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Gearing up for Sept 20 **LEARNING FROM YOUR HEROES**

Lambton MOH and Kettle and Stony Point chief among those running

Heather Wright The Independent

The signs are popping up on lawns as the political parties prepare for the Sept. 20 election.

But the federal election is creating a few headaches in Lambton County as the man who has been spearheading the fight against COVID-19 runs to become the next member of parliament for Lambton-Kent-Middlesex.

Sunday, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau went to the Governor General to dissolve parliament. Election speculation has been rampant for weeks with pundits saying the Liberals hope to capitalize on good polling numbers to regain a majority. But while the election was

widely expected, some parties have yet to nominate candidates to run in local ridings.

In the Sarnia-Lambton riding Incumbent Marilyn Gladu was acclaimed to run for a third term in December.

She was out at local events on the weekend. A large election sign on Oil Heritage Road could be seen the day before the election call.

United Church Minister Adam Kilner will be carrying the NDP banner.

He announced his intentions in February after a controversy surrounding a bill banning the practice of conversion therapy. Gladu presented a petition against the bill on behalf of churches in her riding. SEE ELECTION PG 2

One election sign only?

Heather Wright The Independent

Petrolia is looking at limiting the number of election signs you can have on your front lawn.

The town is in the middle of planning for the 2022 election, working with other municipalities to find a company to help with the electronic portion of it.

But staff is also recommending councillors consider limiting the number of election signs which could be displayed by local homeowners. "What was directed to our attention during calls and feedback received throughout the previous session of federal, provincial and municipal elections, was that our bylaw does not reflect a limit to how many signs can be erected in a single location," wrote Clerk Mandi Pearson in a report to council.

"The feedback received was that consideration should be given that there be a limit to one sign permitted per candidate, to be erected in any approved location."

It's not clear from the report how many people suggested the move.

A quick poll by *The Independent* shows only one Central Lambton municipality limits the number of election signs to be placed on a property. Warwick Township allows two on residential property and

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Children at the Petrolia Y's summer camp got a chance to meet some real life heroes this week. Petrolia/ North Enniskillen firefighters came to the camp to talk about what they do. Here, Deputy Chief Darren Allan shows some of the students the equipment they use.

'Some people just want to be nosy' says Veen

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

Oil Springs Mayor Ian Veen says if people want to know what's going on at council, they can show up to in person meetings.

"You want to know what's going on in town, come on out," says Veen.

though they'd returned to in person meetings. She says residents have been talking with her about council business after watching at home.

But there wasn't much enthusiasm for the idea.

"The only reason they're doing it now is because they've got nothing else to do and want to watch it on TV... Some people just want to be

mayor.

Councillor Larry Wagner agrees. "Before all the COVID stuff, how many people used to come to a meeting anyway?" he asks. "We never had anybody come before unless they wanted something."

Wagner says anybody who is curious "can read it all next month in the minutes." Veen says if the trend of rising COVID-19 cases continues, "We'll be back to Zoom anyway.' - THE INDEPENDENT

three on commercial property.

Councillors asked staff to bring changes to the town's election rules to council for discussion.

The discussion was prompted by Councillor Connie McFadden, who suggested the village should explore streaming sessions online even

nosy," says Veen.

"It's better to have them come out than to just sit at home and watch and critique us on TV," says the

Terry Fox Run **September 19, 2021**



Federal election is on

Many churches, particularly United Churches, said they had not been consulted by Gladu. Kilner at the time said Gladu didn't reflect the community's values.

This is Kilner's second run to be an MP.

The Liberals will be represented by Lambton College professor Lois Nantais who was nominated last month.

Brian Everaert will represent the People's Party of Canada for the second time in a federal election. He also ran in the 2018 municipal election hoping to unseat St. Clair Mayor Steve Arnold.

On election call day, Everaert told supporters on social media that the Prime Minister laid some "anti-Canadian" ground work trying to divide the country by ordering vaccines for federal employees and those using airplanes and trains. "What's it going to be next, you have to have a booster to renew your drivers licence or you can't go into this store because you haven't had booster number 47?"

Everaert went on to say the Prime Minister is "out of his mind" and "already has our businesses on their backs... I know the community businesses in Sarnia-Lambton are petrified, terrified, they're going to get locked down again."

The PPC, which has personal responsibility and individual freedom as part of its policies, says it will not lockdown the nation as the Liberal government and the provinces have during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The race in Lambton-Kent-Middlesex, which includes much of the western and southern edge of Lambton including Warwick, Alvinston and Dawn-Euphemia, features three high profile candidates.

The incumbent is already out on the trail. Lianne Rood became MP after winning 49 per cent of the vote over Jesse McCormick of the Liberals, who garnered 25 per cent of the vote in the 2019 election.

This time around, Rood faces Dr. Sudit Ranade, the medical officer of health for Lambton County. Ranade says his experiences in the pandemic led him to seek office.

"I really used to kind of see politics as this thing that happens in its own sphere, its own circle, and it just kind of happens over there. And here we are over here carrying on with our lives. But the pandemic has really shown me how impactful those policy decisions are on our daily lives, on all of the different sectors that we have in society on all of the ways that we live."

Ranade says he wants to take his experiences from the pandemic to help the policies of the future.

He concedes he doesn't know a lot about agriculture and the communities in Chatham-Kent and Middlesex, but he plans to spend time listening to their concerns and learning what they need.

The Green Party announced its candidate over social media Monday. Jeremy Hull - a municipal worker and former businessman who is the cousin of the late former federal agriculture minister, Ralph Ferguson - will be the candidate. He advocates federal support to drive the economy.

"With more support from the federal level comes more successful businesses which in return creates more jobs, more revenue, and a better way of life in each community.

"I have six children all grown up now and competing in the world for secure, well paying jobs and a sustainable way of living. So again I understand the need for fair wages, secure jobs and affordable housing," Hull said in a social media post. "I believe in the creation of new, green jobs in this area to fight the climate challenge we all face and provide a future here for generations to come."

And Kettle and Stony Point First Nations Chief Jason Henry revealed he'll represent the NDP in Lambton-Kent-Middlesex in this election although the party's official website doesn't reflect that yet. Henry was acclaimed Aug. 15 after "a number of months" of talking with the NDP. "I have a strong commitment to our community and our region and the Anishinabek people," he said in a video to the community. "I think it is time now to take our voice, our message and our fight to a broader and more diverse stage. This isn't an abandonment of the work or a change in direction...That's what I'm dedicated to be doing.. bring change and be a voice." Henry mentions issues such as health care and housing and the drug crisis in the nation. Henry will take a leave of absence from his position during the 36 day campaign. The only other declared candidate is Kevin Mitchell who will be running for the People's Party of Canada in Lambton-Kent-Middlesex.

Lambton's MOH takes leave in fourth wave

Heather Wright The Independent

Lambton County is on the hunt for an acting medical officer of health just as officials in Ontario say we're heading into the fourth wave of the pandemic.

Dr. Sudit Ranade has been nominated by the Liberal Party as the candidate for Lambton-Kent-Middlesex Aug. 11, the same day he spends time talking about the pandemic and answering questions from reporters. But there was no hint of his plans then.

The news trickled out, with riding association officials saying they weren't releasing any information to allow Ranade to "notify his friends and family" of the nomination. Lambton Public Health's media rela-

Lambton Public Health's media rela tions team released the information Thursday saying the MOH would be taking a leave when the election was called. That came Sunday.

Stephane Thiffeault, Lambton County's general manager of corporate services and clerk, said federal and provincial legislation allows any employee who runs for office to take a leave once the election is called.

"We do have contingency plans in effect and I don't believe that there'll be any significant or worrisome coverage issues for the duration of this election," says Thiffeault.

He wouldn't provide any specifics but says the county is considering another individual with previous experience to fill the role when the MOH is on his leave. Thiffeault couldn't "confirm or deny" whether the former medical officer of health, Dr. Christopher Greensmith, may be called on to help.

The public health news release also says the health unit is "currently search for an Acting Medical Officer of Health to provide coverage for the county, on an interim basis, during the election.

"Due to the current pressures facing public health, the replacement of this legislated position is a priority."

Medical experts across the province have said Ontario is already in the fourth wave of the pandemic. It's expected to be driven by the Delta variant of COVID-19 which according to evidence around the world, spreads easier and faster than the virus which shutdown the nation in March.

Progression of the virus in Lambton has slowed, but it is still present. Since July, when there were very few cases in the community, 14 people have been diagnosed with COVID-19 - eight in one day, Aug. 11.

Ontario's Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Kieran Moore, told reporters Tuesday "I am sorry to say I think it's going to be a difficult fall and winter" because the Delta variant is quickly becoming the dominant strain infecting the unvaccinated.

