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NEW CAT DIGS



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Julie Mederios takes a selfie as Ginny Williams watches the construction of the new Petrolia feral cat colony. The pair are the keepers of feral cats in Petrolia, using their own money and community donations to feed and neuter the animals. But recently, a Shell Canada employee helped connect the group to the company's Fuelling Kindness campaign which led to the construction of a more permanent shelter for the animals. See the full story on page 2.

No fees for development in Petrolia until after election

Heather Wright
The Independent

Housing developers will still get a break on fees in Petrolia - at least until the next election.

Petrolia, unlike the majority of municipalities in Ontario, does not charge development fees. It is a set fee based on the type of housing being built charged to the developer to pay for new infrastructure which will be needed in the future because of the development. For example, when new homes are built, municipalities often put parks in the community, including equipment which costs money to buy and maintain; development fees can help pay that cost instead of existing taxpayers.

At the Nov. 8 education session, council heard from BM Ross and Associates which outlined how it would look at the future needs of the town and come up with a fee for developers to pay. The firm would complete the work - which could have taken a year to do - for \$27,500.

But councillors were not ready to spend the cash. Councillor Ross O'Hara noted there is a lot of development coming in the next year.

SEE DEVELOPMENT PG 2

Majority of classes at Brigden Public sent home in COVID-19 outbreak

Heather Wright
The Independent

One of the biggest elementary school COVID-19 outbreaks in Lambton County appears to be easing.

That's according to the director of education at the Lambton-Kent District School Board who says students who were isolating are being told to return to class at Brigden Public School.

Seven students and two teachers tested positive for the virus in the

last two weeks. Lambton Public Health officials quickly determined the virus was being spread in the school and started sending classes home after being in contact with those who had the virus.

John Howitt says "multiple classes" were sent home because of the virus. "Being an elementary school, the majority of the students within the school are not eligible to be vaccinated so pretty consistently, class cohorts are dismissed when students are unvaccinated," says Howitt. "Given each of the

10 grade levels at Brigden are not eligible to be vaccinated it did impact a large number of students and classes."

Lambton's Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Sudit Ranade, says closing the school completely was the absolute last option considering what that does to the student's mental health and learning schedules. "What tends to happen before we would need to close the school is a school is effectively operationally closed, because so many children have been isolated."

Howitt says while the virus disrupted in-school classes, learning continued online.

"When the entire cohort dismissed, in many ways, it's actually easier to run the remote method than when some of the students are in person and some are at home.

"While the majority of the school's cohorts would have been dismissed at that time, given the ages of the students we're able to call for synchronous remote learning."

Life is now slowly returning to

normal at the rural school. Howitt says some classes have been cleared for a return.

And that is a relief to parents who had to make alternative arrangements to be at home during the isolation period.

"I think that's why we're hearing such interest in the vaccination eligibility happening, (for five to 11 year-olds) hopefully in a very short time frame," he says. It's expected elementary school students may begin vaccination by December.





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Grogan Ford Lincoln

Feral cats have new home, thanks to an animal lover and his employer's generosity

Heather Wright

The Independent

Julie Medeiros and Ginny Williams watched as their dream came true.

Wednesday, Cedar Echo employees built a 10 foot by 10 foot cat shelter and it was all made possible by a man the Caregivers of Petrolia's Feral Cats didn't know and a company which encourages employees to build up their community.

For over 25 years, Ginny Williams has been caring for the feral cats in Petrolia. She's used her own money to feed them and make sure they spay and neutered as many as possible. Julie Medeiros started helping with the venture about seven years ago. Johanne Tranquille had also helped for years, but moved from Petrolia just three weeks ago.

They were a low key group until March when some young children did damage to the colony's housing – cat containers and straw up against a fence. Three kittens were taken.

The community reached out to help and the Caregivers of Petrolia's Ferals Group has been getting some financial support to help feed and care for the animals which live in the downtown area.

But it was a call by Chris Slote-Anderson, a maintenance supervisor at Shell Canada, which really turned things around. Slote-Anderson read an article in *The Independent* about the damage done to the colony and felt moved to help.

"In the story where it said that with the kids kind of messing with the cats – it kind of broke my heart," he says.

Shell Canada has an assistance program called Fueling Kindness. Employees can work with community groups to help secure grants for whatever is needed. Slote-Anderson approached his boss asking if helping the feral cats in Petrolia might be something the project would consider. Shell gave the green light.

Cedar Echo workers put together the new cat colony in Petrolia.

Slote-Anderson contacted Medeiros and Williams offering to purchase a 10 foot by 10 foot

wood shed complete with a porch – about a \$10,000 value – to be the cats new home.

"I just have a heart for animals," says Slote-Anderson.

"Shell does great with the United Way – the big charities – but I think sometimes just helping out a little group has way more impact, like, dollar for dollar."

The offer was a huge relief for Williams and Medeiros who worry about the health and safety of the cats through the winter.

"These girls were crying the day we said we were going to help out," says Slote-Anderson as he watched the contractors put together the new colony recently.

"I can't tell you how happy I am to see this," Williams said as she watched the men working, adding it is "a dream come true."

"It's a much healthier environment because we deal with a lot of veterinary issues," says Medeiros. "Cats can get sick from just being in a dirty area."

