

Fall out from Petrolia staff/council probe likely this week

Heather Wright
The Independent

There will be fall out after an investigation into a conflict between staff and council in Petrolia; but what that is remains to be seen. Petrolia council is expected to release “summary” of a report on the issue by Investigator John Fleming this week after meeting to discuss it Monday in a special in camera (private) meeting. Fleming - who in 2017 reviewed the activities of the then CAO Manny Baron - was tasked with investigating a “staff/council relations” issue. What that issue was has not been released publicly. However, council deemed it serious enough in September to have the CAO “gather further information and report back to council when able.” Fleming arrived in Petrolia to investigate in early November. Town council met Monday afternoon for two and a half hours to review the report in private. Afterward, Clerk Mandi Pearson read a report from the in camera session. Few details are being released. The report from the meeting stated council spoke with Fleming during the meeting. He had interviewed 16 people including all of council and a number of employees and reviewed everything from council minutes, notes and communications and town policies.

SEE ACTION PG 2

PW wants Highland Glen

Heather Wright
The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming wants to take over Highland Glen. Council has directed its representative on the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority board, Councillor Tim Wilkins, to ask the authority to begin negotiations to turn over the park allowing the municipality to get the boat ramp open. The ramp – the only one between Samia and Grand Bend for public use – has been closed for two years. In late 2019, the original groyne wall on the west side of the boat launch ramp was damaged due to wave action and is now missing. Water levels on Lake Huron have been high, contributing to erosion on both the east and west sides of the ramp protection structure. The erosion has exposed the steel sheet pile wall of the boat ramp and has eroded the banks further along the beach. The banks have continued to erode, putting the parking lot in jeopardy. The conservation authority closed the boat ramp in 2019, and received dozens of complaints. Aecom, in a report to the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority in the summer, says the boat ramp could be temporarily fixed for about \$85,500. But the report also lays out what will be needed in the long term with \$709,000 in repairs needed in the next three years, another \$710,000 in the next five years and the \$550,000 replacement of the ramp.

SEE PLYMPTON-WYOMING PG 2

REBOUND ROCKS



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

The weather was cold but that didn't stop Rebound Rocks from rocking Victoria Park Nov. 18. A small crowd gathered to listen and was energized by the group. Rebound Rocks pairs teens with skilled volunteer mentors who help them create a rock band. Here, Jesse Vanderveeken, left and Petrolia resident Keegan Hornbostel (right) try to warm up the crowd with some tunes.



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Action this week on Petrolia staff/council conflicts

CON'T FROM PG 1

Pearson also reported Fleming had consulted with the law firm which acts as the town’s Integrity Commissioner. Aird and Berlis also received a copy of Fleming’s report.

“Through the findings of Mr. Flemings report, Mayor Loosley noted actions he would be implementing with council, (CAO Rick) Charlebois was also provided direction in relation to staff,” the news release issued by the town stated. It was not clear what those actions might be.

The release also said a summary of the report would be released “later this week” following the rules of the Municipal Freedom of Information Privacy and Protection Act. Generally, the act does not allow information about specific employees to be released if it becomes part of their work record.

Clearly the issue is a sensitive one. *The Independent* contacted several councillors asking what was announced publicly after the private meeting. All refused to say anything

at all, concerned they might make a mistake. To a person, councillors directed *The Independent* to the mayor.

The Independent contacted Loosley and initially, he refused release even the public motion read at the council meeting or to comment other than to say a news release would be issued in the morning.

He added he didn’t want to relay the information verbally because it was “too complex” and he was concerned *The Independent* “would get the details wrong.”

Later, the information was released via email by staff, although the mayor said it was not “the normal practice” to do so on the same day.

The Independent was unable to attend the meeting where the information was read into the record due to staffing issues.

It was also unable to review the virtual council meeting afterward because Petrolia, unlike other municipal councils - has a policy not to record or post its public council meetings.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Workers at Clean Harbors near Brigden walked off the job Monday morning.

Clean Harbors waste treatment workers on strike

The Independent

Union officials say a strike at Clean Harbors near Brigden is about equity.

Unifor Local 914 says 76 workers walked off the job Monday morning to back demands for equity in the workplace. The employees are responsible for treating the toxic waste that comes into the site.

National Representative Gary Lynch says seniority, a wage increase in line with the current inflation rate and safety on the job are big issues.

“The inflation rate is at 4.7 per cent and the company is offering two per cent or less,” Lynch says. “We’re so far behind we’re not even up to the industry standard.”

Lynch also says gender

equity is an issue with female workers using the same lockers and washroom as men.

Lynch says Unifor and Clean Harbors met with an conciliator until the last moment but couldn’t avert the strike. No new talks are scheduled.

The workers were last on strike in 2010. Clean Harbors truck drivers reached an agreement in September.



Debris blocked the boat ramp at Highland Glen but erosion control measures are also a big problem.

Plympton-Wyoming wants to run Highland Glen

CON'T FROM PG 1

The engineering firm also suggests replacing the erosion control at a cost of \$1.29 million.

Recently, the board of directors decided not to put any money into a temporary fix and formed a committee to decide what to do next.

Councillor Netty McEwen, at a Plympton-Wyoming council meeting Nov. 17, wonders “how long it is going to take.

“I want to have Highland Glen open again next year,” says McEwen.

The councillor says if the town would take over the park it “would relieve them a lot of expenses and duties.

“It will cost \$85,500 to get the boat ramp operational – yes, it is going to cost much more to do the erosion control but that doesn’t have to be done immediately.

“If we let this go,” added McEwen, “it is not going to happen at all.”

Council agreed to give Wilkins the backing to say the municipality is interested, but some were concerned about what the town is getting into.

“What cost is this?” asked Mayor Lonny Napper.

“Is it an open cheque book?”

Napper suggested the town should be looking closely at its park investments. It recently invested hundreds of thousands

into Lamrecton Park and will now complete erosion control work worth nearly a half million dollars. “We have to look at where were going.”

Councillor Bob Woolvett also admitted to being “nervous” about the prospect of taking over the park.

“The economy is in trouble a bit,” he said noting inflation is rising and other municipalities are talking about tightening their belts.

“It is a beautiful piece of land, there is no doubt. I think any municipality would love to have it. But I can’t see them giving it to us... you’re looking at probably a million or two million dollars to deal with this erosion problem.

“We just don’t have an endless pot of money to deal with this.”

Deputy Mayor Muriel Wright was also concerned about the plan.

“This is too big of a dollar amount for me to say ‘yes’ to it... were going have to pay for it in the end,” says Wright.

But other councillors, like Mike Vasey, felt Wilkins needed the backing of council to at least put the idea of Plympton-Wyoming taking over the park on the table at the special committee formed to look its future.

Council agreed the talks would be preliminary and nothing would move ahead without council’s approval.

The Town of Plympton-Wyoming Presents ...