On Aug. 11, only four per cent of the people in the intensive care units of Ontario had been double vaccinLambtonPublicHealth (liambton, ph - 1m - @CountyofLambton's Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Sudit Ransde, is taking a laws of absence from Lambton Public Health while he pursues a political caneer as the Liberal candidate for the Lambton-Kent-Middlesex, riding in the next Poderal election. More: lambtons.diseath or al-internet moder.



ated for the virus.

Ranade, in an interview with *The Independent* Monday, admitted it was not easy to step away from his post right now.

"It's hard because I'm really invested," he says.

"I'm thankful that it's a really short period of time.

"I'm grateful that we've been able to immunize as many people as we have and so that should really change the dynamics of severe disease...that makes it a little bit easier in terms of the time for me to step away.

"And also knowing that I have a great team there and they know what they're doing as well. So they're going to be very well supported."

Ranade is facing Lianne Rood, the incumbent Conservative MP and Jason Henry, the Chief of Kettle and Stony Point First Nations who is running for the NDP.

The Greens have nominated Jeremy Hull and the PPC has Kevin Mitchell running for election.

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Vaccine mandates, but not mandatory

Heather Wright The Independent

Vaccinations are a "ticket of safety" during the fourth wave according to Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health and he's ordering health care and schools to have vaccination plans in place.

But there will be no mandatory vaccinations, even though he thinks it will be a "difficult fall and winter" because of the Delta variant of COVID-19.

Hospitals, long term care homes, and community care service providers in Ontario will have to have a vaccination policy in place by Sept. 7.

And schools will have to have a vaccination disclosure policy.

Dr. Kieran Moore announced Tuesday afternoon hospitals, home care and community care services must have a policy where workers will provide proof of either full vaccination, a medical reason for not being vaccinated or proof they've completed a vaccination education session starting Sept. 7.

People who don't provide proof of full vaccination will have to take regular rapid tests.

"We need an alternative," says Moore even though he says immunization is a "ticket to safety.

"We need to be proactive to avoid reactive measures... every shot in arms is our best shot out of this."

Schools and child care, congregate group homes, women's shelters and retirement homes in both public and private sectors will have to have a vaccination policy. Staff who aren't vaccinated will also have to have weekly rapid tests at a minimum.

But Moore continues to push for the highest rate of immunization possible. Right

now, 81 per cent of Ontarians have their first shot and are nearing 75 per cent of Ontarians with two doses.

"We need the highest rate of immunization in our community to protect our children and our schools," says Moore.

Moore says the most vulnerable in society will be offered a third shot including people in long term care and some cancer patients. And children who are turning 12 this year will be able to get their shots. Until now, the children had to actually reach their 12th birthday.

While the province is putting parameters around vaccine use, they said mandatory vaccines are not of part of the policy.

Moore says educating people is "consistent" with Ontario's immunization policies. "Education has always been a strong component of our policy."

"Obviously my hope and my wish is that everyone take advantage of the vaccine. It's our best shot as we head into a fall and winter of Delta."

The Chief Medical Officer of Health added the provincial announcement was "the minimum" guidelines. Moore said provincial officials are willing to work with public and private sector employers who think there should be more stringent measures.

Moore also told reporters the province won't be opening businesses further right now.

Under the Roadmap to Reopen, the province would be fully open with no restrictions when there is 75 per cent of the population with two vaccines.

Moore calls the Delta variant a "formidable foe" and people have to continue masking in public settings, washing hands, covering coughs and monitoring our system.

"The vaccine is excellent but no vaccine is 100 per cent."

Optimist want to build new canteen, dressing rooms Heather Wright their support for the upgrades and there

The Independent

The Alvinston Optimists are moving on to their next project to improve the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre, but it is not clear whether they will be able to get any grant money for it this time around.

Les Douglas of the Optimist Building Committee came to council Aug. 12 with plans for replacing the canteen and renovating a dressing room at the building.

"We have some good news that the pavilion, thanks to a donation, has been paid off and the Optimist club owes nothing," Douglas told councillors.

"With that being said, we would like to move on with our phase two, which includes the canteen and a new dressing room and a hallway to join the pavilion to the arena and the back dressing room."

Douglas said the club wanted to apply for a federal grant. The deadline had passed in July, however, Douglas told council the Alvinston submission would still be considered, just not on a priority basis. "If we were successful in our application for this grant, we're optimistic that we would be in a strong position to build this phase two. The dressing room is going to be roughly 22 by 33 feet and the canteen would be roughly 30 by 30. ... Construction will begin on the condition that the grant is received with the necessary funds," says Douglas. The Optimist plan to start fundraising immediately for the project which could be as much as \$500,000. They already have a good start. Douglas says nine groups which use the arena voiced their support for the upgrades and there have been donations and loans of \$114,500 pledged already. That would cover the Optimists portion of the renovation.

Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek, who is also a member of the Optimist, noted that \$114,500 was about 30 per cent of the project cost.

But Mayor Dave Ferguson voiced some concern about the project. "We have not yet seen drawings and diagrams for the dressing rooms and pavilion as such staff would have to peruse those and come back to council with those and have discussions at that time," said Ferguson, urging Nemcek and Councillor Jamie Armstrong, another Optimist member, to give notice of the discussion to take place at the next meeting.

Armstrong wanted council to give the group the okay to apply for the grant right away.







"\$500 million across Canada is going to run out pretty quick," Armstrong told council.

"And with the election coming up, the intake of this grant is probably going to end as soon as the writ is dropped and I just would like to say that I support the Optimist for what they're doing."

Douglas also worried what a two week delay would mean. "I don't want to let it (the grant application) go. We already missed the initial intake, which puts you on a priority list. I want to get going on this."

But in the end, council agreed to look at the issue during the next meeting when the plans have been viewed by staff.

Since the discussion, a federal election was called. It's not clear what effect that will have on the process.



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Thursday, August 19, 2021

Editorial

Online meetings promote good government

One of the few good things that has happened during the COVID-19 pandemic is the increased access to municipal council meetings.

Pre-pandemic, only people with direct business with the municipality and a few political junkies would find seats in nearly empty council chambers across Lambton County, mostly because the meetings were held at inconvenient hours. The chambers were virtually empty until there was a very big issue, when the whole town would come out and spill into the hall way.

But when COVID-19 turned everything upside down and politicians realized the show must go and they and imaginative staff turned to technology and virtual meetings were born.

They were not all beautiful; some council struggled (and still do) with abysmal internet connections watching councillors freeze up on screen and disappear. Dawn-Euphemia ended up using telephone conferencing since the Internet connection was almost nonexistent.

It took others a while to catch on to how residents could have their say, but they managed.

But the real bonus to democracy was when municipal governments like Oil Springs and Warwick began posting their meetings on YouTube for people to watch whenever they had time. And they did. Councillor Connie McFadden noticed a big difference talking to her neighbours; they all seemed to know what was going on because they'd watched council.

We find it disappointing that all Lambton County municipalities didn't adopt an online YouTube channel for council archives. It's not rocket science. And it really takes very little work. And best of all it encourages people to be involved in democracy who normally couldn't go to meetings.

It's disappointing to hear Oil Springs council members say the new technology isn't needed or just for nosy neighbours. The technology we've used can only make municipalities better as more people discover what their elected officials are doing.

We may even cultivate a few younger people to run for office if they can see what it is like. Or maybe, they'll want to help put some of the old boys out to pasture.

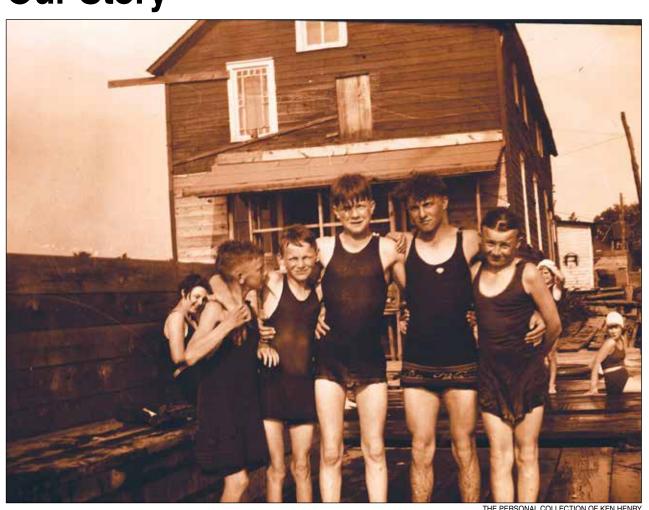
Letters to the Editor

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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

Our Story



Everyone loves a dip on a hot day. This photo shows the swim gang at a Sombra dock on the St. Clair River in the 1930s, including a few girls in the back.

Open mouth, insert foot. Repeat. Get re-elected

There has been a lot of foot in mouth disease going around Central Lambton council chambers.

Politicians are usually the types of people who aren't afraid to give an opinion, even if no one asked for it. But lately, there have been some very noticeable gaffs which make me wonder if the voters are actually listening.

