

# The Independent

Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton

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## Take Two: Lambton goes blue

Heather Wright  
The Independent

After a 36 day campaign, not much has changed on the federal political landscape.

Conservative Marilyn Gladu, the incumbent Conservative, easily won the Sarnia-Lambton seat Monday night.

Gladu will sit for a third term in the House of Commons after raking in 24,835 votes in the 2021 Federal Election - that's 46.2 per cent of the popular vote.

In Lambton-Kent-Middlesex, Lianne Rood, the Conservative incumbent, was returned to office with nearly 49 per cent of the vote.

And the Liberal Party holds the balance of power, forming a minority government with 158 seats. The Conservatives exit the election with the same number of seats as 36 days ago, 121. In the local ridings, the People's Party of Canada - which harnessed the frustration of people tired of the pandemic - garnered between 11 and 15 per cent of the vote, with at least one of the candidates expressing disgust that voters would return Justin Trudeau to power.

In Sarnia-Lambton, Gladu was declared winner of the riding about an hour after the polls closed.

Her next closest competitor, the NDP's Adam Kilner, garnered 21 per cent of the vote - 13,567 votes less than Gladu and about 1,000 votes less than he earned in the 2019 election. The Liberals Lois Nantais brought in 19 per cent of the vote with 10,264 votes with all but one poll reporting. The Liberals also lost around 2,000 votes over the 2019 results.

Even Gladu didn't poll as strongly as in the 2019 campaign, with 3,788 fewer votes this time around.

Green Party also took a hit, losing about a third of its vote haul in 2019.

Voter turnout was down from about 69 per cent of eligible voters to 58 per cent this time around, but some of those votes may have been parked with the PPC's Brian Everaert.

Everaert, running for the party for the second time, harnessed anti-pandemic lockdown sentiments to pull in 6,114 votes this time around - about 11.4 per cent. That's up from 1,587 last time around.

The local campaign was chippy at best - and according to Gladu - "toxic" at the worst. While she didn't point directly at Everaert, she did say there were "lies" about her and her positions throughout the campaign. That's something she says has not happened before.

For Gladu, the win was bittersweet. The Conservatives were shooting for a majority government and potentially a cabinet position for the former leadership candidate.

Instead, the party ended up with the same number of seats as the last election. And that stung a little.

"It's tough," says Gladu. "But I think what I've shown in the last six years is that as opposition MP, I got \$300 million in funding for our riding. So being a collegial MP, to work across the aisles, I can line up to where the government's agenda matches Sarnia-Lambton's agenda, and get what we need for the people here."

In Lambton-Kent-Middlesex, where Rood - the incumbent drew 49 per cent of the vote, she raised eyebrows after declining to appear at any all candidates debates. She told reporters she was ill for the first debate in Strathroy, but then made a choice to go door-to-door instead.

"With it being COVID...we had to approach this campaign a little differently than other campaigns in the past."

SEE CONSERVATIVE PG 2



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

MP Elect Marilyn Gladu talks with supporters after being declared the winner in Sarnia-Lambton in Monday's federal election. Below Lianne Rood is congratulated by her former boss, former Lambton-Kent-Middlesex MP Bev Shipley Monday night after reclaiming the seat for the Conservatives.



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# Editorial

## Get back to work

There is a bitter taste in many people’s mouths after the results of the federal election rolled in Monday. They’re angry that a \$610 million election over 36 days ended with the same result.

After 36 days of campaigning, debates, platforms in glossy covers, anger and frustration - and yes even literal rock throwing - Canadians went to the polls, cast their ballots and returned many of the same people to the same jobs as held by them 37 days ago.

That’s the case in the two ridings in our readership area where both Incumbent Conservatives Dave Epp and Lianne Rood returned to the House of Commons. Rood was returned with relatively the same margins as the first time around. Epp on the other hand, had a tougher time of it this go round, loosing about 5,000 votes compared to the 2019 election.

He can thank the People’s Party of Canada for that, it garnered 14.6 per cent of the vote this time - over 7,700 people went purple.

The PPC also had a strong showing in Lambton-Kent-Middlesex, with about 6,600 votes or 10 per cent of the vote - but not enough to make a dent in Rood’s support.

While that scene played out in many ridings, the result was still the same, the Liberals under Justin Trudeau will be the governing party.

So was it a gigantic waste of money as many people believe? We’re not sure. First, it is always a privilege to be able to vote - doing so is never useless.

We think Canadians have sent politicians of all stripes a very clear message - the same one sent in 2019; we’re not convinced any of you should be running the country - how about you work together instead.

Apparently it was a message that needed to be repeated.

What should the parties take from all this? What they’re doing isn’t working. People are frustrated and tired of the same rhetoric from politicians who say they represent the people and instead do whatever their party dictates. In rural Ontario, they’re tired of being ignored for the vote-rich urban areas.

In fact all electors, we would guess, are tired of being seen as a vote to be purchased. How about some long term planning and fairness for those who need help the most? That might lead to a majority government.

## Letters to the Editor

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

## Our Story



PETROLIA HERITAGE PHOTO

The Normandy Hotel was located downtown where the former Petrolia Bowling alley was that burnt down a few years ago. Mr. Calahan's Liquor Store, seen above, was next door to the hotel and its bar.