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5pm

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5:15pm

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5:30pm

Join Santa's jingle bell walk – ending at library for a tree lighting ceremony

6pm

Head back to Lions' Hall for photos with Santa, kid's crafts, horse + carriage rides & snacks

Kids rolling up their sleeves

Heather Wright
The Independent

Elementary school students will be able to book their first COVID-19 vaccine starting Tuesday.

Health Canada approved the pediatric dose of the vaccine Friday. Ontario says one million kids between five and 11 are eligible to receive the vaccine.

Recently, the spread of the virus has increased in elementary schools where the population was largely unvaccinated until now because of their age.

Provincial officials say booking for the vaccines for 5 to 11 year-olds starting at Tuesday at 8 am. The vaccines will be available at local health units and in pharmacies.

To book an appointment online, children must be turning five years old by the end of 2021. Appointments across the province are expected to begin as early as Nov. 25 when the federal supply arrives at vaccine clinics across the province. The local clinic dates are:

- Point Edward Optimist Hall, Nov. 27
- Family Friendly clinics at the Lambton College Event Centre, Nov. 30, Dec. 4, 7, 11, 14, 20
- Primary care clinics at Rapids Family Health Team (Pontiac Drive clinic) Dec. 4, 11, 18, 28, 29, 30
- School-based Clinics: Lambton Central Collegiate & Vocational Institute, Petrolia: Dec. 8, St. Patrick’s Catholic High School, Sarnia: Dec. 9
- Rural Clinics, The Shores Recreation Centre, Forest: Dec. 1, 8, 15, Wyoming Fairgrounds Building: Dec. 2, 9, 16

Meantime, the Ontario government is providing take-home COVID-19 tests for publicly funded school students.

It’s part of a plan to ramp up testing heading into the Christmas season where scientists say the number of cases of the virus is likely to rise as people move indoors and socialize. The number of COVID-19 cases has been rising – today 613 new cases were reported in Ontario with a seven day average of 675 cases per day, the highest rate since the summer.

The province announced it would be distributing 11 million rapid antigen screening tests to all public schools ahead of the Christmas break so parents can be prepared heading back to school in January.

“We’re going into the social season... it is known we’re seeing increasing cases,” says Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Keiran Moore. “It is prudent to have those tests in the hands of families for the holiday season... to test early before the return to school.”

SKATING BUDDIES



ALEX KURIAL/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

There were a lot of smiling faces at the Greenwood Recreation Centre as school children off for the day Nov. 19 had a chance to glide around the ice with family and friends. The Town of Petrolia is offering public skating again after a year without due to COVID-19. Adults can hit the ice over the lunch hour Monday and Thursdays and there is an open skate every Sunday 1:50 pm to 2:50 pm for a fee.

81 per cent of Indigenous people faced discrimination in Lambton County

Heather Wright
The Independent

A new survey shows 81 per cent of Indigenous people have experienced discrimination in Sarnia-Lambton.

The Sarnia-Lambton Immigration Partnership worked with Forum Research and a research student at Western University on the survey. Over 360 people who were visible and non-visible minorities and Indigenous people were asked a series of question about their experiences living and working in the region.

The survey found:

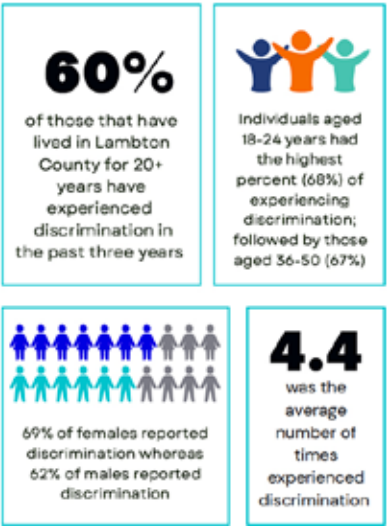
- 66 per cent of those surveyed had experienced discrimination in the last three years
- 81 per cent of Indigenous people reported discrimination as did 71 per cent of Black people
- More women reported discrimination than men – 69 per cent said they’d faced discrimination
- 42 per cent of the people said the main reason for the discrimination was the colour of their skin
- 54 per cent of people were the butt of inappropriate jokes, 46 per cent heard derogatory language and 32 per cent faced verbal abuse

- 67 per cent of people discriminating were middle aged, 60 per cent were white
 - 363 people interviewed said they faced discrimination at school, in stores, job interviews and social and public settings.
- County councillors – who got a look at the survey during a meeting Nov. 17 – say clearly there is a problem in Lambton.
- “This is not a time to be burying our heads in the sand, as if it weren’t a problem. And we need to bring this awareness to people at all levels of our county, that we need to address this,” says Sarnia City/County Councillor

Mike Stark. “I know this is an uncomfortable issue for people to talk about and one to recognize.”

He suggested the survey be sent to all Lambton County municipalities and officials in the social services division at the county agreed they could give a presentation about the reports findings to municipalities in the area if requested to begin educating people about the problem.

Sarnia-Lambton Immigration Partnership is also using the survey to develop anti-discrimination initiatives in Lambton County



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Editorial

Ontario Works and ODSP rates need to increase

If you listen closely, the cracks in the system which have been rumbling for decades are now shaking the foundations of our community.

In this edition, you'll see a story on page 6 about the alarming increasing rate of homelessness in Lambton. Two hundred and sixty three people are living in shelters, hospitals, jails, cars, parks, and abandoned buildings because they can't afford to pay for a place to stay.

Not surprisingly, 80 per cent of the people experiencing homelessness rely on government programs for their income. Ontario Works and the Ontario Disability Support Program provide people in need with a pitiful amount of money to live. A single person will only get \$721 a month from Ontario Works. Someone with a physical disability which makes it impossible for them to work gets about \$1,110 a month. Ten years ago that would not have been enough to keep body and soul together. Today, it won't even pay the rent in a place you'd likely not want to live- never mind food, clothes, medicine or transportation.

We, as a province, have allowed our government to put people living in poverty at a permanent disadvantage. How could someone who is relying on Ontario Works even find the cash for a bus pass to get to a job interview with only \$721 a month to survive on.

We cannot expect people to "get off the system" into good paying jobs if we don't give them a hand to do it.

And that means increasing the amount of money and help available to them and not just by a couple of bucks.

It won't be cheap, but neither is the alternative.

Also in the pages of this paper you'll see Lambton County needs more affordable housing - 2,500 units in all over the next 10 years. The price tag right now is \$382 million. That's a cost we bear, in part, because the poorest of Ontario cannot pay for a home to live in.

There are a litany of other social issues which need attention and cash - mental health and addictions treatment to name just two.

How much of that need could be alleviated if we simply gave people the money they need to do more than just survive?

Letters to the Editor

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

Our Story



LAMBTON COUNTY ARCHIVES PHOTO

The village of Courtright gained prominence because of the industrial development happening nearby. The Canadian Southern Railroad had been built from Fort Erie to Windsor as a link between two US rail lines. The Great Western opened up transport from London to Sarnia, opening up much of the mid-section of Lambton while profiting from crude oil transport. The Canada Southern then embarked on a plan to build a branch from St. Thomas to the St. Clair River to gain some of this business. The rail was built and a small terminal was erected in Courtright. Milton Courtright, president of the Canadian Southern, had bold plans for this route. Docks were built for a car ferry so connections could be made at St. Clair Michigan with the Michigan Air Line Railroad. This arrangement never materialized and the docks remained long unused.