I got calls this week about a meeting in Plympton-Wyoming where one councillor commented on the looks of a new doctor coming to town and the mayor suggested there were a lot of cougars in Wyoming. He didn't mean the cats. Some were appalled the new physicians were in the middle of this. One of the politicians in question, who often raises eyebrows, didn't think it

council in Wyoming is more "entertaining" than most.

It is informal. Often staff and politicians joke back and forth before and after business is complete. First names often slip into the conversations. Occasionally so do cuss words.

While camaraderie is good, it can lead to incidents like the cougar comments, which make some listeners uncomfortable. And that's so unnecessary.

Ian Veen took the foot in mouth disease to a new level. The Oil Springs mayor, during a meeting which was not being broadcast on Zoom or YouTube, lead the argument against continuing the practice now that the council was meeting in person.

council chambers. Ooof. I'm sure that will go over like a ton of bricks with those who pay the bills but aren't always able to get out to council meeting.

I used to wonder if people didn't know how their politicians acted and that seeing meetings would make them rethink their choices. Af-



Heather Wriaht

ter seeing Donald Trump live with his foot in his mouth, I'm quite convinced, to many voters, it doesn't matter. Politicians can insert foot, repeat and get re-elected.

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

was a big deal since the doctor joked back to her. As one of the councillors in PW said,

I hose watching online were just "nosy" and if they were really interested there were lots of seats in the



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Firefighters thanked for saving Henderson building

Thank you to the First Responders who saved the Education Centre and Washroom Building at the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area.

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) would like to offer our sincere thanks to the Petrolia and North Enniskillen Fire Department and the Ontario Provincial Police who attended and quickly extinguished the recent fire at the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area.

Campers noticed a fire in the men's washroom located in the authority's Education Centre and immediately called 911.

Fire crews were quickly on the scene and extinguished the fire.

If not for their rapid response, the SCRCA would likely have lost the entire building, putting our education programming and camping season in jeopardy.

The OPP officers leading the investigation into the fire have been professional, efficient, and effective. Their efforts have kept our conservation areas safe for all visitors and staff.

Thank you so much for all your hard work to keep our community, campers, and staff safe. We are grateful for the incredible work you do.

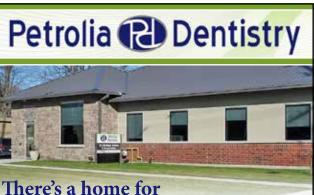
> **Appreciative Staff** St. Clair Region Conservation Authority



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Here's How It Works 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!





Growth in Watford could mean \$3.6 million in sewer work **Heather Wright** seen in the past decade at all," Lier-

The Independent

Chris Lierman says Warwick could have between 1,200 and 1,400 more residents if all the subdivisions which are being proposed are built. That means there will have to be an upgrade to some of the sewage system. And that could cost about \$3.6 million.

Lierman from Spriet Associates has been working on the township's sewer system for decades and he told council Monday the growth is unlike anything he has seen in Warwick before.

"The existing drainage area that enters the existing (Warwick) sewer system is approximately 116 hectares. The proposed drainage area that we have in this report is approximately 260 hectares so it's more than doubled," he says

"I'll be honest, the growth rate we're seeing right now, or at least the interest shown, doesn't compare to what I've

man said. "There hasn't truly been too much growth there, per se. And we're looking at three or four subdivisions right now that could account for, you know, 1,200 to 1,400 people... so we're looking at potential expansion that truly hasn't been seen here, I would suggest in at least a decade.

Lierman says the current system is able to handle much of the growth. When the sewage lagoons were built, the council of the day approved a build which would allow for expansion of Watford.

And Lierman says the sewer system appears to be in good shape.

'The existing pump station has excess capacity right now to clearly handle all existing flows or analysis has shown that it does have the capacity to handle a significant portion of the proposed flows as well," says Lierman.

"We believe the existing sewage lagoons are essentially running at 50 per cent capacity. So there is ample ability there to accept increased flows as well."

He did say a number of the pipes have calcium build up and need to be cleaned out.

That work is pegged at about \$46,000.

He suggested there are two pipelines which need work sooner rather than later which would cost about \$814,000.

But Lierman says the rest of the work depends on how fast the houses go up.

"To say how much needs to go and where that would be is definitely subject to some further discussions with Warwick personnel."

The consultant added the cost of the work would be lower if it was done when roads need to be reconstructed. Lierman also suggested if the growth materializes, the report should be reviewed to make sure there is still capacity for the new homes. That could happen every five years.

Two new doctors headed to Central Lambton, practicing in Wyoming

The Independent

Two new doctors are setting up shop in Petrolia and Wyoming.

Dr. Paxton Moon and Dr. Ahmed Hijazi both attended Western University and trained at the Central Lambton Family Health Team and Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital in Petrolia. And they've chosen to start their careers here.

"There is an ever-growing need for primary care practitioners in Central Lambton.

"We are excited and proud to welcome Dr. Hijazi and Dr. Moon to our rural community," says Kelly Poore chair of the board.

"They are well versed with many aspects of rural health care and have already smoothly transitioned and are deeply involved in community and hospital-based care," says Dr. Enoch Daniel, the lead physician at the family health

network.

"The timing couldn't be better as there is a need for additional primary care physicians in our rural commun-

ity," added Sarah Dr. Ahmed

Hijazi

Milner, executive director in a news release. Thousands of

patients were left without a family doctor with the death of Petrolia physician Frank Riedl earlier this

year. The pair will be

accepting patients at the Central Lambton Family Health Team and will be working at the



Dr. Paxton Moon

Wyoming Wellness Centre with office hours starting Sept. 7.

A warm welcome for new doctors questioned by Wyoming residents

Heather Wright The Independent

The two new physicians setting up practice in Wyoming got a warm welcome at Plympton-Wyoming council. A little too warm for some people. The Independent received calls from taxpayers voicing concern about some comments made as Dr. Ahmed Hijazi and Dr. Paxton Moon came to council Aug. 11.

Two people online for the meeting said Councillor Netty McEwen commented that one of the doctors was "a

lot better looking than your picture." That was followed with a comment from Mayor Lonny Napper about "cougars" being on the loose in Wyoming. According to one of the residents, the doctor seemed embarrassed by the comments.

The Independent was not online for the meeting. Plympton-Wyoming's procedural bylaw, which governs meetings, does not allow the recording of meetings, according to CAO Carolyn Tripp, so the concerns could not be independently verified.

When contacted by the newspaper,

McEwen felt the doctor "did not feel the least bit uncomfortable," joking back that there was no need to flatter them because they'd already agreed to practice in Wyoming.

Mayor Napper didn't recall the comments and said he would review them and apologize if necessary, not wanting anyone to be uncomfortable. He says if he did make a comment, it was in jest.

When asked if having a video archive of council meetings would be helpful in situations like this, McEwen said people would likely complain with or without video.

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Thursday, August 19, 2021

Remembering Lori

Memorial ride Sunday

Heather Wright The Independent

It is a tribute as vibrant as the woman herself. An image of Lori Neville, the Wyoming woman who died while cycling a year ago, jumping off the side of The Village Fireplace Shoppe in Wyoming where she worked.

She stands, holding her yellow bike over her head, upside down, says her mother-in-law, Tina, because she never finished her ride. On her leg, her birthday and the day she died, August 20.

Lori had been part of the Great Cycle Challenge Canada to raise money for research into childhood cancers. She had been cycling around Lambton County and had clocked 299 of her 500 km ride. And her fundraising total was nearing \$1,000. That Saturday morning, on her way down Petrolia Line to go into Corunna, she was struck and killed.

Lori left behind her wife, Natalie and her son, Oliver.

The story moved people in the cycling community and by the time the challenge was over, more than 400 people from all 10 provinces and one territory finished Lori's ride for her. In all, \$11,267 was raised on Lori's Challenge Page.

A year has passed and Tina says the adults, including Natalie, are doing their best to continue on. That's hard to do since the criminal case against the driver who struck Lori is still ongoing.

And people are trying to keep the memories alive says Tina, particularly for Oliver. "He misses his mommy. But you just try to keep everything alive for him," she says. "He's gonna miss a lot with her.

"I think that's the worst part of it. All the adults can keep trying to struggle and move forward. But a little boy says he misses his mommy that's hard."



Natalie and and Oliver Neville stand in front of the tribute to their spouse and mom, Lori Neville in Wyoming. A memorial ride will be held Sunday at 3 pm.

Sunday, there will be a memorial ride for Lori. It's not necessarily a fundraiser but donations will be accepted for the Great Cycle Challenge. Riders will gather at the Lambton County building at 3 pm and travel down the municipal walkway to Reece's Corners.

Lori's family will be thinking of the young woman who had so much to give. "She was a very special girl," said Tina, stopping to compose herself. "She always had a smile on her face. She always was happy."