## Thoughts on a much different federal election

For geeked out journalists, Election Night is about as exciting as things get. Yet this campaign has kind of fizzled. It was the election nobody but the Prime Minister wanted. Half of the campaign was during the dog days of August. And of course it was during a pandemic that also led to a lot less engagement.

There were far less high profile public events. Only one leader came to Lambton - the People’s Party of Canada’s Maxime Bernier.

That Inwood event was like an old fashioned gospel tent meeting and while the crowd of about 400 was clearly on Bernier’s side, they had to be cajoled into chanting. You might call it forced fervour when the guy holding the camera directs everyone to chant PPC adding “the whole world is watching!”

Debates used to be THE event locally. The local chamber of commerce event would draw hundreds of

people with snappy questions coming from the floor. This year, there were no big debates - thank you COVID-19 - and those that did happen online didn’t even attract all the candidates.

In three decades of covering elections, I’ve never seen that before.

Like so many other things, the world of elections is rapidly changing, leaving the breathless evenings of breaking local news behind.

Maybe my first Election Night set the bar high for future events. A green journalist working in radio in Sarnia, I was sent to cover the Clearwater election. It lead to its amalgamation with Sarnia.

The township staff were none to happy the pro amalgamation candidates were winning big, so, they simply didn’t post the results. The big paper grid with the polling stations and candidates names stayed empty for hours. I don’t know how many times the anchor of the live event came to me

and I said, “Well John, there are still no results in Clearwater.”

The 1995 Quebec Referendum, where we came within a whisker of losing the country, was also a nail biter. I can remember watching late into the night, talking with Franco Ontarians about the vote, hoping with them the country would stay together.

Those group experiences, of meeting up with reporters and citizens and sharing a moment in history, were few and far between this time around.

Hopefully, no one was too stuck on the remote election style and we can return to a more electric atmosphere - maybe in another two years?



Heather Wright

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# Lambton officer guilty of search teens personal info

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

A Lambton County OPP officer plead guilty in Sarnia Superior Court Friday to misusing his power by performing numerous unauthorized searches of personal information while on the job.

Craig Johnston, 34, entered his plea to one charge of accessing police databases without authorization, remotely by video before Justice Michael McArthur three years after he was charged. He received an absolute discharge avoiding a criminal record leaving a chance of returning to active duty.

Johnston’s ordeal is far from over though as he still faces a Police Services Act prosecution to decide the future of his employment with the OPP.

Johnston has been suspended with pay since February 2018 after his infractions were discovered.

During the summer of 2017 Johnston was assigned as a mentor officer through the OPP West Region Police Ethnic and Cultural Exchange program (PEACE) with Aamjiwnaang First Nation. Johnston’s student was an 18 year-old girl from Aamjiwnaang interested in becoming a police officer.

Over the course of July and August Johnston did several record checks on the girl as well as two men, a former and a current boyfriend. At times this was done in the presence of his young partner and the information shared with her.

Court heard the personal information obtained, along with Johnston’s personal advice, were “factors leading to (girl’s) decision to end her relationship (with current boyfriend), believing it was good for her goal of becoming a police officer.”

Record checks by police made for personal reasons and unrelated to a case are illegal under the Criminal Code.

As for why Johnston was looking up the girl in the first place, Defence Lawyer Nick Cake says his client “suspected that a complete background check had not been completed on her prior to her acceptance into the program.”

“He really didn’t know who was

seated beside him and who he was involving in his day-to-day life as a criminal investigator,” says Cake, noting the girl herself “did nothing to raise Const. Johnston’s suspicions. This is not a question of her personal integrity.”

The Crown didn’t buy this excuse, arguing for a conditional discharge as opposed to Cake’s request for an absolute discharge. The former would come with probation conditions.

“If there was a concern with regard to the student the direction was to contact the PEACE coordinator... not to do your own searches,” says Crown Attorney Brian White.

“This isn’t a momentary mistake... This is a repeated mistake,” White says of the four searches Johnston did. “Why would you need to continue to screen this student repeatedly?”

Johnston also “used the system in her presence both to show her how it works as well as to show her how social media and association on social networks may be a detriment to the police application process,” says Cake.

Cake highlighted positive reviews Johnston received from OPP. He’s described as an “asset to the OPP, meeting expectations and at times exceeding them... without a doubt one of the hardest working and most proactive officers within Lambton County,” read one report from the department.

Cake also says his client has been taking counselling since the incident came to light and “gained insight into his triggers and has an understanding of how his decisions affect others around him.”

White continued to push for the more serious sentence based on Johnston’s position in the community. “The concern here... is the importance of safeguarding the overall integrity, confidentiality and security of the personal information that’s been trusted to police officers,” he says.

The Crown also suggested the collateral damage the incident could have on relationship building between the police and First Nations people.

“The Aamjiwnaang First Nation puts considerable trust in putting forth their Indigenous youth for this

program. To respond to that in a way of suspicion toward the youth... and to have this kind of level of mistrust of this youth right from the get-go and then continuous mistrust throughout is concerning,” says White.

Cake denied Johnston’s actions had anything to do with race.

Johnston spoke briefly before McArthur departed to make his judgement. “I would like to take this opportunity to say I am sorry... My decisions in the summer of 2017 put a dark cloud over my career and my life in general.”

“I’ve taken the time off to really evaluate who I am and how I got to where I was... I want to get back out there, I want to continue to be a police officer,” says Johnston.