Saying farewell to the place I called my pandemic home

After 20 months in Southwestern Ontario I've been called home to a newspaper job in British Columbia.

But I'm not leaving without a strong and lasting impression of Lambton County. They say you never forget the people you ride out a global pandemic with. Or they would anyway, if this had ever happened during any of our lifetimes.

When I arrived here March 2020, I had already taken a mini leap of faith and dropped myself into a part of the country that was completely new to me.

Like my previous job in a small town, I was ready to get out there and inject myself into community reporting.

But within days of parking myself here everything changed. Not only was I not out in the community, for several

months I wasn't even in the office. Phone calls and Zoom boxes defined my relationships with people as we all hunkered down in April 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

I certainly experienced the area's scenery during this time, with drives being one of our few permitted activities. The shine of the St. Clair River, the waves of Lake Huron and sweeping farm fields showed me natural beauty was not lacking.

But it's when I finally got to town and started interacting with people where I fully realized all Petrolia and the county had to offer.

Often this was as simple as conversation with folks coming into the office and talking about articles they've read, how important they found the local newspaper, or giving us our next news tip.

(These tips ranged from factual to gossip, but were always entertaining nevertheless.)

And then I started to get out to community events. Schools rallied to hold virtual graduations, and this year, the return of sports signalled a path back to normalcy. Santa Claus went all over Petrolia in the winter, and I learned the importance of corn as I noticed its anchor position at many agricultural festivals.

SEE PANDEMIC PG 5



Alex Kurial

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Opinion

Saying goodbye to my pandemic home in Lambton

CON'T FROM PG 4

I was also inspired by the vast majority of people working together to keep people safe as the pandemic raged on, and for the efforts made to promote and carry out our local vaccine effort.

A special thank you here goes to Petrolia’s Central Lambton Family Health Team who vaccinated myself and many other people in town.

Of course throughout this, my focus remained in the courtroom. It’s not an easy place to be and if you’re not careful can make you think there is more bad than good in the world.

Having a positive community to interact with when I turned off virtual court helped me get through the harder cases.

I hope the stories, while often difficult, helped shine a light on how our system works and decisions are made.

This positive community included two people in particular who, along with my roommate, were among the only three people I would see each day for much of the pandemic. They are Heather Wright, our stalwart publisher/editor, and Sarah Hills, *The Independent’s* former graphic designer. Both of them kept my spirits high through the bleakest of COVID times with fresh conversation, fresh coffee, and helping me keep my social skills alive.

I couldn’t have asked for a pair of better coworkers to spend each day with. (Editor’s note: There was no monetary donation to include this

line.)

And so I move on to tackle an editor job of my own with the Bowen Island Undercurrent. I’ve told Heather to expect some pestering from me on how to best do the job.

I want to thank everyone in Petrolia for trusting me with their stories and making me feel welcome.

The town stood out to me among all others in the county, and I am already looking forward to the next time I come back and catch up.

Alex Kurial began his work as *The Independent’s* Court Reporter as part of the Local Journalism Initiative - a federal program to expand news coverages in communities across the country, in April 2020.

Lambton faces huge costs for LTC, social housing

Heather Wright
The Independent

The numbers are staggering. Lambton’s treasurer says the county would have to raise taxes four to 7.5 per cent if it wanted to meet all of its capital needs.

Larry Palarchio, in a report to Lambton County councillors, says there are a number of pressing needs - particularly in long term care and social housing - that have to be addressed. And it will add big bucks to the bottom line.

Palarchio says over the next 10 years, Lambton will have to build a replacement for Meadowview Villa in Petrolia. That’s estimated to cost upwards of \$50 million.

The county also estimates there is

a need for over 2,500 new affordable housing units in the next 10 years. At a cost right now of about \$153,500 per unit, that bill is a massive \$382.2 million over 10 years.

County officials are working on a capital plan now but say they will not be able to provide that amount of cash to meet the need and will have to rely on grants from upper levels of government and possibly seek out private sector partnerships to meet the needs.

Those big ticket items are above and beyond the \$25 million capital budget the county plans for 2022 - \$13 million of which will be roads and bridges.

Palarchio says more money will have to be socked away now to pay for those items in the next 10 years. He says the county would have to put

away about \$7.2 million a year to help meet the needs. Right now, it puts about \$3.2 million away in reserves. That increase could lead to a 7.5 per cent tax increase.

Lambton Warden, Enniskillen Mayor Kevin Marriott, says the numbers are staggering and upper levels of government will have to help out. “It is a huge amount and it is going to be difficult to obtain, but we have to start somewhere and see how much the upper levels of government help us with it,” he says. “I’m pretty sure we aren’t the only ones with as big a problem as this is.”

So far, Marriott adds, the feds and province have not created a funding program for social housing or long term care.

Taxpayers won’t pay more for rising home value, yet

Heather Wright
The Independent

There is a little relief for residential taxpayers this year, but at least one local politician is worried it will come with a cost down the line.

The provincial government has ordered the Municipal Property Tax Assessment Corporation to hold the line on the next phase of market value assessment.

With housing rates soaring, taxpayers across the province could have seen the value of the homes skyrocket - doubling in some areas of Lambton - because of the recent housing boom.

The Sarnia Lambton Association of

Realtors says the average home price in October was \$509,895.

Officials said that’s climbed 25 per cent from 2020 and just shy of 50 per cent from 2019.

With market value assessment based on home sales, that could have lead to massive tax increases. Instead, the property tax rates will continue to reflect the market value of your home in 2016.

The market rate only goes up if you’ve made changes to your house or if you have recently purchased your home - then you pay the full 2021 rate.

While some local politicians were concerned about the abrupt increase the housing prices could cause,

Plympton-Wyoming Councillor Netty McEwen is worried putting off the pain won’t help either.

“We should be updating assessments now rather than later,” she told councillors Nov. 17. “I just think it is going to be a big jump for all ratepayers if we wait a couple of years.”

MPAC added there have been some other changes to the tax rules for 2021. Farmers can now claim up to 30 acres of their land in a woodlot exception - that’s up from the current 20 acre limit. The province is also going to simplify the rules around the assessment of pipelines.

Appeal on Countryview lots in the trees to be heard in January

Heather Wright
The Independent

Petrolia has a date with the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal in January to defend its decision to allow 17 acres of bush to be removed to complete Countryview Estates.

Developer Bob Leaper says the original plan of subdivision laid out the 74 lots in 2007, however in between, the land was rezoned as significant woodlot. Council rezoned it residential in May.

That caused a stir among neighbours

- one of whom launched an appeal to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal.

It also raised the ire of a neighbour-farmer.