Tina thinks Lori would have liked the cycler on the side of the building she worked in. "For us, it's a way of remembering her. It's a good, good thing. She loved to do design. So it turned out really well."

Trailer dwellers can stay near construction

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

Oil Springs has approved a first for the village by allowing a trailer to be used as a temporary home.

Todd and Janette McNielly are building a house on Oil Springs Line. They asked for an exemption from the typical rules so they can live on the property during construction.

"We know we're going to keep the lot in orderly shape and we know by six months we're going to want to be out of there," says Janette.

It's not the first time the village has received this request. "We've never let anybody do it before," says Mayor Ian Veen.

Previously, people had something different in mind, "Their intent was to stay in the trailer as long as they could," says Councillor Connie McFadden.

The McNielly's say they're hoping to be out of

reason there's stoppages, we don't intend to try and tough it out in the trailer," says Todd. "We'll find somewhere else if we had to. But our hope is we can get this done before it gets too cold."

Veen says since a foundation has already been laid and lumber is on the site he's not too worried about the couple making the trailer a permanent home.

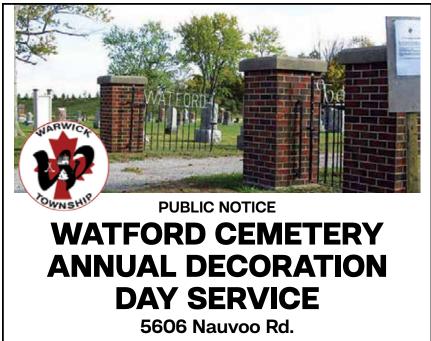
The McNielly's joked they would like to stay in the trailer to keep an eye on the lumber, a product sold at a premium these days.

Still, Veen felt at least a small deposit would make things more official. "It doesn't need to be \$1,000 but we need to have something. That's just the way it is," he says.

"I think \$500 is more than enough," says Mc-Fadden. Council agreed this was a good amount. The deposit will be returned to the McNielly's once they move into their new house.

And the municipality is ready to take payment. "We take cash," says Veen.





Sunday, August 29, 2021 at 2:30pm EVERYONE IS CORDIALLY INVITED

their trailer and in their house before winter hits. "If it started getting too cold and for whatever

Gentlemen, start your lawn mowers or else says St. Clair

Alex Kurial Local Journalism Initiative

Alley neighbours, prepare to start your mowers. A new St. Clair bylaw states homeowners whose properties border an alley are responsible for maintaining the grass. Failure to do so will result in the township coming in to do the job – at full cost to the owner.

Council took the move following a minor revolt in the past month by neighbours of a particular alley in the township who have stopped maintaining their adjoining alley altogether.

"Complaints have now been received," read a report from staff.

Prior to the new bylaw the municipality could recommend the neighbors take care of alley upkeep but had no means to enforce this.

The township eventually caving in and cutting the grass "establishes a bad precedent," says staff, as homeowners know they can simply out wait landscaping crews.

Now, Clerk Jeff Baranek says homeowners are responsible or the municipality will cut it and bill them.

Compensation for any grass cut by the town would be assessed similar to municipal tax collection.

- THE INDEPENDENT

(Bring your lawn chairs)

In case of rain the service will be held at the Watford United Church - 555 Ontario Street, Watford The service will be conducted following all COVID protocols and families are asked to practice physical distancing. Masks are encouraged when physical distancing is not possible. Your donations are important to keep our cemeteries looking great. Cheques can be made out to the Warwick Township Cemetery Board and sent to the Warwick Township Office 6332 Nauvoo Road, Watford ON NOM 2SO Income Tax Exemption Receipts will be issued for \$25.00 or more.

- THE INDEPENDENT

The Independent of Petrolia and Central Lambton - 7

St. Clair couple calls for more rules for biosolid application **Heather Wright**

The Independent

As Janice Clubb sits under a tree on her family farm, she can feel her throat get scratchy.

It's been nine days since a neighbouring farmer applied biosolid fertilizer made from human waste onto his field on a windy day and the distinct smell is still present and still making Clubb unwell.

Janice has lived on the St. Clair farm since she married Rick. His family has been there for 150 years. And the Clubbs say they have never had a problem with neighbours and their farm practices before.

About a month ago, four transports bearing the name Bacres - a division of Buurma Farms - placed the biosolids about 500 meters from their home.

Biosolids left uncovered, particularly when it is humid or raining, stink. A recent Normal Farm Practices Protection Board ordered the Buurmas to make sure the storage on their own farm was enclosed to reduce the odour.

But in St. Clair Township, there are no rules prohibiting the storage of the material on fields, according to Clerk Jeff Baranek.

Unlike animal waste, biosolids made from human waste have always been classified as a fertilizer. In Ontario, farmers follow the Nutrient Management Act to use manure; fertilizers don't have the same regulations.

Janice says the pile of biosolid fertilizer started to make her ill. "The next day, we were working outside all day and I finally said to my husband, 'my throat hurts today.' And he goes, 'Well, it's the shit next door.'

Janice went to the doctor and he gave her an inhaler to help with her breathing.

When the materials were finally spread, about a month after they arrived, it was done on a windy day. Rick says he could see the cloud of biosolid particles down the road when he drove onto Bickford Line. Neighbours called to complain about the



Janice Clubb examines her daughter's lavender crop on the family's Bickford Line farm. The Clubbs are concerned after a neighbouring farmer used biosolid fertilizer on a windy day, sending a plume of the material over their farm.

smell. Janice left the house for a week to escape the smell.

Even nine days after the fertilizer had been spread, the smell was strong enough to make her throat scratch after sitting outside for a hour.

Clubb, who has farmed her whole life and worked with the Ontario Soil and Crop Association on environmental farm projects, suggested the neighbour simply plow it under. That idea was rejected by the farmer.

The Clubbs approached the Ministry of the Environment which said the fertilizer was being used within the laws. An official suggested going to their politicians. So the Clubbs called Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey's office asking them to do something to regulate the use of the material. The couple prepared a letter with nine ways the use of the material could continue without impacting the neighbours.

The Clubbs want more testing of the material so they know what's in the air. Neighbours should be notified before it's spread. The piles should be covered to reduce the stink before spreading

and farmers should not be spreading it on a windy day and it should be tilled under immediately after application.

The Clubbs are waiting to hear if the MPP can affect any change.

In the meantime, they're left wondering what the product will do to the food in their garden and the culinary lavender they cultivate. And, of course, their health.

Rick says they're not alone in their concerns. The farmer has spread biosolid fertilizer in the past and it has made others sick, but they're afraid to speak up since they go to church with the farmer.

He's hopeful other farmers will start talking about their concerns. "It will continue until all of Lambton voices their opinion and says 'You know what - shut them down until they find an application that works.'

They can do that... But they don't want to do that, because they are inside the regulations, because our government says we got to make it easy for you (to get rid of the biosolids) so, to hell with your neighbors."

London Road West United Church 2092 London Line, Sarnia (Corner of London Line & Telfer Sideroad) 40TH ANNUAL FALL FEAST

Roast Beef Dinner Sat., Sept. 25 - 5-6:30 pm

PREORDERS ONLY BY SEPT. 19 TO ORDER CONTACT:

INCLUDES: Roast Beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, squash, mixed vegetable, coleslaw, roll w/butter & apple pie dessert

Susan Wilkins - 519-869-6281 Church Office - 519-542-2084 or email order to Irwunitedchurch@gmail.com

Adults \$18 • Children 5-12 \$7



NEW VOLUNTEER LED SERVICE AVAILABLE IN WARWICK TOWNSHIP



Cat Chance is a volunteer non-profit organization providing TNR services (trap, neuter, and return) in Watford to assist with addressing reports of stray cats.

Contact Cat Chance directly to obtain services through Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/CatChanceSarnia/

NOTE TO DOMESTIC CAT OWNERS

If your cat is permitted to be outside, please ensure your cat is wearing a collar at all times to ensure it is not mistaken as a stray cat.

Cat Chance is looking for volunteers to assist with delivery of service expansion into Watford. If you are interested in volunteering with Cat Chance, please contact Cat Chance at https://www.facebook.com/ CatChanceSarnia/.



It's turtle time

Heather Wright The Independent

Kelli Smith and Erin Caroll are spending lots of quality time with a whole lot of turtles right now.