Following a brief recess McArthur returned with his decision. “The aggravating factor as raised here by all parties has been the fact that Mr. Johnston did this as part of his police duties,” says the justice.

But he says it’s a situation with “basically no violence or harm intended.” McArthur also noted Johnston’s time in therapy, his obeying of court orders and collateral consequences suffered.

“You’ve basically lived your entire life in the same community where this issue now comes up and undoubtedly that has had its own embarrassment,” says McArthur.

He felt an absolute discharge was in the best interests of both Johnston and the community, adding he thinks the case will send a message to other officers not to try anything similar.

“I can imagine this has been a hard and difficult lesson... You have gone through an ordeal unfortunately of your own making,” McArthur said. “It’s this court’s impression that you’ve done an exceedingly good job at addressing matters and I want to thank you for the steps you’ve taken in your career and particularly with respect to matters that can assure the people and the public that you might be serving in the continued future,” concluded McArthur.

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## CORRECTION

In the front page article: *Petrolia to encourage BIA* in the Sept. 16, 2021 edition of *The Independent*, the cost of the consulting firm preparing the BIA report was incorrect. It was \$5,000. The town did set aside \$25,000 to develop the ideas of the study including the BIA. And in Oct. 2019, in a presentation to council, it was suggested the fee for the businesses would be \$150. *The Independent* regrets the error and the confusion it may have caused.

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# Marking Legion Week with Drumhead Service in Watford



ALEX KURIAL/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTOS  
Members of the Royal Canadian Legions from across Lambton kicked off Legion Week with a Drumhead service in Watford Sunday. Drums were stacked in front of the monument and three flags placed on top of them to honour service members lost at air, land and sea. MP Lianne Rood and Warwick Mayor Jackie Rombouts laid wreaths during the ceremony. The service concluded with a flyover above the downtown.





## HERITAGE MOMENT



PHOTO CREDIT

History was on display as Petrolia Heritage and the Petrolia Community Theatre hosted the Historic Hillsdale Cemetery tour. Carol Graham, seen here on the left, was one of the theatre members to write short scenes about people who lived in Petrolia. Graham and Amy Nap performed a scene about the Bullen family, who came to Petrolia in 1903. Ted Bullen was an airman for the UK and Canadian Flying Corps during World War One. He was also the master of ceremonies at the 8:20 Club - a local talent review which started at 8:20. The actors performed the scenes dozens of times through the course of the tour held to raise money for cemetery maintenance.

## Fairbank Oil celebrates 160 years of production

The Independent

It's a milestone not many businesses have reached. Fairbank Oil is celebrating 160 years in business this year. The family owned oil company was started in 1861 by John Henry Fairbank. It's been run by successive generations and has been operated by his great grandson, Charlie, since 1972. JH Fairbank arrived in Oil Springs in the spring of 1861, without any cash to his name. The surveyor found hundreds of men toiling in the fields trying to find oil. He set to work. When the oil boom in Oil Springs faded, Fairbank struck oil in Petrolia. The boom in Petrolia lasted four decades, and he eventually became one of the founders of what today is known as Imperial Oil. One hundred and sixty years later, Charlie Fairbank still sells his crude to Imperial Oil. The 320 historic wells in



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Charlie Fairbank at the bull wheel at the 160 year old family company.

Oil Springs produce about 24,000 barrels of crude each year. The Fairbank Oil fields are part of a Canadian National Historic Site with the Oil Museum of Canada. They hope

to draw more attention to the area with an international conference on industrial heritage next summer as they continue to try to have the area declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

## No jail time for Corunna cocaine trafficker after he turns life around

Alex Kurial  
Local Journalism Initiative

A Corunna man avoided jail time for cocaine trafficking after the court recognized changes he's made since being arrested. Chris McArthur, 23, plead guilty to trafficking the drug in June. The January 2020 police raid in Sarnia where he was arrested yielded 13.45 grams of cocaine along with Xanax, codeine and \$1,000 cash. The cocaine, worth about \$1,350, "is on the lower end" of the trafficking spectrum according to Crown Attorney Brian Higgins. The prosecutor adds McArthur has no criminal record and "hasn't been in trouble since he was arrested."


A pre-sentence report says McArthur has improved "in terms of employment and lifestyle and motivation." The Corunna man also acknowledged how this has changed him. "Being arrested was one of the best things that happened to me. It's allowed me to get my life on track and get back to working." "I'm doing a lot better and I don't perceive myself committing any crimes in the future," says McArthur. A joint submission between Higgins and Defence Lawyer David Stoesser established a nine month conditional sentence. McArthur will spend the first five months under full house arrest and the final four on a curfew. After that he'll be on a year of probation. "You have recognized the value of

getting caught and bringing an end to something that you're putting behind you and moving forward in a more constructive way in your life," says Justice Deborah Austin. The justice says she has "confidence that you have taken this all very seriously and have been showing your compliance with the court system from your time of arrest." McArthur's sentence also includes a 10 year weapons ban, he must forfeit the items seized by police and will have to provide DNA to the court. He also has to stay away from three specific people, go to counselling for substance abuse and pay a \$200 fine.

