. Full basement awaits your finishing touches. This is a move in ready home, a must see.

#### SHANAHAN REALTY INC. BROKERAGE

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#### **Notice**

**COURT SERVICES DEPARTMENT** - The Court Services Department will reopen its public service counter for in-person administration services and in-person fine payments. The Court Services Department is currently located at the Western Sarnia-Lambton Research Park, Building 1020, Suite 200 S. Hours of operation are from Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## Death Notices June 19- June 25, 2021

**SATURDAY, JUNE 19** 

POTTS, Deborah Age 67, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

**HUMMELL**, John

Age 70, of Sarnia McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

KIVI, Bill

Age 70, of Sarnia McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

LAJOIE, Huguette Age 80, of Sarnia

Smith Funeral Home

**HUNT**, Virging "Ginny" Age 92, of Sarnia

McCormack Funeral Home SUNDAY, JUNE 20

**BRIGHT**, Robert

Age 55, of Sarnia McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

WILLIAMS, Michael

Age 56, of Watford Denning's of Watford

**HOLDAWAY**, Karren Age 59, of Sarnia

McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

**LEITCH**, Donald Age 70, of Watford

Denning's of Watford

THOMAES, Peter

Age 73, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

CONROD-DUCHESNEAU,

Age 76, of Sarnia

McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home **ROLLINS**, William

Age 76, of Sarnia

D.J. Robb Funeral Home MONDAY, JUNE 21

**HUMPHREYS**, Linda Ann Age 65, of Petrolia

Smith Funeral Home

LEVACK, Ruth

Age 66, of Sarnia McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

ARSENEAU, Joseph

Age 99, of Sarnia McKenzie & BlundyFuneral Home **TUESDAY, JUNE 22** 

PEDE, Dennis Age 58, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

**REECE**, Philip

Age 69, of Sarnia D.J Robb Funeral Home

WOODS, Helen Age 84, of Sarnia

Smith Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

STEWART, Gregory Age 66, of Sarnia D.J. Robb Funeral Home

WYNNE, James "Jim" Age 67, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

DORAN, Judith

Age 82, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

**HOEKSTRA**, Allan Age 85, of Petrolia Smith Funeral Home

ROBSON, William "Bill" Age 92, of Sarnia Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

MORRISON, Robert Age 86, of Sarnia

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

**SALTS-NICKELS**, Lisa Age 50, of Wyoming Needham-Jay Funeral Home

WOLFE, Heather Age 61, of Kettle & Stoney Point

Gilpin Funeral Home FINKBEINER, Ralph

Age 81, of Courtright Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels

**CLARKE**, James Age 84, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

FOX, Gladys Age 96, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

SEGADE, David McCormack Funeral Home

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

### **Help Wanted**

**Wanted** - Always in Bloom is looking for a **Delivery Driv**er. Part time/ Casual. NEEDS a valid drivers license . Job entails delivery of flowers in town & surrounding areas. Must be available between the hours of 10am - 4pm. **Call 519-882-9034** for more information.

#### **Notice**

LFA POST SECONDARY SCHOL-

 $\pmb{\mathsf{ARSHIP}}\,\text{-}\,\mathsf{The}\,\mathsf{Lambton}\,\mathsf{Federation}$ of Agriculture will be offering ten scholarships this year for the 2022 school year, for both college and university students. For the regular scholarships: Applicants need to be from a family actively farming in Lambton County: While you do not need to be an LFA/OFA member, it is required that you (or parents or grandparents or guardian) have a valid FBR number registered in Lambton County. The deadline to apply for the scholarships is July 15th 2021. For a list of the scholarships and their individual criteria, please see the LFA Website scholarships page at https://lambtonfederation.ca/ scholarships/

#### Notice

Again this year the Women's Institute Scholarship is available to Lambton County students en-tering their first or second year

Women's Institute Scholarship at any Ontario college or university. Application deadline is August 10, 2021. Contact amcgugan@hotmail.com for complete details.

### **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.

#### **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

#### **Birth Announcement**

are pleased to announce the safe arrival of



June 10th, 2021 at Victoria Hospital

**Proud Grandparents** Ken & Janet Dunlop, Darlene (late Alan) Woodfinden & Kevin



Proud Great-Grandmothers Helen Kucera & Marg Dunlop

#### Celebration



### Oh BOY our little man is turning ONE!

## BEAU Harrison John

Super, big sister, Briar, would like to tell the world her baby brother, Beau Harrison John McNally, is turning ONE! Proud parents are Travis and Taylor McNally who welcomed Beau into their family on July 9, 2020. Beau weighed 8lbs 3oz and measured 19" long.