Racher Farms has filed an appeal for both the Countryview rezoning and another for Spectra Development on Valentina and Edward Street – a 24 home development

One of Racher’s lawyers, Anthony Petrucci, says Racher’s farm abuts both developments and people living within the bounds of Petrolia often creep out onto his farmland. Petrucci says Racher finds people on the lots

near the field using his property for things like fire pits or dumping garbage and it can cause damage to his equipment.

Racher did reach an agreement with Spectra and that housing development is moving ahead.

Meantime Leaper, who says 15 people are ready to buy lots in the new subdivision in the trees, will have to wait until at least January to see if his work can move forward. It’s not clear how long the tribunal will take to give a decision. Leaper hopes if the appeal fails, he can move ahead in the spring.

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GROIN STRETCH Stand with feet slightly wider apart than shoulders. Bend knees. Shift weight to the right leg. Reach down and across the body with left hand to touch right foot. Point right hand up to the ceiling. Keep back parallel to the ground. Shift weight to the left leg. Repeat 10 times on each side.

HIP FLEXOR STRETCH Stand with feet shoulder width apart. Step forward with right foot into a lunge position. Right knee should be directly over the toes of your right foot. Keep left leg and back straight. Extend arms straight in front and bring palms together. Turn upper torso to the right, keeping pelvis and hips stationary. Hold for one second and repeat 10 times on each side.

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Cause of three waterfront homes blaze probed

Heather Wright
The Independent

Officials from the Plympton-Wyoming fire department and Ontario Fire Marshal’s office are trying to figure out what sparked a blaze which destroyed three waterfront homes in Plympton-Wyoming.

Forest firefighters were first on the scene to Forsyth Trail – off

Hillsboro Road south of Townsend Line, Friday at 5 am. One of the residents of the home called 9-1-1. By the time Forest fire arrived, the three homes were already “heavily involved” according to Plympton-Wyoming Fire Chief Darryl Thompson.

Plympton-Wyoming arrived on the scene shortly after Forest and Warwick volunteers were also called in. In all, there were

about 40 firefighters on the scene to contain the blaze to the three homes on the narrow road. Hydro and gas were called in to ensure existing services were isolated.

Thompson says the narrow road made it difficult to get the fire trucks in to fight the blaze and “the homes in the area are built fairly close together.”

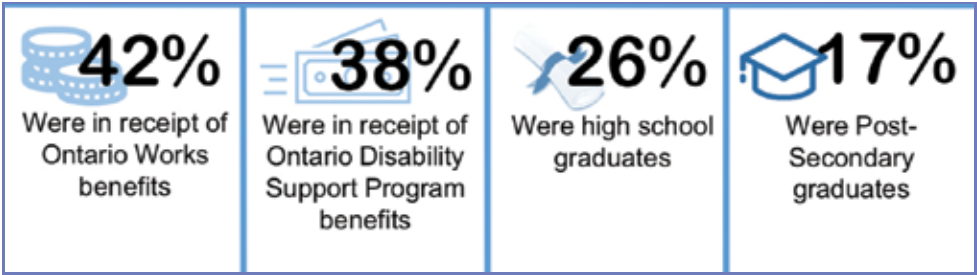
He says the “crews were successful in ensuring houses in

the area in close proximity to the fire were protected.”

Thompson credits on-going training the fact the three departments were able to work together in a difficult circumstance to contain the blaze.

The cause of the fire has yet to be determined, Thompson says.

A damage estimate is not yet available.



A new survey finds 80 per cent of the people in Lambton experiencing homelessness are on government assistance.

Homelessness up 193 percent

Heather Wright
The Independent

The number of people in Lambton without a home skyrocketed 193 per cent over the last three years.

And 10 per cent of the people who are homeless found themselves without a place to live during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Those are some of the findings of a homelessness evaluation done by Lambton County Social Services, the Sarnia-Lambton Native Friendship Centre and the North Lambton Community Health Centre recently.

The study found that during a week in October, 236 people - including 11 people in family units were homeless.

Sixty-one per cent of the people without a place to call home were men. Almost 80 per cent had been living in Lambton for more than 20 years.

Poverty, addiction and mental health issues seemed to be the overwhelming drivers for those without a home.

The survey found 80 per cent of the people experiencing homelessness were on government assistance, either Ontario Works or the Ontario Disability Support Program.

A person relying on ODSP gets about \$1,100 per month. Ontario Works provides about \$721 per month.

Officials say 78 per cent of the people who are homeless in Lambton report substance abuse issues including smoking, alcohol and opiates.

And 66 per cent said they had a mental health issue.


Men are most likely to be homeless and the average age of those without a place to live is 44.

A third of those 236 people counted were of Indigenous or Metis decent and 61 per cent of them say there is a history of residential schools or abuse in their background.

Of those surveyed, 79 per cent were staying in emergency shelters for the time being, eight per cent were either in an institution, such as a hospital or jail, or couch surfing at a friends.

Six per cent say they experience “absolute homelessness” sleeping in parks, cars, the street, abandoned buildings or a trailer they have.


Officials say they will use the study to find ways to help those without a home.



This Month In Lambton

November 2021

[f](#) [t](#)



Warden Kevin Marriott
@LambtonWarden

Donor Recognition

Approximately 1,500 donors give annually to enhance a wide array of County programs and services, making the County of Lambton a better place for residents and visitors alike. Once again this year, in lieu of an in-person recognition ceremony, the Warden sent individual thank you messages to some of our very generous donors.

To learn more about these donations and to see the messages, visit lambtononline.ca/donors.

Canatara Cabin Fundraising – Matching Fund Campaign

We are pleased to announce that an anonymous donor has generously contributed \$3,000 to the Canatara Cabin Restoration Project. The donation was conditional on receiving matching funds.

We are thrilled to share that Ron van Horne and Scott Ferguson have committed to exceeding that donation with \$5,000. We are now looking for another community champion to meet or exceed these generous donations.

To learn more about this project and participate in the Matching Fund Campaign, visit lambtonmuseums.ca/canatara-cabin.

TSL extending Discover Sarnia-Lambton, Support Local gift card program for 2022

Tourism Sarnia-Lambton (TSL) is extending the Discover Sarnia-Lambton Gift Card Program for 2022.

The gift cards are available in \$10, \$25 and \$50 values and can be redeemed at over 300 local businesses in Lambton County.

Full program details, information on how to purchase, and a list of redemption locations can be found at DiscoverSarniaLambton.com.

For additional questions, or if you are a business looking to join the program, please contact TSL at 519-336-3232, or info@TourismSarniaLambton.com.


Looking Ahead

9 a.m. & 11 a.m., Jan. 19, 2021 - Committee A.M. & Committee P.M.


9:30 a.m., Feb. 2, 2021 - Lambton County Council Meeting

Agendas, minutes and links to meeting live stream videos can be found at lambtononline.ca/meetings.