- THE INDEPENDENT

### Notice of CLOSURE OF ROAD ALLOWANCE

The Council of the Township of Enniskillen has received a request to close a portion of an unopened road allowance within the municipality. The unopened road allowance is located in Lot 15 Concession 12 and is noted as a Lane in Registered Plan 52. The Council has determined that there is no municipal interest in maintaining the road allowance and proposes to close and sell the property to the abutting land owner. Additional information regarding this matter can be obtained on the municipal web site [www.enniskillen.ca](http://www.enniskillen.ca). A public meeting will be held on Monday October 4 2021 at 7 pm to provide an opportunity for public comment on the closure and sale of the unopened road allowance.

 Duncan McTavish, Clerk • [dmctavish@enniskillen.ca](mailto:dmctavish@enniskillen.ca)  
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The Municipal Council for the Corporation of the Village of Oil Springs is seeking a qualified and organized individual for the current position of Clerk-Treasurer to ensure the effective management and leadership of the affairs of the municipality. The Village of Oil Springs has a current and stable population of approximately 700 residents and is located in the County of Lambton. Several of the functions, responsibilities and aptitudes required of the successful candidate are generally acknowledged and are as follows:

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Applicants must have excellent communication skills including problem-solving aptitudes and should be in possession of a recognized municipal designation (AMCT or equivalent) or have appropriate knowledge in the field of municipal administration. Individuals should hold a post- secondary education in public administration or a similar related field of study such as Municipal Administration Program and Municipal Accounting and Finance Program. The individual should have an extensive background in accounting and financial management in order to fulfill the statutory office of Treasurer. **The qualified candidate will have experience in at least one (1) municipal election cycle.** The current salary depends on qualifications, experience, skills and appropriate knowledge and will be subject to negotiation with the Municipal Council. The Village offers a benefit package after probation period of three (3) months and participates in the OMERS Pension Program. We wish to thank all applicants for their interest in submitting an application, however, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. Qualified applicants are invited to submit their cover letter and resume, in complete confidence, **no later than Wednesday, October 6th** at the following email address: [administration@oilsprings.ca](mailto:administration@oilsprings.ca)



### TOWN OF PLYMPTON-WYOMING NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF AN OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT

**TAKE NOTICE** that on September 13th 2021 the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming passed by-law 80 of 2021 under Section 26(1) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, to adopt Official Plan Amendment (OPA) No. 54. **THE PURPOSE OF OPA No. 54** is to revise policies of the Official Plan through consultation with the public, various Town and County departments and external agencies to which the policies may be applicable. This amendment includes new opportunities for development and strengthens environmental regulations in the Town. This amendment includes policies for improved administration and enhanced readability/understanding of the Plan. OPA 54 is the Five Year Review of the Town's Official Plan. OPA No. 54 is being submitted to the County of Lambton for approval under Section 17(34) of the Planning Act. Any person or public body is entitled to receive notice of the County's decision if a written request (including the person or public body's address) is made to the County of Lambton, Planning and Development Services Department, Box 3000, 789 Broadway Street, Wyoming, ON, N0N 1T0 Phone: 519-845-0801 E-mail: [planning@county-lambton.on.ca](mailto:planning@county-lambton.on.ca). The notice of decision from the County of Lambton will set out requirements for making such an appeal. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** is available for inspection during regular office hours (weekdays from 8:30am to 4:30pm) at the Municipal Office, 546 Niagara Street, Wyoming, ON. **DATED AT THE TOWN OF PLYMPTON-WYOMING THIS 15th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.**  
Erin Kwarciak  
Clerk  
Town of Plympton-Wyoming  
546 Niagara St., Box 250  
Wyoming, ON, N0N 1T0  
(519) 845-3939  
[ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca](mailto:ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca)



# Sports

## OMHA says teen players will have to be double vaccinated

**Barry Wright**  
The Independent

Despite being given the leeway to exempt players under the age of 18 from being vaccinated in order to play this season, the Ontario Minor Hockey Association says it would rather take a cautious approach.

Following a weekend meeting, the body which oversees many minor hockey associations across the province, including Petrolia, East Lambton, Mooretown and Lambton Shores in our readership

region, says it will continue to require all players 12 and up to be double vaccinated by the end of October.

“The Ontario government considers its regulations to be a baseline and allows organizations and businesses to supplement further measures to ensure the health and safety of participants,” stated an OMHA news release issued Monday.

The release went on to say that the decision was made after a presentation of Ontario’s Medical of Health, Dr. Kieran Moore, that

indicates indoor sports, including hockey, remains a high-risk activity for the spread of the virus.

“The OMHA’s Board of Directors have reaffirmed their commitment to provide the safest environment possible for our participants, to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and to mitigate further restrictions and disruption to programming.”

As of press time, the Alliance Hockey of Ontario which oversees among others, the Lambton Junior Sting “AAA” program is also requiring all its players 12 and up

to double vaccinated by the end of next month.

Effective Wednesday, September 22 Ontarians had to show proof of vaccination downloaded from a provincial website to dine indoors, go to bars and night clubs, concert halls, theaters, and arenas to watch sport events.

An Ontario Ministry of Health spokesperson recently told *The Independent of Petrolia and Central Lambton* vaccinations for those under 18 to play sports are not necessary because the province wants to promote physical fitness

and mental wellness among its young people under the rules developed for the vaccination passport from the provincial government.

“Children and youth under 18 will not be required to show proof of vaccination to enter the indoor areas of a facility used for sports and recreational fitness activities solely for the purpose of actively participating in an organized sport, in accordance with guidance published by the Ministry of Health on its website,” officials told *The Independent*.