It will also save a lot of work in the long run. "As caregivers, we are going to be able to manage far better from what we were dealing with. Previously, it was a yearly cleanup and finding resources to maintain it and rebuild it and it was quite an exhausting process," says Williams.

The new home for the cats is only part of the story. Shell is providing \$2,000 for veterinary bills to help with keeping the cat population down. "Now, we are doing some rescue work within Petrolia and the immediate area, it's our responsibility to ensure that feral cats are not reproducing at a rate that can't be handled, that's always the goal is to stop reproduction, keep the ones that exist healthy," says Medeiros.

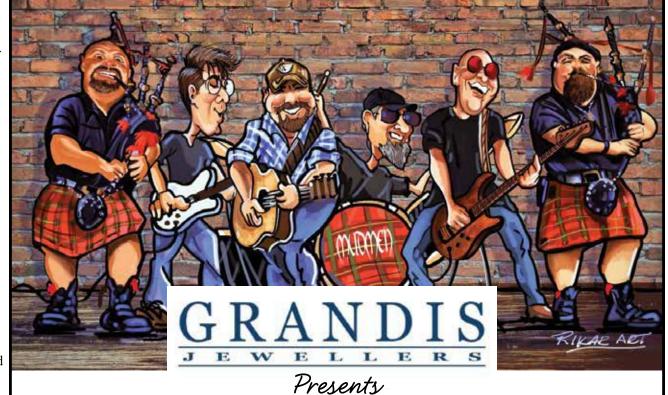
And Shell is walking the group through the process to become a registered charity.

"We do get some monetary donations, which has helped us a

lot. But we intend on fundraising, because we have such wonderful support," says Medeiros, adding right now they aren't able to give tax receipts. As a charity, they will.

By Wednesday evening, the cats followed Williams and Medeiros – and the food they were carrying – to their new home complete with their cat containers and a cat door so they can come and go as they please to roam the property already familiar to them in the downtown area.

And Slote-Anderson is pleased he and the company he works for could be a part of it. "Providing the cats a safe place was important to me"



Development fees delayed

CON'T FROM PG 1

O'Hara says he's not "opposed totally" to development charges but now is not the right time to implement them.

"We have a lot of things on our books, a lot of developments that could happen, and I would rather look at this year-by-year and maybe next year down the road," he told council.

Councillor Grant Purdy agreed, asking "Why do we need to spend that kind of money?" on a consultant at this time.

Councillor Wade Deighton wondered what has changed over the past five years "that now, all of the sudden, this is a hot topic."

Mayor Brad Loosley explained that more than a decade ago, when there wasn't a lot of housing development in town, the council of the day wanted to make the community more attractive to developers. It waived permit fees and decided not to follow the lead of other municipalities and take advantage of new provincial legislation allowing municipalities to charge development fees.

"When we look back, I think for years, it did work as far as attracting (developers) because now we're competing with development all over in Bright's Grove, along the lake and along the (St. Clair) River. I do believe it did help at that time."

Petrolia now has the second highest growth rate in Lambton - second only to Plympton-Wyoming in the last census. All the other municipalities now seeing major growth already have development fees. Plympton-Wyoming now charges nearly \$11,000 for every single family home built.

Council decided to put off the decision to the next council which will be elected in 2022 - saving the \$27,500 fee.

However CAO/Treasurer Rick Charlebois reminded council the development fee report is a complex document that has to be done by a consultant. It could take a year or even two he said. And then, he added, much of the development now on the books would not be charged any fee at all.



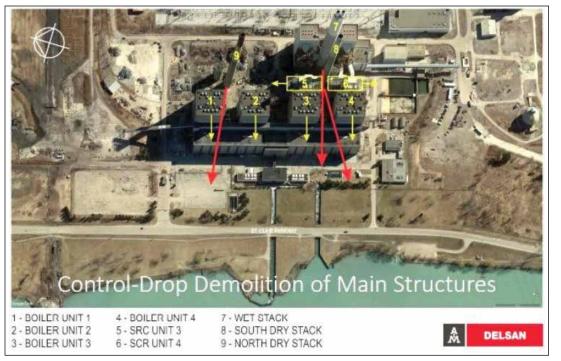
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A map of the planned demolition of the OPG station. The power company will meet with neighbours about the demolition in December.

Arnold expects OPG will take heat for blast

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

In just three months, the towering coal power plant which has dominated the St. Clair Township skyline for more than 50 years will disappear.

The Ontario Power Generation coal plant which was closed by the McGuinty government will be reduced to a heap of scrap metal following dynamite demolition of the four boilers, three stacks and two selective catalytic reduction units comprising the structure.

Destruction is scheduled for sometime in the first two weeks of February. Demolition company DELSAN-AIM says this period was chosen to avoid the migratory bird and fish spawning seasons.

There's not an exact date since the company will need to wait for the right wind conditions to avoid dust from the blasts blowing over the St. Clair River. The company needs 20 km/h of wind blowing southeast, so any dust spreads over land.

Not everyone on council was thrilled with this prospect, especially Councillor Bill Myers who was worried the dust could damage private properties.

Karim Ahmad El-Khatib, general manager of operations for DELSAN-AIM, says the "dust cloud will be nuisance dust as opposed to hazardous dust."