Smith, a watershed biologist, and Carroll, the director of biology for the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority, spend about 16 hours a day from May to mid-August protecting the turtles which call the Sydenham River home. In May, the pair start getting calls from people who have seen turtles nesting and are concerned they will be damaged or eaten. Once this year, Smith and Carroll removed a nest of snapping turtles which were under the claybed of the river. They would have died without intervention. They carefully collect the eggs and bring them to Salthaven Wildlife Centre, where they are incubated. Then, by the end of July, the snappers and the endangered spiny shells start making an appearance and the pair are on the road again, getting them back in Sydenham. The turtles have been returned to the river and its tributaries in southern Lambton County in the past week, including some snapping turtles which were headed into Bear Creek in Petrolia. Over 1,200 turtles have been returned to the wild, 800 of them the endangered spiny turtles. Carroll says the reintroduction into the wild has been going on for five years now and for the first time, this year, they found evidence of some of the young spiny turtles they had released in the past, making the long hours through the summer worthwhile.





HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS



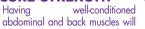


It's turtle time in southwestern Ontario as St. Clair Region Conservation Authority employees Kelli Smith and Erin Carroll retrieve turtle eggs in the spring and return the babies to the water in late summer.

spine by bending at the hips and avoiding the "hunch" in your mid-back. If possible, avoid excessive movement from your upper body and use your back as a fulcrum instead.

CORE STRENGTH

Chiropractic Centre



help to support your upper body while riding and minimize excessive swaying. Your chiropractor can help to guide you and recommend exercises that are targeted to your core, as well as exercises to enhance your overall conditioning.

5. ADJUST YOUR BIKE TO YOUR FRAME

Minor adjustments can make a huge difference. Different styles of bikes require different riding postures, however, the photo above provides a quick reference for general adjustments that can help ensure a relaxed, comfortable posture while riding your bicycle

www.lambtonchiropractic.ca





197

More testing in Florence drains underway

Heather Wright The Independent

Dawn-Euphemia is hiring a private contractor to start testing drains in the community of Florence.

The Ministry of the Environment has been pressing the township to do something about the decades old problem recently.

The township had completed years of studies and came to a conclusion on the type of sewage system which could be used in the hamlet with 67 homes. The price tag in the millions would have been more than taxpayers could have borne. And the MOE had questions about whether the system was the right option.

For sometime, the community and the ministry seemed to be at a stalemate. Then, the MOE came asking for a plan in February.

Clerk Donna Clermont has been working with the ministry on signage along the river notifying anyone using the Sydenham there are high levels of E coli and phosphorus.

Clermont is also working on information packets for the residents, explaining the problem and giving facts about their individual septic systems, which township officials say are the cause of the leakage.

Council recently approved the ministry's suggestion of paying for its own testing to see where the problem lies. The contractor will be checking all the

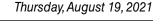
drains noted to have contamination in August. That's likely to cost about \$12,000 to \$15,000.

And while the work is going on, officials are still concerned the approach Dawn-Euphemia is taking "is not likely to be successful in pinpointing individual sources of contamination.'

Officials say there are a number of homes with faulty septic systems and any contamination in the drains may not be able to be traced back to one point.

The MOE recommended the use of a consultant for testing - which the township is doing.

It's also heeding the MOE's request for monthly reports on how the work is going.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:

2022-2026 Wyoming Public Cemetery Care

and Maintenance of Grass Cutting Services

Corporate Services

Additional information available on our website www.plympton-wyoming.com – Bids and Tenders

Quotation Due Date:	<u>September 3rd 2021</u> at 11:00 a.m.
Tentative Acceptance Date:	September 29 th 2021
Request for Quotation to:	To provide grounds keeping services for the Wyoming Public Cemetery – 450 Isabella Street, Wyoming ON.
Request for Quotations to be delivered to:	Town of Plympton-Wyoming 546 Niagara Street Wyoming, Ontario N0N 1T0
	Attention: Executive Assistant



PHOTO VIA ZOOM

Enniskillen Mayor Kevin Marriott presents the township's scholarship to Alexandra Findlay during Monday's council meeting as Councillor Mary Lynne McCallum looks on.

Enniskillen helped Findlay be independent

Heather Wright The Independent

This year's winner of the Enniskillen Scholarship says living in a small community has helped her become more independent.

LCCVI graduate Alexandra Findlay was awarded the scholarship Monday during the township's regular council meeting.

Findlay, who has plans to become a dermatologist, says she made good, close friends living in Ennskillen; "the strength of them are unbreakable."

"The most important thing to me is that a small community has influenced me to become more independent, which I value," she wrote in her essay to council.

"Living in a rural municipality has allowed me to become my own person and on my own terms, which has shaped my true goals and values."

And while she has loved living in Enniskillen growing up with her close knit friends, she is ready to try something new. Findlay will be travelling to BC for her education.

Greenfield construction nears finish line

The Independent

Petrolia officials are hopeful the reconstruction of Greenfield Street will be complete by the time Victoria Playhouse Petrolia reopens.

The town hired Cope Construction to rebuild the street and the water and sewer works beneath it. Construction started in May.

Recently, Councillor Ross O'Hara asked if the project was still on time and still on budget. It was expected to cost about \$1.8 million.

Mike Thompson, director of oper-

"They told me that it should be done prior to Labor Day weekend, which is great news," he says.

"I stress to them that once they start doing curb and sidewalk, to go from the north to the south. As long as we can have everything open for the theater on the seventh and if by chance are down in the south and we still have some sidewalks to do, that it's not going to affect the theatre and the patrons coming into town."

Thompson added he expected the curbs and gutters to be laid the week of Aug. 9, however at press time that work had not been started.



you'll be surprised!

Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Notice of Study Commencement

Bright's Grove Water Treatment Plant (City of Sarnia)

Raw Water Intake Replacement

The Town of Petrolia is initiating a Class Environmental Assessment (EA) study to address current operational concerns associated with the existing Bright's Grove Water Treatment Plant (WTP) raw water intake. The Bright's Grove WTP is located in the City of Sarnia, approximately 20 km from the Town of Petrolia, and supplies potable water to the Town of Petrolia and other service area municipalities including the Townships of Enniskillen and Dawn-Euphemia, and the Village of Oil Springs. The existing intake for the WTP was constructed in 1944 and is approaching the end of its useful service life. A plan is required to rehabilitate or replace the existing intake structure to ensure a safe, secure, and reliable long-term source of raw water to the plant.



The Class EA study is being conducted according to the requirements of a Schedule 'B' project under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Planning Process (October 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011 & 2015). The study will identify and evaluate replacement intake alternatives. The adjacent map covers the approximate limits of the study area. The preferred solution will be selected to minimize technical, community, natural environmental and economic impacts.

Public consultation is an integral component of the Class EA process, and we value

ations, says the work is progressing on time and on budget.

Lamrecton Park erosion work set to begin

Heather Wright The Independent

Shoreline protection work at Plympton-Wyoming's Lamrecton Park will move ahead, nine months after it was first approved.

In November, town council agreed to put nearly \$400,000 of double armour stone on the hill, which was being eroded by high water and winds. But the work didn't take place that winter. During the design phase, staff noticed there would be some reduction in the

actual beach area if the project went ahead. Since the idea is to provide a beach for the residents to use, staff decided to look at other options. The consultant said the only other way to perform the work is with a single laver of armour stone. It wouldn't last as long and would not provide the best protection.

Council agreed to move ahead with the original plan for \$394,000, knowing a foot of the beach may be lost.

It's not clear when construction will begin.

your input during the planning process. If you wish to be placed on the mailing list to receive notices and information, or, you wish to provide comments at any time during the process you can do so by contacting:

Mike Thompson Director of Operations Town of Petrolia 411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0 519-882-2350 Ext. 235 mthompson@petrolia.ca

Stuart Winchester, P. Eng Project Manager CIMA+ 900 - 101 Frederick Street Kitchener, ON N2H 6R2 519-772-2299 Ext. 6202 stuart.winchester@cima.ca

Personal information collected or submitted in writing at public meetings will be collected, used, and disclosed by Town staff in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA). The written submissions including names, contact information and reports of public meetings will be made available. Questions should be referred to the Town's project manager.

This notice was first issued on August 19, 2021.

The Independent of Petrolia and Central Lambton - 9

Sports

Two wins for Cattlebarons in senior play

The Independent

Inclement weather got the best of the Western Counties Senior Baseball League season last week but the Wyoming Cattlebarons were able to dodge the raindrops long enough to register a pair of victories.

Last Tuesday in Courtright, Corey Saunders struck out 12 batters over six innings to lead Wyoming to an 8-4 win over the Cardinals. Saunders helped himself at the plate with two hits and two RBI.

Jason Hodgins had four hits in a losing cause for Courtright.

Meantime, Craig Steadman had a home run and a pair of RBI to lead the Barons to a 6-2 win over Port Lambton on Friday night at Canton Park. Eric Marsh was the winning pitcher. Brian Riedl suffered the loss.

On Thursday, the Corunna Giants erased an early deficit and beat Dresden, 15-6. Mike Tyndall struck out nine for the mound victory while Greg Sinclair had three hits, three runs scored and three RBI for the winner. Alex Patterson went deep for Dresden.