## Flyers have four chance to notch preseason win

The Independent

The Petrolia Flyers will again try to hit the win column this Thursday when they host the North Middlesex Stars at the Greenwood Recreation Centre at 7:30. It’ll be the first of three exhibition contests in four nights to wrap up the tune up season.

The Flyers visit Parkhill on Saturday before returning home to entertain the Exeter Hawks on Sunday at 7:30.

Last Sunday, the Flyers were on the wrong end of a 5-3 score against the Mt. Brydges Bulldogs.

Nathan Clatworthy, Noah Harse and Logan McLinchey scored for Petrolia while Payton Armitage contributed two assists.

Ethan Everaert, Cole Irwin and Tyler

Richardson each played a period between the pipes for the Flyers. They made a combined 23 saves.

Petrolia opens its 2021-22 regular season against the Flags in Mooretown on Saturday, Oct. 2.

Meantime, the Flags close out its preseason schedule with a pair of games, Friday and Sunday, against the Bulldogs in Mt. Brydges.

Mooretown registered 9-2 and 6-1 victories in exhibition games last week against Wallaceburg and Dresden. Greg Hay had the hat trick against the Thunderhawks while Noan Farr contributed a goal and four assists.

Mason Flett had two goals for Mooretown against the Junior Kings.

## Former Oilers named to Rocket’s leadership

The Independent

Petrolia’s Carson Perry will wear the C this season for the GOJHL’s Strathroy Rockets.

He and fellow Petrolia Oiler grad Blake Hull were named to the leadership group last week. Hull, from Oil Springs, will be an assistant captain this season.

Both players are entering their fourth season with the Rockets, although neither played last year due to the COVID-19

pandemic.

Perry had seven goals and 24 points in 39 games during the 2019-20 campaign, while Hull scored twice and added 21 assists in 43 games.

The Rockets open the new regular season at home at the West Middlesex Memorial Centre on Saturday night against the LaSalle Vipers. Game time is 7:30.

Meanwhile, the Sarnia Legionnaires also open their regular season on Saturday. They entertain the St. Thomas Stars at 7:10.

## Alvinston Killer Bees open Super League action

The Alvinston Killer Bees were part of history Sunday as part of a preseason doubleheader in the newly formed Western Ontario Super Hockey League.

The Bees go into penalty trouble and surrendered three power play goals in the

first period in a 7-1 loss to the Stratford Fighting Irish. Alex Cunningham had the lone goal for Alvinston.

The Killer Bees drop the puck on the regular season against Elora in Alvinston on Oct. 2.

## Peer, North Stars ranked second in preseason poll

The Battlefords North Stars of the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League are ranked second in the country in a preseason poll for teams in the Canadian Junior Hockey League. After beginning his junior

career with the Sarnia Legionnaires, Oil City’s Carson Peer headed west and is part of the North Star roster for the 2021-22 campaign. The Stars open their regular season Friday night.

## Mclean leads Falcons in weekend split

Jenna McLean had four hits and six RBI in a four-game weekend split by the Fanshawe Falcons in OCAA women’s softball action.

The first-year nursing student from Watford also scored a run.

One of the two Fanshawe losses was to the Durham Lords.

Alvinston’s Sydney Redick got the start

for Durham against the Falcons.

The sophomore registered a no-decision after pitching into the fourth inning, striking out five batters. Durham is 2-1 on the season.



Jenna Mclean



The Independent  
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■ Floater	■ Production Manager	

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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

## Celebration of Life

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE - JOYCE MARILYN VANDERZWART**  
*September 30th, 1945 – March 10th, 2021*



Saying goodbye is never easy. Joyce was a woman of character who never missed an occasion to get together. Please join her family and friends on **Thursday, September 30, 2021** to commemorate her life. This Celebration of Life will take place at the Petrolia Lions Club, 451 Huggard Street, Petrolia; open house from 5-8 p.m. with a short program at 6:30. Let's give Joyce the proper send off she deserves!

## Obituary



**ZAVITZ**  
Mildred Jean (n. Jaques)

Jean - Died peacefully surrounded by family on Saturday, September 18, 2021 at C.E.E. Hospital in Petrolia. **Mildred Jean Zavitz (nee Jaques), of Petrolia**, was in her **92nd year**. Jean was the loving wife of the late Sandy Zavitz (2002). She was the loving mother of Sandra and Carl Martin, the late Doug (2017) and Ellen Zavitz, Stephen and Terry Zavitz, Larry and Linda Zavitz, Charlie and Karen Zavitz, and Joanne and Scott Carson. Jean was predeceased by a son-in-law Ron Duffy (1969). She was a beloved grandmother to sixteen grandchildren, nineteen great grandchildren, and two great great grandchildren. Jean will be missed by her siblings Ruby (the late Jack(2007)) Nickels, Verna St. Denis, Ken (the late Christine (2020)) Jaques, and Hazel (the late Wayne (2020)) Miner. Jean was predeceased by her parents Leonard and Irene Jaques. Jean was a long time member of O.E.S. #34 Britannia Chapter. **Visitors will be received at the Needham-Jay Funeral Home, Petrolia on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 in the afternoon, to attend please register at <https://signup.com/go/AxZoSnq>. A private service will be held with interment in Resurrection Cemetery, Sarnia.** As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society ([www.cancer.ca](http://www.cancer.ca)) or C.E.E. Hospital Foundation ([www.ceehf.ca](http://www.ceehf.ca)). **Memories and condolences may be shared online at [www.needhamjay.com](http://www.needhamjay.com).**

“Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal”

– UNKNOWN

## Obituary



**WHITELY**  
John Joseph "Jack"

Passed away at the Welland Hospital on **Saturday, September 18, 2021** in his **88th year**. Loving father of Elizabeth Duchesne (Laurent), Brenda Thorsten (Hugh), Douglas Whitely (Laurie), Deborah Maiuk (Casey), Dianne Holmes (Dan), Michael Whitely (Harriette) and Janet Whitely. He will be lovingly remembered by his 11 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren. Predeceased by his parents Phillip and Elizabeth Whitely, sister Rita Gavigan, brother Lawrence Whitely and sister-in-law Norma Whitely. He is survived by his brothers Donald Whitely, Leo Whitely (Lorraine) and Leonard Whitely (Dodie) and sister-in-law Vonnice Whitely. The family will receive their friends at the **H. L. Cudney Funeral Home, 241 West Main Street, Welland on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. The Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Welland on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock. To view the service, please go to the Facebook page HL Cudney Funeral Home Inc. Thursday, September 23rd at 9:55 a.m. Rite of Committal will follow at Holy Cross Cemetery.** If desired, memorial donations may be made to the Kidney Foundation or Heart and Stroke Foundation. Due to the funeral home's capacity lining-up and cycling of guests will be managed by the funeral home staff both indoors and outdoors **Online condolences available at [www.cudneyfuneralhome.com](http://www.cudneyfuneralhome.com).**

## 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.**

## Obituary



leaving behind his wife, Erma and their 3 daughters, Robin (Wayne) Walker, Barb (Jim) Hyatt and Bonnie (Barry) Kershaw. He was Grandpa to Wade, Leslie (Eric), Robbie, Luke, Dale (Ashley), Alana, Michael and Great Grandpa to Marleigh and Collin. He loved spending time with his grandchildren - the delights of his eye. He is also survived by his brother John (the late Addie) Wright, sister Annette (the late Elmer) Feltham and many nephews and nieces. Predeceased by his parents Eber and Flora Wright, brothers Carman (Betty), Bruce (JoAnn) and Jim Wright. Bob was always willing to help out in a moment's notice. He was a friend to all, a man of integrity, wisdom, a man of vision and a great listening ear. His career as an OPP officer (Chatham, Harrow and Petrolia) lead him and his family moving to Oil Springs in 1970 where they lived on a farm for many years. He was a community-minded man who always looked for opportunities to help his neighbours and volunteered over the years for Lambton Elderly Outreach and The Petrolia Lions. He loved playing baseball as well as coaching and became an avid golfer in his senior years. Although his decline due to Alzheimer's over the last several years was difficult, he still had a smile for those around him. The family is very thankful to all the staff at Meadowview Villa and Dr. Mall for their care and compassion. \*Till we meet again in Heaven; we will miss you dearly Dad.\* Per Bob's request, cremation and a private burial will take place at Oil Springs Cemetery. In Lieu of flowers; donations can be made to C.E.E. Hospital Foundation [ceehf.ca](http://ceehf.ca), Alzheimer Society of Sarnia Lambton (Alzheimer Society of Sarnia-Lambton) or New Life Assembly Church, Petrolia ([newlifepetrolia.com](http://newlifepetrolia.com)). (Cheques mailed to Funeral Home). Memories and condolences may be sent online at [www.steadmanbrothers.ca](http://www.steadmanbrothers.ca). Arrangements entrusted to STEADMAN BROTHERS FUNERAL CHAPELS, Brigidon 519-864-1193.

## Obituary

**DODGE**  
Gerald Simpson

Gerald Simpson Dodge (1936 - 2021) of Williams Lake B.C. passed away September 7, 2021. Son of the late Lawson & Daisy Dodge of Wanstead, Ontario. Survived by his wife Muriel, daughters Sharon, Brenda, son Gordon, grandson Justin, sister Maxine Ducharme, brother Bill. Predeceased by brothers Ross, Morley, Elmer, Jim and sisters Florence, Dorothy and Betty. For many years Gerald worked as an engineer with PGE Railway. He decided ranching was where he wanted to be, living around Williams Lake he will be missed by many. No service.

## Coming Event

**WEEKLY MEAT RAFFLES** - Saturdays from 2 to 4 pm at the Petrolia Legion. Purchase a stick for \$16 and it enters you into all the meat draws and 50/50 draws as well. Come out and support our Veterans and the Legion Branch #216 at 4129 Glenview Rd, Petrolia, please wear a mask and come enjoy a cold beverage with us. Thank you for supporting our local Legion!!!!

## BUYING

**Buying All Jewelry - Gold, Sterling, ALL COINS** - Friday Sept 24, Petrolia Legion, 457 Huggard St., Petrolia 9am-4pm - **Windup watches, All Coins**, Paper Money. **BUYING MILITARY+ Coins** -- Free Estimates any **GOLD & SILVER JEWELRY**, Mint sets, Sterling Flatware, **All COINS, CANADA, USA, WORLD**, 53 Years' Experience. House calls available Dan W. Jones B.A.Ed., 53 YEARS Exp., 519-818-1805

## Wanted to Buy

**ANTIQUES, UNIQUES, COLLECTIBLES and STUFF** - Phone Chad 519-639-9102.

## WRIGHT

Robert Cornelius

WRIGHT, Robert Cornelius - Freed from the shackles of Alzheimer's, Robert "Bob" Wright passed away peacefully on September 15, 2021 at his residence Lambton Meadowview Villa, Petrolia, Ontario. He was 91 years old. Bob was a devoted family man



## Welcome to the World Bobby Bradley Cole!

Dreams do come true! Curtis and Kaitlin Cole are thrilled to welcome their precious baby boy on September 12, 2021 weighing 7 lbs 10 oz.