El-Khatib says the company has taken safety steps to reduce dust toxicity such as removing asbestos and cleaning all the structures and he doesn't expect any property damage. He agreed with Councillor Tracy Kingston though on sending a letter to all residents within one kilometre of the blast explaining what's going to take place.

OPG Manager Ralph Curitti says the company will perform any power washing or cleanup if a property gets too dusty.

Mayor Steve Arnold, a long-time opponent of explosive demolition, reiterated his opposition to the plan.

"I've never been in favour of the blast and I will never be in favour of the blast."

"I think there's other ways this could have been done, albeit more expensive, but I think it could have been done a lot better than just a large blast," says the mayor.

Arnold cautioned El-Khatib the company should expect a frosty public reception at an open house for the project Dec. 2 at the Courtright Fire Hall.

"We're very gentle here on this council but you won't have gentle people there on the second," says Arnold. "I'll guarantee that it will not be a nice night for you."

The mayor is also concerned about potential impacts from blast vibration. "You're in an area that's very vulnerable. Whatever you do there as far as vibration, we may say that it's only a little bit, but you still have some major infrastructure works there that could be affected."

DELSAN-AIM presented several other safety strategies they're employing prior to demolition including creating barriers to contain dust and debris at the blast site and creating a 500 metre exclusion zone for public safety.

One property is slightly inside the exclusion zone on the southern end of the parkway. El-Khatib says his company will be meeting with the owner to discuss plans for demolition day.

Police will be blocking off car and foot traffic along the St. Clair Parkway in both directions and Oil Heritage Road to the east around blast time. DELSAN-AIM also has a private security firm which will be performing guard work closer to the site.

Cleanup following demolition will run until the end of 2022.

Two more Lambton residents die of COVID-19

The Independent

Two more people have died of COVID-19 in Lambton County.

Lambton Public Health officials say a person in their 60s and another in their 80s died on the same day at Bluewater Health of the virus which has so far claimed 73 lives in Lambton and 29,385 lives across Canada.

The number of cases in Ontario is on the rise with the weekly average of new cases at 579 each day.

Tuesday there were 481 new infections across Ontario. Lambton reported 13 new cases.

In all 37 people in Lambton County are ill with the virus with four outbreaks at schools, workplaces and Bluewater Health.





Brooke-Alvinston considers walking trail in village

Heather Wright

The Independent

Brooke-Alvinston councillors seem to like the idea of a walking path in the village of Alvinston, but where it will go is still up for debate.

Recently, residents approached council about creating a walking trail similar to the Reece's Corners to Wyoming trail along Nauvoo Road. Council tasked staff with looking into the idea.

Public Works Manager Randy Hills says while a walking path is not a bad idea, the location may be a problem.

The path would have to cross the busy county road - that would require Lambton County's ap-

proval and likely a flashing pedestrian crosswalk. Hills also told council Nov. 10, the path would have to cross a number of private properties and council may have to purchase some land.

Hills estimated the path could cost about \$226,900 and that wasn't including any land costs.

But the public works manager raised an alterative plan - one a member of the parks committee raised recently. Hills suggested a gravel path could be built near the arena through the gate which leads to River Street. Sidewalks could then be placed along the road to create a new trail.

Council liked the idea and asked Hills to investigate what might be needed for the project.

Editorial

Petrolia's lame duck

It seems to be lame-duck season in Petrolia.

As we head toward an Oct. 2022 election, it seems councillors in town are not prepared to make difficult decisions about things like development charges. And that's baffling considering all things.

Petrolia has seven different developments in various stages of planning. There are literally hundreds of homes slated to be built in town.

Those homes will bring in lots of new people, who will need more municipal services. That's where a development charge comes in.

The concept is simple. Developers pay the municipality a set fee. That fee is based on what services all those people will need and what the municipality will have to buy or build in the future.

In the past, developers have railed at the idea, saying its just another tax. Well, it is. But that doesn't mean it doesn't have merit. Other municipalities have found development charges are useful.

In Petrolia, current taxpayers already have the services they need and yet, without development charges, they shell out more money each year for additional roads and sidewalks, parks and playgrounds. It's part of the reason council is taking an extra \$1.5 million of your money in 2021 for the working capital reserve.

This Petrolia council wants to wait for the next council to make the decision. Why would councillors decide to place the sum of the burden of development on existing taxpayers when this option is available to them? Have they been convinced developers will lose money? That seems unlikely. You can bet any fees would be passed on to the buyers. And it is only a fraction of the cost of a home - in Plympton-Wyoming, where the development charge is \$11,000 per single family home, it adds three per cent to the cost of a \$350,000 home.

Meantime, PW estimates it will bring in at least \$3.78 million for services in five years and \$14.8 million in 25 years. Plympton-Wyoming's building boom is not going bust. People will pay extra for their home because they want to live along the lakeshore. And people want to live in Petrolia - unless council continues to over tax residents.

Petrolia councillors are turning their backs a new revenue source which could ease some of the current tax burden because they don't want to make a decision which could frustrate developers. That's pretty lame, considering we elected them to lead.