With all his smiles and giggles Beau has captured the hearts of his loving grandparents, Jim and Lynne Whitely and Bill and Dawn McNally. Great grandparents are Don Whitely, John and Sharon Gartner and Ruth Leitch. Watching over Beau from Heaven are great grandparents Norma Whitely, John Leitch, Ross McNally, Jim and Joyce McClung. Beau is loved by all his aunts, uncles and cousins who love to play with him and make him laugh.

Have fun being ONE Beau!

### In Memory

In Loving Memory of

## **Ken Saunders**

Who passed away July 5, 2015

We think about you always, We talk about you still, You have never been forgotten, And you never will. We hold you close within our hearts, And there you will remain, To walk and guide us through our lives, Until we meet again.

Sadly missed by Evelyne and family

### In Memory



In loving memory of **WINIFRED JOHNSON** 

who passed away July 2, 2011

Ten years have passed, In the blink of an eye. Thinking of you, Can still make us cry. Your presence we miss, Your memory we treasure. Loving you always, Forgetting you never.

Forever loved and remembered Donna, Gwen and families

### **Coming Event**

Petrolia Resident Compost Transfer Site - This years site has moved to 546 Maude Street. 2021 Residents are required to have a pas to access the site. Passes are available for no charge at Town Hall now, and at the Petrolia Farmers' market during the 2021 Season. July 17, August 7, September 11, 18, 25, Oct 2, 9 & 16, 2021 from 8am until 12noon. Petrolia compost depot will accept: grass clippings, dead plants, sticks/branches under 4", and leaves. The depot will NOT accept: mulch & fertilizer bags, rocks/bricks, plastic pots, dirt/sod, plastic barriers/fencing. Tips to make it a smooth drop off: Yard waste and brush will be separated into two bins - please do not bag it together. Please use paper bags or reusable bins. Brush must be of reasonable size and length. Residents will be asked to take unacceptable items home.

### **Card of Thanks**



The family of the late Joan Ruby Maw wish to thank their relatives, friends, and neighbours for their thoughtfulness in sending tributes, cards, flowers, donations, and food.

We also wish to thank the amazing staff at St. Joseph's Hospice and Dr. Kim for the patient and attentive care they provided to

Thank you to Marie McNally for her comforting words in our time of need and to Steven and his staff at Needham-Jay Funeral Home for their warm and professional assistance with the service.

Maurice Brad, Wanda and family Mark, Lydia and family Andre and Coleen



### **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

## 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.

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| UPCOMING EVENTS |                |               |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| DATE            | START<br>TIME  | LOCATION      | EVENT CONTACT INFO   |  |  |  |  |
| Jul 1           | 10a-1p         | Petrolia      | Town of Petrolia Canada Day <b>Wild Goose Chase!</b> for more info check out www.town.petrolia.on.ca   |  |  |  |  |
| Jul 1           | 11am           | Petrolia      | Canada Day Flag Rising at Petrolia Legion Br. 216. Residents are welcome to gather in their cars or in small groups of 10 or less to watch.  |  |  |  |  |
| Jul 1           | 11a-1p         | Petrolia      | Petrolia Legion <b>Canada Day BBQ</b> featuring hamburgers \$5, hotdogs \$3, sausages \$5. Lunch is available for take away only. Please call 519-882-1201 in advance to place your order.                                   |  |  |  |  |
| Jul 1           | 4-8p           | Forest        | Forest <b>Farmers' Market</b> at the corner of Jefferson and Main St.<br>Visit the new website for vendor & safety protocols.<br>www.lambtonshoremarkets.com   |  |  |  |  |
| Jul 1           | 4:30-<br>6:30p | Alvinston     | Brooke-Alvinston Canada Day. <b>1/2Chicken Dinner</b> . Take out only.<br>\$17.50 per meal. Tickets at Three Maples in Alvinston, Inwood<br>Variety, Brooke-Alvinston Township Office, and Jeannette Douglas<br>519-8785-303 |  |  |  |  |
| Jul 1           | Dusk           | Alvinston     | <b>Canada Day Fireworks</b> at the Alvinston arena. Attendees must remain in vehicles due to Provincial regulations.   |  |  |  |  |
| Jul 3           | 7:30-<br>noon  | Petrolia      | The <b>Petrolia Farmers' Market</b> with local vender's. 396 Fletcher St. Behind the Library. COVID-19 guidelines in place.  |  |  |  |  |
| Jul 3           | 7-noon         | Sombra        | <b>Sombra Days Family Fishing Event.</b> Free activity for all children, youth and families. Sign up at the Sombra Township Optimist booth at the public dock in Sombra.   |  |  |  |  |
| Jul 6           | 5-9p           | Petrolia      | <b>Petrolia Night Market</b> at 396 Fletcher (Behind te library). Makers, creators, food vendors, crafters and more! call 519-882-2350 for more info.  |  |  |  |  |
| Jul 7           | 8a-1p          | Grand<br>Bend | Grand Bend <b>Farmers' Market</b> at the Lambton Heritage Museum Parking lot. Visit the new website for vendor & safety protocols. www.lambtonshoremarkets.com   |  |  |  |  |