Wyoming's Jackson, Larks, play in nationals

Core Jackson and his Hays, Kansas teammates won their Rocky Mountain

Baseball League title this season and advanced to the National Baseball Congress collegiate finals earlier this month in Witchita.

They advanced to the quarterfinals only to lose to their in-state rivals from Cheney in an elimination game last week.



Core Jackson

Jackson, a Wyoming Wrangler product and a graduate of both John Knox Christian School and LCCVI, is attending the University of Nebraska on a baseball scholarship. The new semester in Lincoln begins next week.

CHAMPION



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A Central Lambton golfer is now the reigning junior boys club champion at the Sarnia Golf and Curling Club. Liam Crummy of Oil Springs carded an even par 72 on the weekend for an eight-shot victory in the 18-hole event. Kaiden Rawson was runner up with an 80. Luke Crombeen was third with an 82. Abbey Wright shot an 82 to win the junior girls club title while the bantam crown went to Hunter Policcichio with an 87.

Bright's Grove's Weir cracks top ten in Calgary

Mike Weir tied for ninth place at the Shaw Charity Classic in Calgary. It was his 11th top ten placing in 21 starts since joining the Champions Tour in May 2020.

The 2003 Masters Champion opened with a 63 last Friday and was within one shot of the lead but an up-and-down round of even par 70 on Saturday pretty much knocked him out of contention. He closed with two birdies and a 68 on Sunday. The tournament was the first professional golf event to be played in Canada

since 2019. The Shaw Classic was cancelled last year due to COVID while the RBC Canadian Open has been scratched the past two years for the same reason.

Weir, the Huron Oaks product, is eighth on the Charles Schwab money list for the combined 2020-21 season earnings with just under \$1.9 million. He is ranked tenth on the tour power rankings for the season.

The next stop on the Champions Tour is the Boeing Classic in suburban Seattle this weekend.

Wammes relaxing at home after Olympics

The Independent

Nick Wammes says there's no place like home. He is spending time at his Bothwell-

area residence following what he

"It's going to be a busy three years but I'm looking forward to it. It's going to be jam-packed," he added.

Wammes says a gold medal won by Kelsey Mitchell in the women's sprint and bronze medal won by Lauriane Genest in the women's keirin at the Games proves that Canada belongs among the elite in the sport. "From a team perspective it shows that we're competitive as a country. We're not here just to be here, we're coming, and we want (more) medals." While he enjoyed his time in Japan, the 21 year-old said the Games lacked a little something because of all the COVID-related restrictions. "It was a little tough," he said, noting the satellite village for the cycling team was in Izu Čity, a two-hour bus ride from the main site. "It would have been really cool to be in Tokyo. It was lacking that bit of Games environment I guess you could say. But other than that, it was a great two weeks."

Classifieds





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. 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.

Help Wanted / Employment



Marinaro on national team

Not surprisingly, Michael Marinaro of the Point Edward Figure Skating Club and his partner Kirsten Moore-Towers of St. Catharines have been named as one of four Senior Pairs teams to represent Canada on the world stage during the 2021-22 figure skating season.

The three-time defending national champions were sixth at the ISU World Figure Skating Championships in Stockholm in March.

describes as a disappointing Olympic Games debut. He was 14th in the sprint cycling event and placed 27th in the men's keirin. "I'm just so glad to be home with my family and spend some time on the water with my brother. I don't get to come home very often and I am just so excited to be home for a little while in good old Chatham-Kent," said Wammes.

The "little while" will not last much longer as he will soon set his sights on preparing for a Four Nations event in Colombia next month and the World Championships in France in October followed by the Commonwealth Games in the UK next year and the Pan American Games in 2023 leading up the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris.

ZENING Warrantly Clerk

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- Positive attitude for fast paced shop environment
- Automotive knowledge an asset
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Ask For: Jamie Feddema | (519) 849-7777



5437 Nauvoo Rd. Watford, ON N0M2S0 TEL: (519) 849-7000

Classified Deadline: Monday @ 12 noon

Obituary



MOFFATT Elizabeth Isabel "Liz"

It is with great sadness that the family of Elizabeth Isabel "Liz" Moffatt (nee Campbell), of Petrolia passed away peacefully surrounded by her family in her 77th year, on Monday, August 9, 2021. Liz was a loving wife of Rick Hext and the late Kenneth Moffatt (1980). She was a proud mother to Jane and Ken Rops, Becky and Scott Stewart, Kent and Erica Moffatt, the late Craig (2014) and Lisa Moffatt, and Scotty Moffatt (1975), grandmother to Brandi, Dan and Maddie, Cody and Alex, Bailey, Murissa, Makenna, Braedan, Haleigh, Harrison, Jack, Lola, Belle, Adriana, and Kyle and great grandmother to Sawyer, Henri, and Nora. Liz is survived by her siblings Islay and Wayne Edwards and Gerry Campbell and the Hext family Bob and the late Betty, Dave and Janet, and Jim and the late Tracy. She is predeceased by her parents Gordon and Mildred Campbell and brothers Glen (Barb) Campbell and Grant Campbell. Liz had many passions including family, friends, teaching and farming. She retired from teaching, spending the last part of her career at Brooke Central and spent many of her summer's at the lake and never left without a hug from her grandchildren. Visitors were received on Sunday, August 15 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Needham-Jay Funeral Home, 4059 Petrolia. A funeral service was held on Monday, August 16, 2021 at 11 am. As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to Parkinson Canada (parkinson.ca). Memories and condolences may be shared at www.needhamjay.com.



RANDOLPH Pauline

Passed away peacefully at Hospital, Petrolia C.E.E. on Wednesday, August 11, 2021. Pauline Randolph, of Petrolia and formerly of Sarnia, was in her 86th year. Pauline was predeceased by her husband of 57 years William (2016) and her parents Aileen and Theodore . (Dick) Mathers. She will be missed by her sister Cammie Mathers and her friend Chris Tripp and his family. Arrangements by Needham-Jay Funeral Home www.needhamjay.com. Pauline was a great lover of Sarnia, which reflected in the following

poem Sarnia by Starlight A slow, blue pulse from cold water. Call and response of smoke and wind as evening falls. Must every object that summons desire be beautiful? an ashplant? That girl's open blouse? Each feather of the crow Tells a story: the lingering fragrance in tangled sheets of black roses. From the U.S. side Sarnia's adorned by a skein of lights strung between sky and night's river. Starlight enters With ancient airs Like a bride, The music dancing On her shy lips. By James Deahl



Classifieds

ELLIOTT Joseph

Joseph "Joe" Elliott, a resident of Shetland, passed away surrounded by family and friends on **Friday, August 13, 2021** at his home at the age of 64. Born in Chatham, the son of the late Donald and Marian (McClintock) Elliott. Joe was an avid farmer, Pioneer Seed Dealer, a dedicated volunteer, a devoted member of the Shetland Community and the back bone of his family. He was a supportive friend and inspiration to many. Beloved husband of the late Karen (Blain) (2012) and Kim (McTaggart). Loving father to his children Trevor Elliott (2008), Brandie Elliott (Jamie Shields), Nicole Elliott (Frank Myslik) and to his step-children Ryan, Nathan, Leann (Andrew Boyd) and Dylan Tamming. Proud Grandpa Joe to Ethan Major, Ainsley Minielly, Adalyn Shields and Anderson Shields. Dear brother of Charlie Elliott (the late Jane Clark) (Lynn Rubie-Rodgers) and Noreen Wetmore (Ron). Joe will be missed by many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and his dog Scarlet. A Celebration of Life will be held at Elliott Shetland Farms on Thursday, August 19, 2021. Open House 10:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. hot dog day with coffee at Joe's request. A private family interment in Shetland Cemetery at a later date. If desired, donations may be made to Canadian Cancer Society, Florence Oddfellows Lodge #196 or CMHA Lambton-Kent. Online donations and condolences may be left at www.badderfuneralhome.com. Arrangements are entrusted to Badder & Robinson Funeral Home, Bothwell.



HOPWOOD **Marjorie Diane**

Jacques) AKA Nana Banana passed away peacefully on August 13, 2021 at Bluewater Health in Sarnia. Marjorie loved her grandchildren way more than her kids; she gave her whole life to her grandchildren. She travelled with them, went to all activities, had sleepovers and spent most her time being the fun Nana. She gave her whole life to them. Marjorie worked at Meridian Lightweight Technologies in Strathroy. She was an independent hard worker with a strong opinion, who was willing to share that opinion if she felt you needed to hear it. Marjorie lived life the way she wanted. She smoked a half pack of cigarettes a day, ate what she wanted, and exercised by turning on the TV. Yet she lived to 74, take that science. She loved her sisters dearly, Pat (the late Rene) King and Cathy (Dean) Walker. She is survived by daughters; Dianna Francis (Jim), Tammy Young (Shane), and Jeannie Hopwood (Dennis); she never liked any of her girls' significant others, but Dennis did come close. She is also survived by her five granddaughters; Marissa, Paisley, Madison, Danielle, and Shelby, and her ten (plus one on the way) great grandchildren, Colby, Eva, Presley, Zach, Jaxon, Sophia, Mya, Landon, Xavier, and Tobias. It took mom longer than others, but she did realize later in her life that the world is full of love and kindness. We believe the message from this is to be positive, caring and to live like you are dying. Marjorie's family would like to thank the palliative team at Bluewater Health and also Dr. Crowley and his team for keeping her alive. Memorial donations may be made to Bluewater Health Foundation Palliative Care (www. for bluewaterhealthfoundation. ca). Arrangements by Needham-Jay Funeral Home

www.needhamjay.com.