Letters to the Editor

The Independent welcomes Letters to the Editor. Our preferred methods to receive letters are via email to news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca (please use Letter in the subject line) or through our website www. petrolialambtonindependent.ca

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

The Independent reserves the right to edit letters for brevity and clarity. All letters need to be signed and must have a phone number for verification.

Our Story



This photo of the Camlachie war memorial is undated but is likely in the late 1940s or early 1950s. The cairn still stands in Camlachie today, by its side is another memorial with the name of Cpl. Brent Poland inscribed, one of Camlachie's own who died in April 2007 in Afghanistan.

Everyone has to make choices to improve our climate

I have been glued to the stories coming out of BC as rain turns major highways into rivers, destroying bridges, homes and swallowing communities whole.

It's horrifying enough to watch, I can't imagine living through it.

The people who are living through the floods which have cut off thousands of people as roads collapse look shell shocked. Many had been in the region when the heat dome settled in over the province killing 500 people in a matter of days.

And they watched as fire swept through the town of Lytton burning down everything in its path. The scope of that fire was so great, even now the insurance companies are just getting around to figuring out how to deal with the devastation.

The people live day-to-day

wondering if they will ever be able to return home.

Events like these cannot help but make people think about what we are doing to the planet with our consumption habits.

The extreme weather events like these – or like the nine-inches of rain Chatham-Kent farmers dealt with this past June – are just what climate scientists have said will happen as we continue to abuse the planet.

In the past two weeks, world leaders have been focusing on the problem at Glasgow, Scotland. There was some 'agreement' reached to work together to slow the change occurring, but it was watered down and barely received any notice. Why would it; agreements like this are a dime a dozen. Governments around the world, including Canada, have pledged for

years to really do something to reduce the harm we are doing to the environment and yet, here we are, watching fires and floods take lives and livelihoods away. A bunch of world leaders flying into Glasgow are not going to improve our climate. We are. Each action we take will either affect how our



Heather Wright

world works in a positive or negative way. I am trying each day to make choices that improve things. If we all do that, perhaps we'll get somewhere.

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Warwick man gets 90 days for sex assault of six year old

Editor's Note: This story contains details of a sexual assault and may not be suitable for all readers.

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

A Warwick man received three months jail for sexually assaulting his cousin's young daughter.

The 39 year-old man, who can't be named to protect the identity of the victim, committed the crime in Warwick Township last year.

He was in a home with the six yearold girl one evening when he began to touch and fondle her while she had clothing on and show her sexual acts in a pornographic magazine.

The girl's mother walked in while it was taking place and began screaming at her cousin.

He fled the house and was found by

police several days later under a bridge pleasuring himself to the magazine.

"He does not recall the specifics of that, but after hearing from the parties he instructed me that he was willing to enter a plea because he did not have a clear recollection of it," says Defence Lawyer Don Henderson of the sexual interference charge.

Henderson says his client is addicted to alcohol and methamphetamines "to the point where he doesn't realize where he is at times." Regarding another crime the man plead to, Henderson says "he was completely out of it" when he entered a Sarnia home and began eating the food inside.

The 90 day punishment on the most serious charge is covered by time served. "He has expressed remorse for this once he is in a sober condition and I'm sure that he's embarrassed by it," says Henderson.

Justice Anne McFadyen accepted the joint submission of time served but sided with Crown Attorney Ryan Iaquinta's request for a two year probation term as opposed to Henderson's suggestion of one.

"Not only is the focus in relation to (the man) attending counselling, there should be some protection for the

victims in this matter," says the justice. For the next decade the man will be on the sex offender registry, can't be around any child under 16 and is banned from having weapons.

He's also barred from going near or contacting his cousin and her daughter, must take counselling for mental health, substance abuse and sexual offending and provide a DNA sample.

If you are a victim of sexual assault, you can get help at the Child & Youth Crisis Line by calling 1-833-622-1320.

- THE INDEPENDENT



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String of assaults leads to 90 day sentence and year probation

Alex Kurial

Local Journalism Initiative

A Lambton man will be able to serve his custody at home despite leaving a trail of chaos in his wake.

Christopher Oliver, 29, is no stranger to the court system with multiple prior convictions. He appeared in Sarnia Court Nov. 5 pleading to a new string of five charges occurring over 14 months.

They began early in the morning Jan. 25, 2020 when Anishinabek Police were called to the Army Camp over a disturbance at the Medicine Of The Earth cannabis store. They found Oliver stumbling along Lakeshore Road shirtless and bleeding.

Police learned Oliver, who was heavily intoxicated, was confronted by his brother over a property damage

When police went to the house they found all the front windows smashed and Oliver's sweater.

Police arrested Oliver, which was preferable to the alternative. The homeowner said Oliver would "be leaving in a body bag" if he came

Three months later Oliver had a pair of female friends at his Sarnia

apartment when an argument began with one of them. He smacked a laptop out of her hands and punched her in the face before punching the other woman, too.

When police arrived at the Colborne Road address he faked a head butt at them and had to be carried to the

Oliver's life settled for awhile but Christmas Eve, police were called back to the Army Camp over another disturbance at the cannabis store. Once again they found Oliver heavily intoxicated and agitated.

A struggle ensued when officers tried to place Oliver under arrest. They eventually got him in the cruiser but he'd defecated himself in the process and made a mess in the back.