Forest Farmers' Market at the corner of Jefferson and Main St. 4-8p Visit the new website for vendor & safety protocols. www.lambtonshoremarkets.com Jul 10 7:30-Petrolia The **Petrolia Farmers' Market** with local vender's. 396 Fletcher St. Behind the Library. COVID-19 guidelines in place. 10-3p Petrolia Discovery Tours. Admission by donation. All public health protocols will be followed. Masks Mandatory inside.

Petrolia Petrolia Night Market at 396 Fletcher (Behind te library). Makers, creators, food vendors, crafters and more! call 519-882-2350 Grand Bend Farmers' Market at the Lambton Heritage Museum Jul 14 8a-1p Grand

Parking lot. Visit the new website for vendor & safety protocols. www.lambtonshoremarkets.com Forest Farmers' Market at the corner of Jefferson and Main St. Jul 15 4-8p Visit the new website for vendor & safety protocols. www.lambtonshoremarkets.com

7:30-

Jul 17 7:30pm

Jul 20 5-9p

Jul 21 8a-1p

noon

Aua 3 5-9p

The Petrolia Farmers' Market with local vender's. 396 Fletcher St. Behind the Library. COVID-19 guidelines in place. Laugh Outside with Mike Wilmot at Valley Axe. 1886 London Line for more info visit valleyzxe.com. \$20 a ticket.

Petrolia **Petrolia Night Market** at 396 Fletcher (Behind te library). Makers, creators, food vendors, crafters and more! call 519-882-2350 Grand Bend Farmers' Market at the Lambton Heritage Museum Grand

St. Behind the Library. COVID-19 guidelines in place.

Parking lot. Visit the new website for vendor & safety protocols. Bend www.lambtonshoremarkets.com Jul 22 4-8p Forest Farmers' Market at the corner of Jefferson and Main St. Visit the new website for vendor & safety protocols.

www.lambtonshoremarkets.com Petrolia Town-wide Garage Sales. Brought to you by the 23-24 Volunteer Business Group & Town of Petrolia Jul 24 7:30-Petrolia The **Petrolia Farmers' Market** with local vender's. 396 Fletcher

Jul 27 Petrolia Petrolia Night Market at 396 Fletcher (Behind te library), Mak-5-9p ers, creators, food vendors, crafters and more! call 519-882-2350

Jul 28 8a-1p Grand Grand Bend **Farmers' Market** at the Lambton Heritage Museum Parking lot. Visit the new website for vendor & safety protocols. www.lambtonshoremarkets.com Jul 29 4-8p Forest Farmers' Market at the corner of Jefferson and Main St.

Visit the new website for vendor & safety protocols. Petrolia The **Petrolia Farmers' Market** with local vender's. 396 Fletcher 7:30-Jul 31 St. Behind the Library. COVID-19 guidelines in place. noon

Petrolia Petrolia Night Market at 396 Fletcher (Behind te library), Makers, creators, food vendors, crafters and more! call 519-882-2350 for more info.

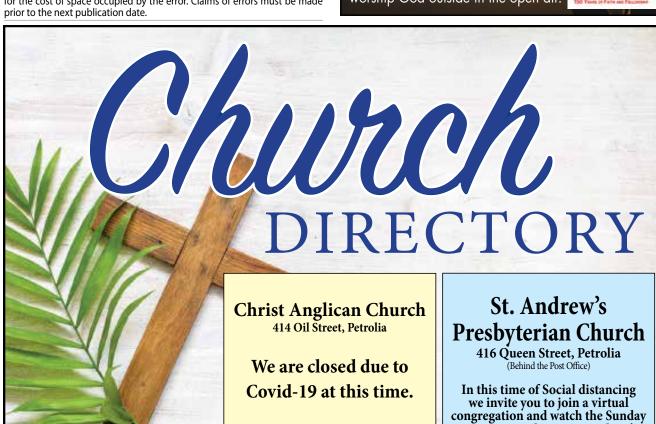
#### NOTICE

**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:// <u>www.iodemargaretstokespetrolia.ca/bursary-application.html</u>