To read more, go to lambtononline.ca



Office of the County Warden
519-845-0801 | 1-866-324-6912
www.lambtononline.ca



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CHRISTMAS GREETINGS SECTION

DECEMBER 16 2021

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GREETINGS OF

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Column widths

1 col – 1”

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5 cols – 5-5/8”

6 cols – 6-13/16”

7 cols – 8”

8 cols – 9-1/8”

9 cols – 10-5/16”

Drunk driving through Enniskillen gets driver ‘perilously close’ to jail time

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

“You came perilously close to a jail sentence.” Justice Deborah Austin wanted Ben Waite to know just how close he was to landing behind bars after his second drunk driving conviction. Waite, 30, was in Sarnia Court answering for a summer incident outside Petrolia where he was driving at more than twice the legal alcohol limit. Just before midnight Aug. 29 an OPP officer noticed a pickup truck revving loudly and breaking erratically travelling along Rokeby

Line. The officer pursued the truck up Wanstead Road and onto Petrolia Line. When the truck started alternating between the opposite lane and the shoulders the officer made a stop. Waite, behind the wheel, said he hadn’t been drinking. But an answer of ‘Inwood Road’ when asked where he was cast doubt on this claim. Waite was taken to Petrolia OPP and registered a blood alcohol level of .216. His truck meanwhile was moved to the impound lot, a few hundred metres from where he was pulled over. “This is a matter where, were it

not for mitigation of a very early guilty plea, the Crown would be seeking a period of custody for Mr. Waite,” says Crown Attorney Meaghan Jones. “The most aggravating thing here is he does have a previous conviction for... drinking and driving that caused bodily harm,” she says of a 2014 conviction. “So Mr. Waite is in a situation where he knows how devastating this kind of conduct can be. “And yet on this date, there was still drinking and alcohol and cars and the risk that causes to the community is immense,” says Jones. Defence Lawyer Terry Brandon

says her client “acknowledges alcohol has been a problem... He appears to be amenable to seeking and securing help in that area.” Waite says he’s quit drinking alcohol since this latest incident. Brandon says maintaining sobriety is key, “because if he’s back here again, especially with this record, he will be facing potentially some significant incarceration. And I believe that’s not lost on Mr. Waite.” In light of jail, Jones and Brandon settled on an elevated fine of \$3,500, a two year driving ban and 12 months of probation where Waite must take counselling for alcohol abuse.

“That’s the portion of the sentence that goes toward rehabilitation in the hopes that there’s not going to be a point down the road where the Crown is asking for custody,” says Jones. Waite acknowledged there can’t be a third strike. “I hope that me messing up again will be the last straw, there will never be another time,” he says. “But for this joint submission you would be going to jail because of the aggravating circumstances,” says Austin. “Clearly the aim is to have you maintain your sobriety and eliminate the impacts for those around you and for public safety.”

- THE INDEPENDENT

Drugs led to three-wheeled ride

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

Police had their pick of reasons for pulling over Codie Moran last December. Most notably being he tore through a pair of Lambton towns on his rims after losing a front tire. There was also a call he’d been in a collision and the fact he was swerving all over the road – partly due to being on three wheels. Multiple drugs in Moran’s body also did little to aid his driving abilities. Moran covered a fair distance between the original call to police and being pulled over, sparking his way south on Nauvoo Road through Watford and Brooke-Alvinston before he was finally stopped shortly after 6 pm Dec. 23. The stopped motorist insisted he was on Highway 40 headed to Wallaceburg. Officers informed Moran he was “nowhere close” and in fact a great distance east of the road he believed himself on. Moran then had trouble getting out of his vehicle and standing up. He also had droopy eyes and slurred speech. Officers suspected he was drunk but a roadside test showed an alcohol level of zero. That’s because it was drugs intoxicating Moran, specifically fentanyl and methadone. This was confirmed through a blood draw after Moran was arrested and taken to the hospital. A pre-sentence report will now be prepared focusing on probation terms and counselling efforts for Moran. He’ll return for sentencing in the new year.

- THE INDEPENDENT

Ten strikes and you’re in jail

Alex Kurial
Local Journalism Initiative

A Sarnia man’s continued flaunting of court orders is finally resulting in some time behind bars. Jason Cristovao is quite familiar with the Sarnia Courtroom; his appearance this month was to plead guilty to violating bail terms for the 10th time. “This particular incident obviously is a repetition and that’s aggravating,” says Justice Deborah Austin of the latest count for driving disqualified. Sarnia Police found Cristovao, who was banned from driving following a conviction, had attached different plates to his vehicle to avoid detection. Despite the swap he still landed on police radar after going 76 km/h in a 50. Crown Attorney Meaghan Jones determined a jail sentence was finally necessary to drive home the repeated breaches - including his third for driving while banned - were unacceptable. “45 days seems quite generous,” she says. His lawyer said the sentence was appropriate given the situation, which he admitted he could not explain. “I’m really pretty disappointed in myself,” says Cristovao, who will emerge from jail just before 2021 ends. “I apologize to everyone and I apologize to my family who are really disappointed in me.” Austin expressed hope jail time “never has to happen again and this is the last lapse in what is a more positive direction in your life.”

- THE INDEPENDENT



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Heather Wright
The Independent

After the plan was approved, the province released its projections for the removal of the COVID-19 protocols.

Premier Doug Ford has said if the conditions allow it, the provincial mask mandate, proof of vaccination rules and gathering limits will be lifted.

There would be just two council meetings between the time council had originally agreed to return to in person meetings and the end of the mandate.

Councillors agreed it would make sense to continue meeting virtually until then and save the \$12,000 for the glass partitions in the council chambers.

Lambton County council will have to approve the plan at its next meeting.



Charlie Fairbank turns over some historic textbooks to Nicole Aszalos, supervisor of the Lambton County Archives.

Pat McGee
Special to The Independent

The public can see them but with COVID restrictions still in place, an appointment is needed and capacity at the Archives is limited.

It's believed that books had been stored in Sunnyside, the mansion the family owned for 76 years beginning in 1891.

When it sold the mansion in 1967, it seems the family chose to store a number of boxes of their belongings in the spacious hardware store.

Now, more than 50 years later, those boxes are being opened. The items worth keeping need new homes.

"The previous three generations of my family saved an incredible number of things, a very diverse assortment of things during their lives in Petrolia... books, diaries, letters, photos, and anything relating to Petrolia or oil, as well as personal items," says Charlie Fairbank. "Now these items have historical interest and are a window to the past. I can add that we're clearing out a great deal of junk too."

Recently, he donated a rare 1866 map to Enniskillen Township which hung in an office of the hardware store. For many decades, it was largely unnoticed.

Fairbank is the great grandson of John Henry Fairbank, a founder of Petrolia who established the store in 1865, a year before Petrolia became a village.

The East Lambton Minor Hockey Association will celebrate minor hockey day this Saturday, Nov. 27 with a bevy of games at the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre in Alvinston. Games begin at 9 am and continue until the puck is dropped on the final game at 8 pm.

Instead of the regular gate fee, the association will be accepting donations for the food banks in Alvington and Watford. Players will support mental health by taping their sticks green and all players and coaches will be treated to a free meal after each game in the arena auditorium.