He did the same to the inside of a cell back at the police station.

He was ordered to pay \$632 to the Anishinabek Police for the cleanup. Oliver's final offence was March this year when an on-again/off-again partner visited his Sarnia home.

The mood turned sour and the victim left but Oliver followed her outside yelling obscenities at her. He then slapped her in the face, prompting another call to police and another

"It's quite obvious from the report there's a serious alcohol problem here and some mental health issues," says Defence Lawyer Robert McFadden. But he says his client has been doing better since leaving Sarnia and moving in with his parents.

He's been sober since then and with reflection is "quite embarrassed about his conduct," says McFadden.

A joint submission between McFadden and Crown Attorney Aniko Coughlan for a 90 day conditional sentence was proposed. The first half will be house arrest followed by 45 days of curfew. Oliver must stay away from the three women he assaulted and the man whose windows he broke.

He'll also take counselling for substance abuse, anger management and domestic violence and be on probation for a year after his sentence

"Obviously the combination of these offences could justify a period of actual jail, but this court recognizes... your acceptance of responsibility, the efforts that you have made in the last number of months toward your sobriety and the success you've had with that," says Justice Deborah Austin while accepting the proposal.

- THE INDEPENDENT

Petrolia Business Association could be approved in December

The Independent

Petrolia businesses are getting some information in the mail about the proposed Petrolia Business Association.

Town officials met with about 20 business owners Nov. 10 to talk about the plans to create a formal association which would take care of the marketing of Petrolia's business community and oversee improvements to the

downtown area.

Laurissa Ellsworth, director of marketing, arts and communications, told the entrepreneurs under the plan, each business would pay \$150 a year and the fees would be used to help market local businesses and create events to draw people to the community, potentially bringing in new business.

Ellsworth says the town will match the tax levy and that will create a pot of about \$40,000 to work with each

About 127 businesses across the municipality are receiving a letter about the potential association. They're asked to respond with their concerns. Ellsworth says the project will move ahead if 66 per cent of the businesses have not objected in writing to the plan. Council reviews the idea on Dec.





Wyoming to mark Remembrance Day











HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS



In Wyoming, members of the community, many immigrants from Holland, stopped to remember at the cenotaph in McKay Park. Sgt. At Arms Chester Meredith helps Mayor Lonny Napper lay a wreath and then pauses to look at the names of those who sacrificed for freedom.



A crowd gathered at Victoria Park in Petrolia to mark the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. About 300 people made their way to the cenotaph. Members of the Petrolia Legion Colour Guard stood at attention and Chaplin Ray Terpstra talks to Korean War Veteran Wally Carvan. The bagpipes played a lament as the moment of silence ended.

We Rememb **Them**

Solemn ceremonies in Watford, Alvinston and Brigden on Nov. 11





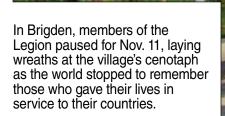
Members of the Alvinston Legion paused to remember those who served Nov. 11. The Legion led the parade down to the cenotaph in front of the library where cadets stood at attention and school children took part in the ceremonies, including leaving rocks painted with poppies.







The sun shone brightly as Watford Legion members and their community marked Remembrance Day. At the top, members of the Legion's colour guard marched to the cenotaph in the downtown. Cadets were on guard during the laying of the wreaths and the traditional Act of Remembrance.



VAN-TASTIC



Lambton County Developmental Services has a new set of wheels, thanks to the Ontario Trillium Foundation. Executive Director Nick Salaris unveiled the new accessible van which Trillium gave a \$53,000 grant to LCDS to purchase. The accessible van will be used to help keep clients connected with family and friends in the community, Salaris says. LCDS normally wouldn't be able to purchase a new accessible van such as this on its own. The organization would likely fund raise and look for something used instead he said. This is one of two fully accessible vehicles and it will be used around the county.

Petrolia restaurant ticketed for COVID procedures

Heather Wright The Independent

A Petrolia restaurant is one of two businesses in Lambton County who were fined during a three-day blitz by the provincial government.

Lambton Public Health says provincial offenses officers from several different ministries coordinated with Lambton Public Health and the City of Sarnia visiting restaurants, recreational facilities and other businesses which require proof of vaccination to enter.

Public Health officials say 164 inspections were done and five charges were laid.

The owner of Athena's on Petrolia Line, Tom Stoukas, posted a video of two provincial offenses officers, one wearing a large MTO on his jacket

(Ministry of Transportation), entering his restaurant Friday. They tell Stoukas they are in the area doing education on the COVID-19 protocols and he says he's too busy to talk to them on a Friday.

But Stoukas does make sure the provincial offenses officers know "There has not been one case (of COVID) – not one – linked to this restaurant. I say if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

'You guys are coming to destroy this business and destroy everyone else's business."

The officers left but returned later. "Athena's has been fined. The MTO guys snuck back and dropped off three fines while we were working. Cowards out to destroy small business. Will be fighting this in court," Stoukas wrote on Facebook.

"These types of campaigns have been held in various regions throughout Ontario. They are developed based on locally identified needs, outbreak and transmission information, previous complaints and noncompliance," said Mike Gorgey, Manager of Health Promotion for Lambton Public Health.