He is surrounded with love from his grandparents: Brad and Loretta Randall, Scott and Kathy Roswell and Mark and Cheryl Cole. His great-grandparents: Bob and Betty Cole, Bob & Marilyn Johnson, Wilma Roswell and Bill and Lola Randall are thrilled to announce the newest member of the family.



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A hidden gem waiting for you in the quaint village of Warwick. Ideal home for a single professional, first time home buyers or downsizing seniors. This recently updated 2-bdrm home is in move-in condition and located conveniently half way between London and Sarnia and close to the 402. Enjoy the open concept livingroom, kitchen dining. Observe nature and the butterfly garden in the spacious rear yard. Numerous updates: energy efficient forced air gas furnace w/central air, vinyl windows and siding, roof shingles, kitchen, 4 pc bath, front deck and much more. Enjoy the comfort of an attached large garage and woodshed for the hobbyist. High speed internet is installed for you to work from home.

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# 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY REUNION

*First Baptist Church*

**SAT., SEPT. 25, 2021**  
**1 - 5 PM** @ 418 Greenfield St  
Petrolia



**First Baptist Church**  
Petrolia, Ontario  
**150th Anniversary**  
**May 1 2022**

Welcome to Past Attendees  
Drop In & Say Hello • Church Tours • BBQ  
Memories • Renew Old Friendships

*150 Years of Faith and Fellowship*

## NOW & THEN

*September 11, 1971 - September 11, 2021*

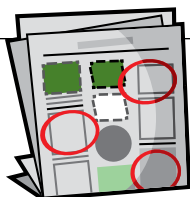
*Celebrating Fifty Years*

Jim & Deb Bygrove





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](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)

## Calendar

PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM  
DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

*of events*

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](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca) Subject: FREE EVENT LISTING.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
Sep 19-25			Legion Week 2021 – check your local Legion for events	
Sep 25	1-5p	Petrolia	Reunion Open House, First Baptist, Petrolia	
Sep 25	4-7pm	Petrolia	St Paul's United Church "100km Take-Out Dinner" advance tickets only, ordering deadline Sept 15, <a href="mailto:arsyer@brktel.on.ca">arsyer@brktel.on.ca</a> , call or text 519-383-9085	
Oct 2	3:30pm	Forest	Forest Legion Thanksgiving Double Meat Raffle	
Oct 14	7pm	Sarnia	Lambton Branch Ontario Genealogical Society Meeting in South Hall of LDS Church. Featuring Penny Walters, searching for ancestors when you are adopted. FREE open to public and members.	
Oct 23		Watford	Watford Legion Fish Fry	
Oct 29		Forest	Poppy Campaign begins. Forest Legion Flag raising	
Oct 30	11am	Watford	Watford Legion Dart Tournament	

### CLUBS AND REGULAR EVENTS

DAY	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
Mondays	7:00p	Watford	LEGION - Darts (starts Oct 18)	519-876-2360
Tuesdays	7:00p	Watford	LEGION - Euchre	519-876-2360
Thursdays	7:00p	Watford	LEGION - Cribbage	519-876-2360
Fridays	6:00p	Watford	LEGION - Meat Raffle & Catch the Ace	519-876-2360
Saturdays	2-4p	Petrolia	LEGION - Meat Raffle and 50/50 draws	519-882-1557
Saturdays	3:30p	Forest	LEGION - Meat Raffle with 50/50	519-786-5357
E/O Sat	4-6p	Oil Springs	LEGION - Meat Raffle and 50/50	519-834-2537
2nd Tues	7:00p	Sarnia	Lambton Br Ont Genealogical Society Meetings	519-339-8144

### Death Notices

#### Tuesday, September 7

**DODGE, Gerald Simpson**  
85 years, of Williams Lake BC

#### Tuesday, September 14

**SPINKS, Robert "Glen"**  
76 years, of Sarnia (formerly Petrolia)  
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

#### Wednesday, September 15

**BRESETT, Gertrude "Trudy" (n Ritchie)**  
89 years, of RR1 Croton  
Badder FH & Reception Centre

**WRIGHT, Robert "Bob" Cornelius**  
91 years, of Petrolia  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

#### Thursday, September 16

**CULLIGAN, Karen Eilleen**  
62 years, of Corunna  
Knight Funeral Home

**MARRIOTT, Helen "Jo-Anne" (n Sharp)**  
66 years  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

#### Saturday, September 18

**SPEELMAN, Margaret "JoAnn" (n Tedball)**  
73 years, of Wyoming  
Needham-Jay FH - Wyoming Chapel

**WHITELY, John Joseph "Jack"**  
87 years, of Welland  
HL Cudney Funeral Home

**ZAVITZ, Mildred Jean (n Jaques)**  
91 years, of Petrolia  
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

## WARWICK TOWNSHIP EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Public Works Department

**ONE (1) Public Works Labourer/Heavy Equipment Operator, Seasonal**  
**This is a Union Position, CUPE. Local 2393.3**  
**Wages based on approved CUPE Collective Agreement**

The Township of Warwick invites applications for one (1) full-time Seasonal Public Works Labourer/Heavy Equipment Operator to assist in day-to-day winter operations for the Public Works Department in an effective, efficient, safe and environmentally responsible manner. Monitor municipal roads to provincial minimum maintenance standards, conduct repairs, and maintain necessary records. Provide winter control, road and sidewalk maintenance under the direction of the Lead Hand and Manager of the Public Works Department. Successful applicant will work on a full time basis from November 15 to April 15 annually.