Marjorie Diane Hopwood (nee Memories and condolences may be shared online at

WILKINS **Betty Eilleene**

Betty Eilleene Atkinson- Wilkins, formerly of Wyoming area, passed away at Fiddick's Nursing Home in Petrolia at the age of 93. Beloved wife of the late Alex Wilkins (2011). Loving mother to Lois and Joe McGrail, Ken and Geraldine Wilkins, Robert and Gale Wilkins, and Kevin and Lorna Wilkins, all of Wyoming. grandmother to Cherished Mike and Karen McGrail, Steve and Lisa McGrail, Jolene and Jordan McCallum, Matt and Erika McGrail, Gerry Wilkins and Jill Lumley, Tom and Kim Wilkins, Tim and Gratiana Wilkins, Nicole and Anson Racher, and Cory and Naree Wilkins. Treasured greatgrandmother to Taylor and Hailey Wilkins, Kyle, Katlyn, Kendra, and Kayla Wilkins, Kole, Keagan, and Kadence Wilkins, Alicia, Adam, Ava and Austin Wilkins, Jace and Kylie (2004) McGrail, Megan, Kevin and Tyler McGrail, Ella and Charlie McCallum, Mason and Paisley Racher, and Quinn and Madison McGrail. Great-great grandmother to Case, Brody, Landon, Skyler, Ryder, Walker and Colt. Dear sister and sister-inlaw to Tom and Joanne Atkinson, Sheldon and Julie Green, Shirley and Tom O'Brien and Bev and Ron Clark. Predeceased by her parents William and Blanche Atkinson and her step-mother Viola Atkinson, her brothers Donald, Harvey and Peter, and her sisters Dorothy, Peggy, Hazel, Blanche and Jeanne. Betty was a life time member of the U.C.W. and attended Mandaumin Church. She was also a member of the Eastern Stars and T.O.P.S. Betty had several hobbies and interests which included ceramics, needle point, knitting, quilting and creating afghans. Above all, Betty enjoyed spending time with family, and will be missed by all those whose lives she touched. A private service was held with interment at Resurrection Cemetery. Sympathy may be expressed through donations to Diabetes Canada or to Crohn's and Colitis Canada (cheques only at the funeral home please). Arrangements entrusted to Smith Funeral Home, 1576 London Line, Sarnia. Memories and condolences may be sent online at www.smithfuneralhome.ca

Thursday, August 19, 2021

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FOWLER June Surrounded by family and love, June passed away peacefully on Sunday, August 15, 2021. She was in her 83rd year. June was predeceased by her husband Ivan Fowler (2004). She was the proud mother of the late Richard Fowler (1992), Mary and Greg Canfield, Ronald Fowler and Lisa Sacco, Calvin and Julie Fowler and grandmother to Brandon

(Maegan), Amanda (Kevin), Sarah (Dylan), Marika , Kyle, Aaron, Caleb, Davis, and Reese, and great grandmother to Vivian, Cecilia, and Aurora. June is survived by her siblings Gloria McLaughlin, and William (Lois) Miller. June spent her life following the word of God and enjoyed fellowship of congregations at several churches in her lifetime. She enjoyed family, dancing, music, watching baseball, baking and doing word searches. We will always remember and miss her hugs to all she met. A memorial service will be held on Friday, August 20, 2021 at 12 noon from the Needham-Jay Funeral Home, 4059 Petrolia Line Petrolia visitors will be received prior to the service from 10:30 to 11;45 am. Due to COVID 19 restrictions, masks are required for all who attend a funeral service. Interment will be in Oil Springs Cemetery. As an expression of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to the First Baptist Church, Petrolia where June worshipped for the latter part of her life.

www.needhamjay.com.

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED TO BUY - Adult bicycles Women & Men. All sizes. Good to fair condition. All types of bikes wanted. Top prices payed. ALSO GOOD USED BIKES FOR SALE. Please call 519-882-2548 and ask for Dave.

DEKKER, Janine Age 57, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

KUCHTA, Zack

Age 21, of Petrolia

COOPER, Carol

Age 70, of Petrolia Needham-Jay Funeral Home

Needham-Jay Funeral Home

DUNCAN, John

Age 82, of Corunna teadman Brother's Funeral Chapels

Death Notices

BONN, Edwin

Age 86, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

CAMPBELL, Douglas Age 74, of Brigden Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels

MONDAY, AUGUST 9

WELSH, Robert Age 65, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home Age 77, of Petrolia Needham-Jay Funeral Home

ANDERSON, Charles

Age 70, of Sarnia

MOFFATT, Liz

Smith Funeral Home

DEMERS. Betsv Age 83, of Forest Gilpin Funeral Home

McAUSLAN, Vivienne

Age 97, of Inwood John C. Badder Funeral Home

COTE, Rita Age 98, of Sarnia

McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

NEELY, Richard Age 67, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

ANDERSON, Viriginia Age 80, of Sarnia McCormack Funeral Home

FOREMAN, Richard Age 88, of Sarnia McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

Knight Funeral Home WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

Age 90, of Sarnia

MORRISON, Elizabrth

August 7 - August 13, 2021

'Betty"

COONEY, Karen Age 63, of Petrolia Needham-Jay Funeral Home

DUFAULT, Kathrvn Age 63, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

COOKE, Eileen Age 73, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

BROWNE, Eamonn

Age 76, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

RANDOLPH, Pauline Age 86, of Petrolia Needham-Jay Funeral Home

THROWER, Irene Age 88, of Watford Denning's of Watford

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12

BRISSON, Corey Age 33, of Sarnia McCormack Funeral Home

MURPHY, Douglas Age 45, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

WRIGHT, William Age 88, of Sarnia Smith Funeral Home

WILKINS, Betty Age 93, of Petrolia Smith Funeral Home

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

HOPWOOD, Marjorie

Age 74, of Petrolia Needham-Jay Funeral Home

Wanted

SENIOR WOMAN looking for accommodation in a house to share with senior woman in Petrolia or Sarnia. Non-smoking, no alcohol or drugs. Please call 519-882-4406.

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.

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 prior to the next publication date.

Thursday, August 19, 2021

Calendar 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** LOCATION EVENT **CONTACT INFO** DATE Optimist Club of Lambton Central/ Petrolia Meat Draw at Crabby 6pm Petrolia Aug 19 Joe's Petrolia. 6 Rounds played. Petrolia's Super Saturdays. Shop. Dine. Win. Go to Petrolia Shop Aug Petrolia 21 Dine Discover Facebook Page for mre info. 7:30-Petrolia The Petrolia Farmers' Market with local vender's. 396 Fletcher Aug St. Behind the Library. COVID-19 guidelines in place. 21 noon Dresden Dresden Christian Concerts. Free concert by Jeff & Tim at the 6:30pm Aug 22 Dresden Christian Concerts Stage (1233 North St) with a message from Rev. Terry Clyne. St. Paul's United Church Outdoor evening service. "Petite Pies Aug 22 7pm Petrolia in the Pavilion". Due to covid safety concerns we will be having TARTS at the Petrolia Lion's Hall. Bring your lawn chair & beverage Petrolia Night Market at 396 Fletcher (Behind te library). Mak-Petrolia Aug 5-9p 24 ers, creators, food vendors, crafters and more! call 519-882-2350 for more info. Optimist Club of Lambton Central/ Petrolia Meat Draw at Crabby Petrolia Aug 6pm Joe's Petrolia. 6 Rounds played. 26 Petroli Lions Meat Raffle @ Haywood's Tap & Grill 6-8pm Petrolia Aug 26 Aug 27-Optimist Club of Lambton Central/Petrolia Online Toonie Auc-Petrolia tion. Visit the auction Facebook page "Petrolia Optimist Online Toonie Auction" Proceeds will benefit the youth of our community. Sept 3 8:30pm Oil Springs Outdoor Family Movie Night at the Oil Springs Youth Centre. Aug Free Admission bring your kids, lawn chairs, and blankets. 27 Aug Sunset Brigden Brigden Fair Drive in Movie Night at the Brigden Fair Ground. Cost is \$10/vehicle. 27 3:30pm Alvinston Alvinston Legion Meat Raffle & Catch the Ace. Aug 28 The Petrolia Farmers' Market with local vender's. 396 Fletcher 7:30-Aua Petrolia St. Behind the Library. COVID-19 guidelines in place. 28 noon 4:30-7p Wyoming Plympton-Wyoming Truck & Tractor Pull Drive-Thru Chicken Aug 19 Dinner at the Wyoming Fairgrounds. 3piece Broasted Chicken, Potato, coleslaw, beans, roll, dessert. Deadline to order is Aug 20. No walk-ins accepted. To order call 519-384-4098 or visit ttpdrivethru.weebly.com 3:30-Forest Legion Meat Raffle. Entertainment on the patio. Aug Forest 21 5:30p 3:30-Forest Forest Legion Meat Raffle. Entertainment on the patio. Aug 28 5:30p 6:30pm Dresden Christian Concerts. Free concert by Derrick Drover at Aug Dresden 29 the Dresden Christian Concerts Stage (1233 North St) with a message from Rev. Rob Elka. Petrolia Night Market at 396 Fletcher (Behind te library). Mak-5-9pm Petrolia Aug ers, creators, food vendors, crafters and more! call 519-882-2350 for more info. Sept 2 Optimist Club of Lambton Central/ Petrolia Meat Draw at Crabby 6pm Petrolia Joe's Petrolia. 6 Rounds played. Sept 2 6-8pm Petrolia Petroli Lions Meat Raffle @ Haywood's Tap & Grill Sept 3 Canada Day Fireworks at the Greenwood Rec Centre 9pm Petrolia 7:30-The Petrolia Farmers' Market with local vender's. 396 Fletcher Petrolia Sept 4