Stoukas' social media page shows provincial offenses officers had contacted him at least two times before the blitz about complaints received.

"We understand people are frustrated and tired of these public health measures, but in order to slow the spread of COVID-19 and avoid future lockdowns in our community, it is imperative we all continue to do our part and stay vigilant," says Gorgey.

Water rate increases on the way in Dawn-Euphemia

Heather Wright The Independent

Dawn-Euphemia residents are facing a water rate increase this coming year.

The township buys its water from Enniskillen, which purchases the water from the Town of Petrolia. Each year, a new rate is set for those buying the water by the town. Enniskillen informed the township recently that its cost to buy water is going up six cents per cubic meter starting Jan. 1.

That's only part of the cost to run the water system.

Dawn-Euphemia will charge \$3.09 per cubic meter, up from \$2.95 this year.

Some of the money is put toward capital renewal projects and some goes to pay for increasing costs to operate the water system.

There will be no increase in the fixed billing rate which stands at \$23 per bill.

Meantime, as water rates in Central Lambton are adjusted, the rural municipalities have once again agreed to partner with Petrolia to improve the system.

Petrolia has applied for grants to replace the pipeline which extends into Lake Huron at the Bright's Grove plant.

The water intake had been

repaired in 2017, however the town is now hoping to get federal and provincial grants to help pay for the \$16.2 million grants.

The rural municipalities which use Petrolia's water have supported the application. In the past, the town was able to secure funding for the water treatment plan, in part because its neighbours supported the move.

In the last five years, the treatment's clear well has been upgraded and new reservoir tanks have been built on Confederation Road. The projects cost about \$8.2 million and \$2 million respectively.

No special duties for Gladu this year

The Independent

Sarnia Lambton MP Marilyn Gladu has once again been left off the list of MPs in the Conservative caucus with special duties.

The leader, Erin O'Toole, released his "Deputy Shadow Ministers" this week and Gladu, who formerly served as a critic for FedDev and the privy council, was not on it.

She also failed to make the list of shadow ministers released Tuesday.

The move came after an interview on national TV where she said the relative risk of COVID-19 was lower than that

of polio and her Civil Liberties caucus would be hearing from medical experts on the issue of vaccine mandates.

Gladu apologized for her remarks via social media and has been silent about the issue since then.

Meantime, a senator has launched a petition calling on a leadership review of O'Toole.

Denise Batters says O'Toole changed the core values of the party without consulting members and is to blame for the Conservatives showing in the last federal election.

She wants a review of his leadership in six months time.

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Three goal third period wings Flyers over T-hawks

Barry Wright

The Independent

Daniel Gibson's power play goal early in the third period was the game-winner as the Petrolia Flyers went to beat the Thunderhawks, 6-3 in PJHL action last Saturday night in Wallaceburg. The Gibson tally was one of three unanswered goals by Petrolia in the final frame.

Clay Dolbear scored twice and

added an assist while Josh Jamieson had a goal and two helpers. Evan Morningstar and Harly Jacklin-Allison also scored for the Flyers. Spencer Duffy and Braeden Nickles had three and two assists respectively.

Tyler Richardson made 43 saves as the Flyers outshot Wallaceburg, 47-46.

Richardson made 48 saves in a 4-0 loss to Essex at Greenwood last Thursday. It was the first time Petrolia had been shutout at home since the

final home game of the 2018-19 campaign against Lakeshore.

The Flyers (2-6-2) have a trio of road games this week taking on the Sharks in Wheatley, the Canadiens in Lakeshore and the Admirals in Amherstburg on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday night.

Petrolia's next home game is Thursday, November 25 against the Admirals.

Flags fall at home to Canadiens

The visiting Lakeshore Canadiens scored consecutive shorthanded goals 93 seconds apart late in the second period on their way to a 4-2 win over the Flags last Saturday at the Moore Sports Complex. Lakeshore, 11-0, is the only undefeated PJHL team left in the province.

Brodie Conlon and Ayden Letang scored for the Flags. Nathan King made 37 saves in the Mooretown

The Flags are at Wallaceburg Wednesday. They entertain Blenheim Saturday at 7:30. Mooretown played at Essex Tuesday, the score was not available prior to our press time.

Petrolia's Perry lights up the Rockets with points streak

The Independent

Petrolia minor hockey grad Carson Perry now holds the longest point scoring streak in the GOJHL this season. He extended his streak to 12 games with three assists for the Strathroy Rockets in a 5-3 loss to London last weekend. Perry now has

six goals and 16 assists for 22 points in 17 games this season. His assist total ranks him fifth in the province.

In that same Rockets-Nationals contest, Zach Power of Glencoe was held off the scoresheet for the London side ending his 14-game point scoring

Strathroy is at St. Thomas Friday.

Meantime, Ryder Nienhuis scored twice in Sarnia's 5-2 win over the Stars last Thursday to snap a lengthy losing streak. But on Saturday. the Legionnaires lost 3-1 to the Leamington Flyers. Ryan Richardson had the lone Sarnia goal.

The Legionnaires entertain LaSalle Thursday at the Sarnia Arena at 7:10.