#### REQUIREMENTS:

- Ability to organize tasks and complete them on a timely and effective basis.
- Demonstrated knowledge in the use of appropriate equipment associated with the position: Backhoe, grader, tandem truck, tractor and vehicles.
- Physical ability to undertake significant physical labour.
- Required to be available for emergency response rotations as needed for overtime, including evenings, weekends, and holidays.
- Minimum DZ Ontario Driver's Licence for equipment outlined.
- Post-secondary certificate, preferably from a technical program; or an equivalent combination of experience and education.
- Courses in specific functions and/or equipment preferred (Winter Control, Road Grading, etc).

Resumes will be received until **12:00 noon on Friday, October 15th, 2021**

and shall be addressed to:

Andrew Maver – Public Works Manager  
Township of Warwick,  
6332 Nauvoo Road, R.R. #8  
Watford, Ontario N0M 2S0

Work (519) 849-3926 • Fax (519) 849-6136  
Email: [MEsselment@warwicktownship.ca](mailto:MEsselment@warwicktownship.ca)



For a copy of the job description email: [MEsselment@warwicktownship.ca](mailto:MEsselment@warwicktownship.ca)



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# Church DIRECTORY

**Christ Anglican Church**  
414 Oil Street, Petrolia  
*Welcome Back!*  
*In-person*  
*Church Services*  
*Sunday Mornings*  
*@ 11:00 am*  
Rev. Michelle Collins-Wongkee  
Church Office 519-882-1430  
[christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com](mailto:christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com)

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**  
416 Queen Street, Petrolia  
(Behind the Post Office)  
*In Person Service*  
*now back Sundays*  
*@ 10:00 a.m.*  
Services also available online:  
[www.standrews-petrolia.ca](http://www.standrews-petrolia.ca)  
Pastor John MacIntosh

**St. Paul's United Church**  
4169 Petrolia Line at Centre Street  
*In Person Services*  
*now taking place*  
*Sunday's @ 10am*  
Rev. Carey Wagner  
Church Office: 519-882-1390  
[www.stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net](http://www.stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net)

**First Baptist Church**  
418 Greenfield Street, Petrolia  
*IN PERSON*  
*CHURCH SERVICE*  
*Sunday Mornings*  
*10:30am*  
Pastor: Alex Craig  
Church Office 519-882-2480  
[fbcpetrolia@gmail.com](mailto:fbcpetrolia@gmail.com)  
[www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca](http://www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca)  
[www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia](https://www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia)

**Wyoming United Church**  
730 Second Street, Wyoming  
*In Person Services*  
*taking place*  
*Sunday's @ 9:30 am*  
Rev. Steven Longmoore  
Church Office 519-845-3963  
[wyoming\\_united@outlook.com](mailto:wyoming_united@outlook.com)  
Find us on Facebook



# Marking a milestone in Plympton-Wyoming



A plaque honouring the 175th anniversary of the Plympton-Wyoming Fall Fair was unveiled at the Plympton-Wyoming Ag Society building Friday night. Mayor Lonny Napper and Councillor Gary Atkinson - who is also a member of the agriculture society, were on hand along with Lambton County Warden Kevin Marriott, Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey and former president of the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies Brian Slaughter. There was also some fun on hand over the weekend. Logan Hoskin, 11, Natalie Hoskin, 6, and Arleigh McCormick, 3, arrived early to the family movie night to get a jump start on the cotton candy and other snacks provided by Dona and Ann Marie Belanger. A vintage tractor pull was held at the Plympton-Wyoming Fairgrounds on Saturday afternoon featuring a variety of classic tractors. And the 4H Beef Clubs held their shows as well. Champion heifer was Geordi Moffatt and reserve champion was Logan Sisson.

ALEX KURIAL/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO



# Thank You For Celebrating With Us!

175 YEARS IS TRULY A MILESTONE!



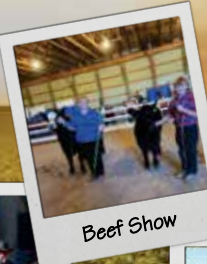
Plaque Unveiling



Tractor Pull  
Photo by Bill Siff



Volunteer Fire Dept.



Beef Show



Movie Night



Drive Thru Dinner



Good Music



Dairy Show

Our Virtual Pie Auction raised **over \$5,000** for C.E.E. to purchase CPR training mannequins. **Donations are still being accepted until Friday 24th. (519-845-0302)** Thanks to all the participants for their 53 auction items and vkauctions.ca for their assistance with the event.



[plympton-wyomingfair.com](http://plympton-wyomingfair.com)