The Independent

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Sports

HAYTER HOCKEY



CHRYSTAL BRESSETTE PHOTO

Lily Hayter dropped the puck to start the JimmyLou Charity Hockey Tournament in Alvinston - named in honour of her grandparents. Teams from across Ontario came for the event and this year, the Petrolia/Enniskillen Firefighters took home the top prize. The tournament raises money for causes such as Camp Bucko, a summer camp for burn patients.

Two Flyer goalies face 145 shots in three losses

Barry Wright
The Independent

The goaltending duo of Tyler Richardson and Cole Irwin faced 145 shots in three losses. Richardson made 44 stops in a 3-0 setback at Wheatley Nov. 17. He and Irwin turned aside 45 shots

in a 6-1 loss at Lakeshore Nov. 19, and the two goalies stopped 40 shots Sunday on the wrong end of a 7-1 score in Amherstburg. Peyton Armitage and Noah Harse were the Petrolia goal scorers in the trio of games. With a record of 2-9-2, the Flyers are clinging to seventh place in the

league’s Stobbs Division standings, a point up on the Dresden Jr. Kings and two points better than Wallaceburg. Petrolia gets another crack at Amherstburg Thursday at Greenwood at 7:30 before traveling to Essex next Tuesday to close out the month of November.

Flags rally to cut down Blenheim Blades in one of two wins

The Independent

A goal by Logan Gardner at 17:24 of the third period proved to be the game-winner as the Mooretown Flags came from behind to beat the Blenheim Blades, 6-4. Brody Genyn iced the game with an empty net goal, his second of the game, in the final minute. Quinton Johnston, Brodie Conlon and

Greg Hay also scored for Mooretown. Nathan King made 32 saves. Genyn had a pair of goals in a 5-4 loss in Essex Nov. 16, while Jake Vince registered a hat trick and an added an assist as the Flags beat the Thunderhawks, 5-2 the next night in Wallaceburg. Mooretown is now 6-1 at home this season and 10-3 overall. They have the balance of this week

off. The Flags visit Wallaceburg and Blenheim on Dec. 4 and 5 respectively. Their next home game is Dec. 11 against the Wheatley Sharks. Meantime, Brodie Conlon of the Flags has been named the Stobbs Division player of the month for October. He had eight goals and five assists in six games last month.

Flags and Flyers heading to the PJHL Prospects Game

The Independent

Two players each from the Petrolia Flyers and Mooretown Flags will represent the West in the PJHL Prospects Game in Norwich on Dec.

18. Andrew Jaques and Evan Morningstar will fly the Petrolia colours while Bo Doxtator and Quinton Johnston have been chosen from the Flags.

Johnston and Jaques have both tallied five goals and three assists this season. Morningstar has a goal in seven games while Doxtator has scored once and added seven assists.

Plympton-Wyoming’s Harper signs with the Sarnia Sting

The Independent

Austin Harper has signed a standard contract and education package with the Sarnia Sting. The Lambton Junior Sting grad was a tenth-round selection by his hometown team in 2020. “Austin is a player who had a great training camp. He’s gone down to the Jr B Legionnaires and has been

excellent,” said Sting GM Dylan Seca in a statement. “We like his compete level both on the ice and in the gym. He’s a committed kid and will always give you his best effort.” Harper, who leads the Legionnaires in scoring with 20 points in 18 games with remain with the Junior “B” for now, according to Seca, but he expects to see Harper in a Sting jersey soon.

The Plympton-Wyoming product had a season-high four assists in a 6-4 win by the Legionnaires over LaSalle last Thursday. Meantime, the Legionnaires lost 2-1 to the Rockets in Strathroy last Saturday Petrolia’s Carson Perry was held off the scoresheet for the Rockets, snapping a 13-game point scoring streak.



Who do you have on your list that would love to get the local news, weekly?

The Independent
Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton

...stop or call today and get them on the list!



The Township of Warwick is a progressive rural community with Eastern Lambton County and home to 4,000 residents. The economic foundation is built on agriculture/agri-business, local retail and institutional services and regional industries. The township offers a range of quality parks and recreation services, along with roads, fire, public works, and related services to its residents.

Parks and Recreation Manager

The Township of Warwick is currently recruiting for a Parks and Recreation Manager. Reporting directly to the Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk. This position requires a self-directed, energetic and team oriented problem solver to lead all activities of the Parks and Recreation Department of the Township, operating the Watford Arena, parks and facilities, coordinating ice/floor rentals and concession booth operations, responsible for recreation program development and delivery of marketing and communications activities aligned with the Township’s Strategic Plan and Parks and Recreation Master Plan, responding to emergencies, directing mechanical maintenance of departmental equipment, producing budget and operating department within budget, supervising staff, reporting to Council regularly, ensuring all record keeping, reporting and accounting for Department are carried out properly, and maintaining liaison with concerned property owners, community groups and event groups, regulatory bodies, neighbouring municipalities and County Officials and others as required.

How to Apply:

Interested applicants are asked to **apply online at www.lambtononline.ca/jobs** and select **Job# J1121-0949**. The **deadline to apply is Thursday December 16, 2021**. The Township of Warwick has partnered with the County of Lambton to advertise this job opportunity. The full job description can be found in the job posting from the link above.

Any questions regarding this job opportunity with the Township of Warwick should be directed to:

Amanda Gubbels, CAO/Clerk
Phone: 519-849-3926

We thank all interested applicants however only those selected for an interview will be contacted. The Corporation of the Township of Warwick is dedicated to maintaining a fair and equitable work environment, and in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, and the Human Rights Code, the Township of Warwick will provide accommodations throughout the recruitment and selection process to applicants with disabilities. If selected to participate in the recruitment process, please inform the Township of Warwick of the nature of any accommodations you may require to ensure equal participation. Personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, and will be used or the purpose of determining eligible for employment.

Job Board: www.lambtononline.ca/jobs

Classified Deadline:
Monday @ 12 noon

Classifieds



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Stop in at the office 9a-5p Mon-Fri
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Real Estate



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WATFORD



Looking for a place to build a new commercial or industrial building for your business to expand or relocate? Shanahan Realty Inc., just listed 75 acres to be severed into what is slated to be an industrial park for Warwick (Watford). Located centrally between London and Sarnia and just 3 kms south of the 402 Highway interchange #44. Contact us for more information and let us know how many acres you required for your business.
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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.**

Coming Event

IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS – VIRTUALLY! For anyone who enjoys crafting, **Moore Museum** is featuring a **weekly Holiday Crafts at Home** instructional video, sharing some of our long-time favourite holiday crafts. The first video is available at <http://www.mooremuseum.ca/holiday-crafts-home>. Watch for a new release each week from now until Christmas for a homespun craft to create yourself or with friends and family. We hope you enjoy crafting some holiday traditions at home (and we look forward to seeing you in person next year!). For updates, follow the Museum's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mooremuseum or on Instagram @mooremuseum. Or, for more information, use the Contact Us page at www.mooremuseum.ca

In Memory



Sylvia Edgar

A heart of gold, a joyful laugh and a kindness that extended to all she met
Never more than a thought away, loved and remembered every day
Each day for a year we have been thankful for the time we had together
We love you and miss you so much
Mike, Mike & Jackie, Dave & Erin, Sarah, Avrie, Michael, Eamon, Sophia, Emma and Connor