Killer Bees loosing streak reaches double figures

The Alvinston Killer Bees are halfway through their inaugural season in the Western Ontario Super Hockey League, and still searching for their first-ever league win. Despite the first career WOSHL goal by Scott Case

Saturday afternoon in Stratford, the Bees lost 6-1 to the Fighting Irish. Brendon Merritt had a goal and an assist for Stratford against his former team. The one-time junior player with Lambton Shores and Wallaceburg was

dealt to the Irish earlier this month for Dawson Winchester and a player to be named later.

The Bees are on the road this weekend taking on the Rocks in Elora on Friday night.

Weir struggles in Arizona

Mike Weir had three birdies and six bogeys in carding a final round 74 at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship in Phoenix. He finished the seasonending event with a 72-hole score of two under par tied for 32nd place.

The result gave Weir a 40th place finish in the

three-tournament tour playoff. Phil Mickelson won the event at 19 under par.

Weir finished the 2020-21 Champions Tour season in eighth place on the tour money list with just over \$2 million in earnings, including a win in Texas in May. The 2022 season begins in Hawaii in January.

Lady Lancer hoops season over

The Independent

The LKSSAA girls' basketball season came to an end Monday for the LCCVI squads with losses in Wallaceburg. The juniors fell 30-25 to the Tartans, while the Lancer seniors were on the wrong end of a

42-28 score to Wallaceburg. This week will mark the end of the fall season of high school sports in the area. The winter season, which typically includes boys' basketball, girls'

volleyball, hockey, curling, swimming and wrestling, is scheduled next month.



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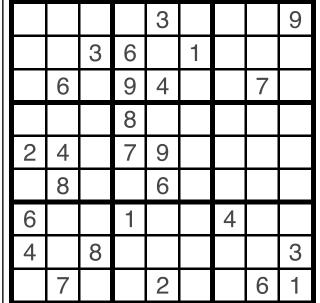
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Here's How It Works: Level: Intermediate Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row column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

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CONTEST WINNERS







The Petrolia and North Enniskillen Fire Dept. held a contest for fire prevention week called "chalk one up for fire safety".

We asked youth to draw a fire safety message using sidewalk chalk to share with their neighbours and friends. The top 3 entries would receive prizes.

> Our winners were as follows First Prize: Meegan Gordon, \$500 Second Prize: Rhys Marriott, \$300 Third Prize: Norah Irwin, \$150

Interestingly, all the winners are students at Centennial school!

The Petrolia Fire and North Enniskillen Fire Dept. would like to thank our rural sponsors for their generous donations. First Prize donated by Doug Krall Farms Second Prize donated by Jack and Christine Greydanus Third Prize donated by Windover Nurseries Advertising donated by Weslane Farms Inc.

Classified Deadline: Monday @ 12 noon

Classifieds



In Memory

Happy Birthday

November 20, 1969 to November 20, 2021 On which will be your 4th birthday in Heaven.

There is not a day that goes by that you are not thought of or a funny story is shared.

Love always till we meet ~ Mom & Dad Stacey, Mike, Cody, Jack, Lisa, Lola, and all the family.





Wanted: Farmland

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.

Wanted to Buy

Wanted to buy: OLD & UNUSUAL STUFF from garages, attics, and basements. Phone Chad at (519) 639-9102.

Word Classifieds: \$10 plus tax for up to 40 words Stop in at the office 9a-5p Mon-Fri

Notices

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The Village of Oil Springs

Public Works and Roads Department

Invites applications for the position of

Permanent Part-Time Labourer

The successful candidate will work under the supervision of the Superintendent of Public Works and will perform road and public works

Must have a valid Ontario Drivers Licence, Class G or higher and Grade 12 or equivalent. Experience with snowplow operation and other light duty equipment would be an asset, as well as being mechanically inclined. Successful candidate must be available for call-in during emergencies, inclement weather and weekends.

The position is permanent half-time (two weeks on / two weeks off), with a 40-hour work week. The Village provides personal protective equipment and up to \$300 per year for safety clothing and \$250 for

The position starts Dec 6th, 2021 (or possibly sooner). Interested applicants should submit a **cover letter and resume by Friday**, **November 26th, 2021**, outlining experience, education, and skills to:

Public Works Superintendent, Darren Morningstar publicworks@oilsprings.ca

Village of Oil Springs 4591 Oil Springs Line, Box 22, Oil Springs, ON NON 1P0 Phone (519) 834-2939 • Fax (519) 834-2333

The successful candidate will be required to provide proof of double COVID-19 vaccination, a satisfactory Driver's Abstract and Police Background check.

The Village of Oil Springs is committed to providing accommodations for people with disabilities and will make accommodations if required. We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act and will be used for the purpose of candidate TOWN OF PLYMPTON - WYOMING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING **CONCERNING A PROPOSED** ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming will hold a **Public Meeting** on Monday, November 29th, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via the electronic platform: GoToMeeting to consider a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment under Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended.

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. $https://global.gotomeeting.\dot{c}om/join/913043957$

You can also dial in using your phone. Canada (Toll Free): 1 888 455 1389 Canada: +1 (647) 497-9391 Access Code: 913-043-957

You are entitled to be part of this public hearing to express your views about this application or you may be represented by Council for that purpose. The following are options for your participation:

- letter posted to the address below;
- drop off a letter in the 'dropbox' at the office (address below);
- · e-mail the Planning Technician, Ella Lassaline at elassaline@plympton-wyoming.ca.;
- address the Council directly by informing the Planning Technician, Ella Lassaline, by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on November 29th, 2021 for instructions.