#### **Notice**

**ADVERTISING POLICY** - The publisher of this newspaper, *The Independent* of Petrolia and Central Lambton, reserves the right to clarify or refuse any advertisement based on its sole discretion. The publisher reserves the right to reject, discontinue or omit any advertisement without notice or penalty to either party. Liability for errors or non-insertion is limited to the amount paid for the cost of space occupied by the error. Claims of errors must be made





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

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 Service** Sunday 10am

We will be closed for Summer Break August 1, 8 & 15 with no Sunday Service

> Service will resume August 22 at 10am

Rev. Carey Wagner Church Office: 519-882-1390 www.stpauls united petrolia.net

### First Baptist Church

418 Greenfield Street, Petrolia

**Outdoor Church Service Sunday Mornings 10:30am** Bring your lawn chair!

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

## 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

### **READY TO RAISE THE ROOST**



The long-planned Optimist Pavilion at the Brooke-Alvinston Inwood Community Centre is complete. The Alvinston service club was the driver behind the pavilion and has turned the project over to the municipality for use. The Optimists hope to hold a grand opening on Labour Day weekend including bringing in two bands over two days. However, municipal officials say that will be dependent on the province's COVID-19 Reopening Plan. Right now, there can be no more than 25 people at an outdoor event. It's not clear what that number might be by September. Mayor Dave Ferguson told council Thursday staff won't be putting picnic tables in the pavilion until the limits change. Ferguson says they don't want to have to "chase people out" of the new facility particularly during the Canada Day Drive Thru Chicken Barbecue.

## Voices prompted woman to set fire

**Alex Kurial** 

Local Journalism Initiative

A Sarnia woman will spend a year in jail after setting a blaze causing more than \$300,000 in damage.

Sara McKinley, 22, sent the Guernsey Gardens on Queen Street ablaze in the middle of the night April 9, 2019.

She was staying with her cousin at the apartment and set the unit on fire. It was destroyed. There was also heavy smoke damage in the hall. Firefighters were able to put out the blaze before it could spread to the rest of the four-story building. Nobody was injured.

McKinley plead guilty to the arson in January. She confessed to police three weeks after the incident when their investigation began focusing on her cousin as the suspect.

McKinley had an argument with her cousin the day of the fire about the supposed messiness of the apartment. He'd left the house when she committed the crime.

"She indicated that she was hearing voices telling her to 'burn this dirty apartment down' that her cousin lived in," says Defence Lawyer Robert McFadden. "And she did just that and lit a fire."

McKinley is diagnosed with a number of mental health issues including schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, borderline personality disorder and ADHD.

McFadden says her thoughts that the fire would solve the unit's messiness problem and not affect other residents of the building "might have been brought on by the mental health issues or the voices she was hearing."

McKinley is also battling drug addictions which include crystal meth and fentanyl. She suffered a severe overdose recently where she ended up in the hospital after being revived with naloxone.

Crown Attorney David Nicol says McKinley's pre-sentence report shows she understood her actions were wrong because she waited for her cousin to leave before setting the fire. She said she didn't like her cousin but that she knew what she did was wrong. Justice Deborah Austin was concerned

over the revelation of 'voices' during the June 14 appearance and adjourned the case to request a doctor's analysis. Since both Crown and Defence anticipated a jail sentence McKinley was taken into custody from the courtroom.

However McKinley didn't consent to the doctor's visit before the June 24 return, leaving Austin no choice but to proceed with sentencing.

Austin says the lack of a doctor's note and no objections from either Crown or counsel lead her to conclude McKinley is mentally fit enough to be found criminally responsible. She cites the "view of Crown and Defence that despite the auditory issues experienced by Ms. McKinley at the time of this incident, she was nevertheless able to and actively appreciate the nature and quality of her actions and she knew it was wrong to set a fire despite hearing voices.

"She had not lost touch with reality, but because she was angry with her cousin, knowing it was wrong, set that fire," says Austin.

The justice was also concerned McKinley still didn't seem to grasp how many people she actually put at risk with the arson and her stated reluctance to give up the use of illegal drugs.

"Her motivation and track record has not been a good one about getting help for drug abuse, whether residential treatment or other programming. And she hasn't shown much interest in counselling or programming for mental health issues," says Austin.

Austin sentenced the woman to one year in jail in addition to McKinley's 20 days of pre-sentence custody. Her likely destination will be the Vanier Centre for Women in Milton so she can take part in rehabilitative programming to "help her return to the community in a healthy way with a good discharge plan."

Once released, McKinley will serve two years probation and continue counselling. She's also been ordered to pay \$50,000 to Lambton County and \$270,919 to the building's insurance company, although Austin acknowledged payment is highly unlikely unless McKinley "wins the lottery."



**July 2021** 





Goodman

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more monthly items

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@

Saturday:

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