"To live in the hearts of those we love is never to die" - Thomas Campbell

Obituary



MCMAHON
Helen Margaret

(a.k.a. Helen Margaret McMahan)
1928-2021

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of **Helen Margaret McMahon/McMahon (nee Jackson)** on **November 20, 2021** at Lambton Meadowview Villa, Petrolia, Ontario at **93** years of age. Beloved wife of the late Howard F. McMahon/McMahon. Loving mother of Eleanor, David, Charles, Margaret, Lucy and Martyn; grandmother of Shelby, Stephen, Jeffrey, Jennifer, and Patrick; great grandmother of Montana and Jake. Predeceased by brothers Wesley E. and Howard L. Jackson and parents William D. and Emily M. Jackson (née Goudie). Helen also leaves behind sister-in-law Gloria Jackson, nephew Glenn Jackson and niece Brenda Jackson-Tabley, as well as many grand nieces and nephews. Helen was born in Petrolia and lived her entire life in Plympton-Enniskillen townships of Lambton County. For many years she was a freelance reporter and photographer for community newspapers. She was a travel enthusiast and avid reader who enjoyed books, reciting poetry, music, quilting, genealogy and her work with local libraries. **With love and fond remembrance, Helen's ashes will be laid to rest within the family plot at Wyoming Public Cemetery. A graveside service and celebration of life will be held for immediate family at a future date.** Condolences and remembrances may be left on the Needham-Jay Funeral Home website: www.needhamjay.com. In lieu of flowers, the family recommends a donation to Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital Foundation (www.cee.hf.ca), or planting a tree as a tribute.

Obituary



ELLIOTT
Gladys Pearl

Peacefully, surrounded by loving family, on **Tuesday, November 16, 2021**, at Bluewater Health, **Gladys Pearl Elliott** passed away at the age of **89**. Beloved wife of the late Harvey Elliott (2018). Loving mother of Jim, Judy (Brian) Slaughter, Scott (Brenda), and the late Janice (1957). Cherished grandmother of Kyle Slaughter, Michelle Slaughter, and Lauren Elliott (Craig Baan). Dear sister-in-law of Elizabeth Spearman and Marion Elliott. Predeceased by her parents James and Ella Spearman, brothers Ken (the late Wilma) and Ivan Spearman, brother-in-law Murray Elliott and sister-in-law Jean (the late Gord) Helps. Gladys was an incredible quilter, and won many awards for her work. She also judged competitions and hosted the Comfort Quilters group for many years. Gladys loved travelling and dancing with Harvey. She will be deeply missed by all those who knew and loved her. **Family and friends were received at Smith Funeral Home, 1576 London Line, Sarnia, on Thursday, November 18, 2021 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. A funeral service was held at Smith Funeral Home, 1576 London Line, Sarnia, on Friday, November 19, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. Interment followed in Lakeview Cemetery.** Sympathy may be expressed through donations to St. Luke's United Church or Bluewater Health Foundation (cheques mailed to the funeral home or made online, please). **Memories and condolences may be sent online at smithfuneralhome.ca**

Death Notices

November 13 - November 22, 2021

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

HEARN, Judy
Age 74
Smith Funeral Home

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

LAMB, Stanley "Carman"
Age 82
Smith Funeral Home

SIN YAN TOO, John

Age 79, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

MICHETTI, Concetta
(Micomonaco)
Age 87, of Town
Smith Funeral Home

SCOTT, Ira Eldon Kirkland
Age 40
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

WINBERG, Birgitta Maria
Age 86
Smith Funeral Home

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

ELLIOTT, Gladys Pearl
Age 89
Smith Funeral Home

MATT, Craig Alexander
Age 51
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

SHEFFIELD, Norman James George
Age 80
Smith Funeral Home

YOUNG, Donna Marie
Age 71
Smith Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

BRAITHWAITE, Edward Leslie
Age 85
Smith Funeral Home

FLEMING, Mark Steven
Age 65
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

GREENE, Michael Patrick
Age 39
Knight Funeral Home

PAGE, Pauline Mary
Age 72, of Sarnia
Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapel

THOMPSON, Ronald Bruce
Age 70
Gilpin Funeral Chapel

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

DEBLAERE, Wilda Agnes
Age 94
Smith Funeral Home

WATSON, William "Bill" John
Age 68, of Sarnia
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

MAXFIELD, Kenneth William
Age 55, of Sarnia
Denning's of Forest

PLAIN, Joseph Barry "Ponchie"
Age 71
Smith Funeral Home

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

BROWN, Gerald Winston
Age 90
Denning's of Watford

DARRACH, Joyce Mary
(n Fisher)
Age 93
Smith Funeral Home

HILL, Grant
Age 82
Smith Funeral Home

MCMAHON, Helen Margaret
(n Jackson)
Age 93, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

MARTIN, Barry Edwin
Age 80
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21


LEYSTRA, Holly May
Age 64
D.J. Robb Funeral Home


MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

LEVACK, Raymond Stephen
Age 91, of Petrolia
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

LITHGOW, Ruth Lorraine
(n Wever)
Age 88
Gilpin Funeral Chapel

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





In Memory of

TJ DUSKO MINTEN

March 6, 2018 - November 28, 2020

You never said I'm leaving,
You never said goodbye.
You were gone before we knew it,
And only God knew why.
A million times we needed you,
A million times we cried.
If love alone could have saved you,
You never would have died.

In life we loved you dearly,
In death we loved you still.
In our hearts you hold a place,
That no one could ever fill.
It broke our hearts to lose you,
But you didn't go alone,
For part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.

Love and miss you forever
Love Daddy, Mommy and Little Brother:
Ted, Vanessa and Max Minten.
and Pa & Baba:
Dusko & Margaret Bojkovic

Calendar of events

PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
Nov27		Forest	Forest Legion Ladies Auxiliary Craft Sale	
Dec2	4:30-6:30p	Watford	Watford Legion - Drive By Turkey Dinner (pickup in Grogan Lot by Legion). Call 519-876-2519 to reserve your meal and pickup time	
Dec7	4-6p	Oil Springs	Oil Springs Legion Meat Raffle and 50/50 Draw	
Dec7-8	11a-1p	Petrolia	Christmas For Everyone Fundraiser Lunch - Pre-orders only - order by Dec 2. Call 519-882-1201 between 10a-7p	
Dec11	3:30-5p	Forest	Forest Legion Christmas Ham & Turkey Double Meat Raffle	
Dec16	7p	Oil Springs	Optimist Meat Bingo, fully vaccinated and covid rules apply	