Note: A personal internet or a telephone connection will be required.

THE PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT would amend the Town's Zoning By-law 97 of 2003 as it applies to all lands in the Town of Plympton-Wyoming with regards to the updated Alternative and Renewable Energy Systems (Green Energy) policies in the Official Plan. The Zoning Bylaw Amendment will enact these policies into regulation.

ANY PERSON may attend the public meeting and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of, or in opposition to, the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS in respect of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment can be made to the official listed below.

IF A PERSON or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Plympton-Wyoming before the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

IF A PERSON or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Plympton-Wyoming before the by-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

IF YOU WISH to be notified of the approval of the proposed Amendment, you must make a written request to the Town of Plympton-Wyoming, 546 Niagara St, Wyoming, ON. No KEY MAP is included as the lands affected are the entire municipality.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT will be available for public inspection during regular office hours at Town of Plympton-Wyoming, 546 Niagara St, Wyoming, ON and at the public meeting. Note, when considering whether to attend, there is the potential of the amendment not being approved exactly as drafted.

DATED at the TOWN OF PLYMPTON-WYOMING this 3rd DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2021.

Sarah Baldwin, Senior Planner Town of Plympton-Wyoming 546 Niagara St. PO Box 250, Wyoming, ON NON 1TO (519) 845-3939 | sbaldwin@plympton-wyoming.ca

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

St. Paul's **United Church**

4169 Petrolia Line at Centre Street

In Person Services now taking place Sunday's @ 10:30am

Rev Carol Ferguson Church Office: 519-882-1390 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

email: fbcpetrolia@gmail.com www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca 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 Find us on Facebook

St. Andrew's **Presbyterian Church**

416 Queen Street, Petrolia
(Behind the Post Office)

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Wanted to Buy





COMMUNITY CORNER



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The fundraising efforts of the Watford Legion will be helping a lot of Canadian veterans. Poppy Chair Joan Westgate and Branch Treasurer Bob Alcock are turning over \$17,500 to the Ontario Command of the Legion. \$15,000 will go to help house homeless vets in the Leave the Streets Behind program. The rest will go to help train therapy dogs for servicemen and women with post traumatic stress disorder. The money was raised through the poppy campaign, Catch the Ace, raffles, lunches and by individual donations.

FORM 6 **SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER** Municipal Act, 2001

Ontario Regulation 181/03 Municipal Tax Sales Rules

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF BROOKE-ALVINSTON

Take Notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the land(s) described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on Thursday, December 16, 2021, at the Municipal Office, 3236 River Street, P.O. Box 28, Alvinston, ON NON

Due to the covid-19 pandemic, the tenders will be opened and publicly available via video conferencing on the same day as soon as possible after 3:00 p.m. at the Municipal Office, 3236 River Street, Alvinston. The link to the video conference can be found on the Municipality's web site under Town Hall/Properties for Sale.

<u>Description of Lands:</u>
ROLL NO. 38 15 120 210 01400 0000, 3123 INWOOD RD, INWOOD, PIN 43347-0186 LT, LT 23 W/S MAIN ST PL 5 BROOKE; S 1/2 LT 22 W/S MAIN ST PL 5 BROOKE; BROOKE-ALVINSTON, FILE LNBA20-001 **Minimum Tender Amount: \$65,067.80**

According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is \$7,900

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit of at least 20 per cent of the tender amount, which deposit shall be made by way of a certified cheque/bank draft/money order payable to the municipality (or board).

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to, existing interests in favour of the Crown, environmental concerns or any other matters relating to the land(s) to be sold. Any existing Federal or Provincial Crown liens or executions will remain on title and may b responsibility of the potential purchaser. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and any taxes that may be applicable. such as a land transfer tax and HST.

The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser.

For further information regarding this sale and a copy of the prescribed form of tender visit:

www.Tri-Target.com | Ontario's Tax Sale Community

Info@Tri-Target.com

or if no internet access available, contact:

Mr. Stephen Ikert, Treasurer The Corporation of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston 3236 River Street P.O. Box 28 Alvinston, ON NON 1A0 (519) 898-2173 www.brookealvinston.com



PUBLIC NOTICE 2022 BUDGET PRESENTATION

TAKE NOTICE that a presentation of the 2022 budget will be presented to Council on

Wednesday, November 24, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting will take place electronically using Zoom teleconference and will be livestreamed to the Warwick Township YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/channel.

To be added as a delegation at the meeting, please contact the Township office at 519-849-3926 by noon on Thursday, November 18th.

The agenda for the meeting will be available on the Township's website at www.warwicktownship.ca.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, contact the Township Office at 519-849-3926 or info@warwicktownship.ca.

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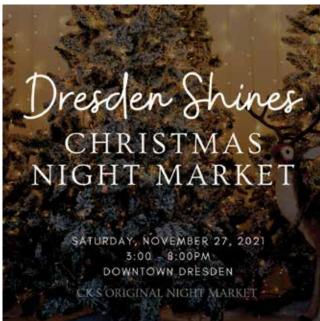
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