St. Behind the Library. COVID-19 guidelines in place. noon Forest Legion Meat Raffle. Entertainment on the patio. 3:30-Sept 4 Forest 5:30p Petrolia Petrolia's Barn Dance featuring Scott Manery and the Barnburners Sept 4 6pm at the Petrolia Farmer's Market Pavilion Alvinston Optimist Club of Alvinston & Districts Cornhole Tournament. Sept 4 7pm \$100 a team of 2 players. 3 games guaranteed.

Sept 5 6:30p Dresden **Dresden Christian Concerts.** Free concert by The Chapelaires at the Dresden Christian Concerts Stage (1233 North St) with a message from Rev. Andy Cornell.

Classifieds

Answers to this week's	5	2	6	7	3	1	8	9	4	v V	You®
Sudoku	4	7	3	2	9	8	5	6	1		P P
SHULDHU	1	9	8	4	6	5	3	7	2		Place
Brought to you by:	9	1	4	8	2	3	7	5	6		Better
the co-operators	2	3	5	6	4	7	1	8	9		
Give yourself peace of mind	6	8	7	1	5	9	4	2	3	2	5
with the right	7	6	1	9	8	4	2	3	5	the	
coverage for you.	3	4	9	5	7	2	6	1	8		3
Call us today!	8	5	2	3	1	6	9	4	7		5

The Independent of Petrolia and Central Lambton – 11

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REALLY INC. BROKERAGE 3277 Walnut St. ALVINSTON



519-882-4880

, Petrolia

11-4247 Oil Heritage Rd,

This charming 3-bedroom Victorian Style home has high baseboards and original window trim. The interior was just updated and is ready for your family to move in. Spacious kitchen and dinning open concept with patio doors leading to an over-sized new deck. The open concept living room, family room is enormous. There is an ensuite 2-piece bath in the main floor bedroom that can be used as an office. The primary bedroom has been enlarged and includes a wall-to-wall closet. The primary bedroom is spacious and stunning. Recent vinyl flooring throughout. New front porch, partially covered. An asphalt driveway, leads up to garage. The fenced rary ard is 258 ft deep, shade trees, room for a garden and children and pets to play. High speed unlimited finer optic Internet is available.

SHANAHAN REALTY INC. BROKERAGE 7963 Egremont Road, Watford • 519.849.6783 www.shanhanrealty.com Leo Shauahau Sales Representative

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				message from Rev. Andy Cornell.
	Sept 9	6pm	Petrolia	Optimist Club of Lambton Central/ Petrolia Meat Draw at Crabby Joe's Petrolia. 6 Rounds played.
	Sept 9	6-8pm	Petrolia	Petroli Lions Meat Raffle @ Haywood's Tap & Grill
	Sept 10	8:30- 12noon	Petrolia	Petrolia & Enniskillen Fall Fair are present the Rumble Fish at the fair grounds.
	Sept 11	7:30- noon	Petrolia	The Petrolia Farmers' Market with local vender's. 396 Fletcher St. Behind the Library. COVID-19 guidelines in place.
	Sept 11	3:30- 5:30p	Forest	Forest Legion Meat Raffle . Entertainment on the patio.
	Sept 12-15		Wyoming	Plympton-Wyoming Agricultural Society Virtual Pie & Bake Auc- tion. All proceeds to CEE Hosptial. Online bidding online. To donate items contact Sandy Atkinson 519-845-0302. Register by Aug 9.
	Sept 16	6pm	Petrolia	Optimist Club of Lambton Central/ Petrolia Meat Draw at Crabby Joe's Petrolia. 6 Rounds played.
	Sept 18	7:30- noon	Petrolia	The Petrolia Farmers' Market with local vender's. 396 Fletcher St. Behind the Library. COVID-19 guidelines in place.
	Sept 18	4-7pm	Petrolia	LCDS & Petrolia Lions presents Beer & Wing Night at the Lions Hall. 10 wings plus veggies. tickets \$15. For more info 519-882- 0933
•				



St. Clair woman owes nearly \$10,000 after hitting a pole while drunk

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

A St. Clair woman has some hefty bills in her future after wiping out a hydro pole earlier this year.

Just after midnight Feb. 10. police were called to a crash on St. Clair Parkway just south of Holt Line. Witnesses said they heard a loud bang and saw a vehicle smash into a pole.

Police arrived to find the heavily

damaged hydro pole and power lines dangling all over the road. Officers also found the vehicle

responsible was empty. They learned the woman inside, Mariah Palocz, had already been

picked up by her mother. Officers went to her Port

Lambton home to speak with the pair. When they talked with the 22 year-old Palocz a strong smell

of alcohol was noted, along with slurred speech and heavily glossed eyes. It was enough to arrest her for impaired driving.

Breath tests at the Petrolia OPP station confirmed the officers' suspicions. Palocz approached nearly three times the legal limit with blood alcohol levels of .222 and .216.

Several aggravating factors were spelled out for the court by Crown Attorney Ryan Iaquinta. In addition to the high alcohol readings, Palocz caused an accident, left the scene and did it all on a G2 licence.

"Thankfully you didn't suffer any injury and no other person was hurt in the accident. But the risk associated with this incident was high," says Justice Deborah Austin.

Austin did tone down the Crown's requested punishment though.

Iaquinta's proposed \$3,500 fine was reduced to \$3,000 and the victim fine surcharge waived. Restitution to Hydro One for the

pole was knocked down from \$9,057 to \$6,184 - the normal cost to simply replace the pole, not including additional administrative charges added by Hydro One.

Palocz is also on 12 months probation where she'll take counselling for alcohol abuse. There's a one year driving ban, but if Palocz can pay off her fines in three months she can apply for the ignition interlock program.

- THE INDEPENDENT

St. Clair man pleads guilty to possessing child porn after wife finds photos on his phone

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

A visit to the strip club ended with a disturbing discovery in the photo gallery of a man's cell phone.

The 38 year-old man's crimes came to light during a March 2020 weekend. He told his wife he was going to a friend's house. When he still hadn't returned home at 12:30 am his wife did a location check

on his phone.

It turned out her husband was taking in the local adult entertainment scene. Furious, she told him not to bother coming home.

But two hours later he did return to their southern St. Clair home. "heavily intoxicated" court heard. The couple argued before the man went to the bathroom to vomit. He then passed out in bed despite his wife telling him to go sleep

somewhere else.

She took this opportunity to look through his phone for evidence of his night out. But what she found was worse than anything she'd imagined.

The phone was full of photos of underage girls, some as young as four, performing sexual acts on adult men.

She immediately called police and her husband was arrested for possession of child

pornography.

A forensic analysis showed the images were taken sometime between 2013 to 2015. Court did not hear where they originated.

Sentencing isn't on the immediate horizon as the man is preparing to take several other charges to trial.

Defence Lawyer Jamie Guggisberg says if his client is found guilty it would make sense to settle all charges at once, though he added he's "not anticipating that to be the outcome.'

Justice Anne McFadyen agreed to adjourn sentencing to after the trial.

For now the man will return Sept. 20 for an update on his presentence report.

A publication ban on the man's name is in place to protect the identities of other people involved in the case.

- THE INDEPENDENT