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

CLUBS AND REGULAR EVENTS

DAY	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
Mondays	7pm	Watford	LEGION - Darts	519-876-2360
2nd Mon	7pm	Petrolia	Margaret Stokes Chapter IODE Meeting	519-882-2073
Tuesdays		Watford	LEGION - Afternoon Progressive Euchre (Dec7)	519-876-2360
Tuesdays	7pm	Petrolia	Petrolia TOAST MASTERS @ Petrolia Lions Hall	519-381-0844
2nd Tues	7pm	Sarnia	Lambton Br Ont GENEALOGICAL Soc Meetings	519-339-8144
3rd Wed	1-4pm	Petrolia	Kenny J & Friends Musical JAMBOREE @Pet Legion	519-882-1557
3rd Thurs	7pm	Oil Springs	OPTIMIST Meat Bingo @ The Youth Centre	519-834-2152
Fridays	6pm	Watford	LEGION - Meat Raffle & Catch the Ace	519-876-2360
Fridays	1-8p	Forest	LEGION open	519-786-5357
Saturdays	12-2p	Petrolia	LEGION - Meals	519-882-1557
Saturdays	2-4p	Petrolia	LEGION - Meat Raffles and 50/50	519-882-1557
Saturdays	3:30p	Forest	LEGION - Meat Raffle and 50/50	519-786-5357
E/O Sat	4-6p	Oil Springs	LEGION - Meat Raffles and 50/50	519-834-2537

Classified Deadline:
Monday @ 12 noon

Classifieds

Word Classifieds: \$10 plus tax for up to 40 words
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or email: office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

Santa has made his list...

- Stuffing/Dressing
- Chunky and Ready to Serve Soups
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- Canned Pasta (Zoodles, etc.)
- SideKicks - Pasta & Rice
- Kraft Dinner • Instant Rice
- Cookies • Jello
- Manwich • Tuna • Salmon

items still needed for hampers
– can be dropped off at New Life Assembly
Mon&Thurs 8am-noon
Tues&Wed 8a-3p

Christmas FOR EVERYONE
items needed before Dec 10
226-349-8660

Call the phone number above to make alternate drop off arrangements.

Plympton-Wyoming Ag Society

Euchre

Tues., Dec. 7
@ 1 pm

at the Wyoming Fair Building
refreshments @ mid-way break
Covid Rules Apply...
must show proof of double vaccination
wear a mask and provide
phone number for
contact tracing

\$5 per player

*** PUBLIC NOTICE ***

ANNUAL MEETING

WYOMING COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Wednesday, December 8th, 2021, 4:00pm
Wyoming Lions Hall, 554 Main St., Wyoming ON

Members of the public are very welcome to attend.

Caroline DeSchutter, Secretary
519-330-5978 • cdeschutter123@gmail.com

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 N0N 1A0.

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.

Description of Lands:
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 become the responsibility of the potential purchaser. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers.

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 N0N 1A0
(519) 898-2173
www.brookealvinston.com

Church DIRECTORY

Christ Anglican Church

414 Oil Street, Petrolia

Welcome Back!
In-person Church Services
Sunday Mornings @ 11:15 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)

In Person Service now back Sundays @ 10:00 a.m.

Services also available online:
www.standrews-petrolia.ca
Pastor John MacIntosh

Sports

Local teams bring home the hardware as tourneys resume

Barry Wright
The Independent

The East Lambton Eagles went 6-0 to win the U13 division at a tournament in St. Thomas over the weekend. They defeated the host Junior Stars, 7-1 in the title game. Meantime, the Mooretown Junior Flags' U13 team beat Saugeen Shores, 3-1 to win the Beaverloch Farms event in Thorold. The Flags are now 9-0-1 in tournament play this year having won the Huronia tournament in Collingwood last month. At the same tournament, Petrolia won the U18 trophy with a 3-0 win over the host team and Lambton Shores skated

away with the U11 trophy beating Thorold, 5-1 in its championship game. Mooretown also made it to the U15 final but lost 1-0 to the Lucan Irish. Meantime, at the Stratford Aces Festival Cup, the Lambton Attack won three of four games to qualify for the final in the U18 "A" division before coming up a goal short losing 2-1 to the host team in the final. In U-11 play, the Sarnia Lady Sting went 3-0 before bowing to Lucan 4-1 in the B final, and the Mooretown Lady Flags won three of four games in the C division before bowing to Carleton Place, 4-3 in its championship contest.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The U13 Rep went 6-0 in a tournament in St. Thomas. The team members are Aiden Timmermans, Max Gaspar, Kole Chapman, Nathen Leyten, Conner MacKellar, Tanner Wilson, Hayden Baresich, Griffen Angus, Tyler Van Lieshout, Gavin Thorne, Tucker McGugan, Jacob Sears. Coaches: Jamie Leyten, Ryan Chapman, Shawn Wilson, Darrin Angus.



DAWSON CURRIE PHOTO

Ryan Fraser brings the puck out of his end during the Squires game against Seaforth at home.

Squires lose twice to Seaforth

The Petrolia Squires have lost three straight games and are winless in four games following a pair of setbacks to first place Seaforth in Western Ontario senior hockey. In Petrolia, the Centennaires prevailed 3-2 despite a pair of goals by Jesse Ferguson. Anthony Hurtubise took the loss making 37 saves.

On Saturday on the road, Hurtubise was peppered with 53 shots and drew an assist on Kole Keating's first period marker as the Squires lost 6-1. Petrolia is on the road this weekend in Clinton Friday and Milverton Sunday. afternoon. The Squires' next home is against Saugeen Shores on Dec. 3.

Killer Bees stopped by Rocks

Five unanswered goals in the second period lifted the Elora Rocks to a 9-4 win over the Alvinston Killer Bees in Western Ontario Super Hockey League action in Elora. Grant Spence had two goals and two assists for the Bees. Blair Derynck and Avery Antone had the other Alvinston

goals. Christian Moccia had his first two career points with the Bees, both assists. The Killer Bees remain winless on the season at 0-11. They are in Tillsonburg Saturday. Their next home game is against Elora on Dec. 4.

Petrolia grad cracks NYC Top 10

LCCVI alumni Gary Frankland was the tenth fastest Canadian at the recent New York City Marathon. His time of 2:54.44 placed him in the top two-and-a-half percent of the more than 13,000 participants in the competition. He placed 24th in his age classification.

Frankland, who now lives in Brooklyn, graduated from LCCVI in 1992 and went to study at the University of Waterloo. The Independent had previously reported on two other Lancer grads who made the top ten, Terry Ditmars and Krista DuChene.



Fundraiser Lunch

Cost: Donations Welcome!

Donations can be made by cash, cheque (made payable to Christmas For Everyone) OR e-transfer to petrolia.kiwanis@gmail.com (please include a message that it is for Christmas For Everyone)

DECEMBER 7th & 8th, 2021
11am - 1pm
Scheduled Curbside Pickup at Petrolia Lions Hall
451 Huggard Street

CHOOSE YOUR SOUP

- Beef Barley
- Italian Wedding
- Cream of Broccoli
- Turkey Vegetable



CHOOSE YOUR SANDWICH

- Turkey
- Egg Salad
- Roast Beef
- Salmon Salad

DESSERT INCLUDED

Pre-orders only ~ Order by December 2nd
Please call 519-882-1201 (10am to 7pm)



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