

# The Independent

Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton

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## Buurma backs down from fertilizer fight

Heather Wright  
The Independent

An Alvinston area farmer's fight with two Lambton County municipalities is over. David Buurma of Buurma Acres went to the Normal Farm Practices Protection Board in April 2020 filing claims against Brooke-Alvinston, Dawn-Euphemia and Warwick Township. The communities all had bylaws limiting the director of Lasalle Agri from storing the biosolid fertilizer made from human waste on fields in the region for extended periods of time. There was also concerns about the way it was being stored in a bunker on a Buurma Acres farm on Churchill Line. Buurma first took Brooke-Alvinston to the board first arguing it was a normal farm practice to store fertilizer on the land and that there was nothing wrong with the bunker on Churchill Line. But the board found while centralized storage of fertilizer was a normal practice, there facility Buurma was using wasn't adequate and didn't follow the basic guidelines of keeping the product dry in storage.

SEE APPEALS PG 2

## ALVINSTON ICE TIME



LIANA RUSSWURM PHOTO

It has been fine weather for skating and Malle and Levi Bryans of Alvinston found a great pond right beside their home in Alvinston. The ice will likely hold since temperatures are supposed to stay below freezing for a couple of days.

## Cautious optimism

Heather Wright  
The Independent

School Administrators are cautiously optimistic after the first week of back-to-school. Scott Johnson, director of the St. Clair District Catholic School Board said despite concerns scores of students and teachers would be off due to COVID-19, few were. Johnson said the first week back to class "went better from a staffing and student perspective with respect to attendance than we had hoped or on our side prayed for. In fact, our staff attendances this week, are actually lower than they were in December.

SEE SCHOOLS PG 2

## Petrolia restaurateur faces \$5k in fines for opening

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Tom Stoukas says he has nothing to lose. The Petrolia restaurant owner will keep opening despite being fined twice under Ontario's Reopening Act. Stoukas, who owns Athena's on Petrolia Line, was visited by a team of inspectors from Lambton Public Health, the Ministry of Labour and an OPP officer Jan. 14 because he was providing sit down dining at a time when the province has shuttered all restaurants for everything but take away and delivery service.

They left without charging him that day. Since then, Lambton OPP have been back twice. Stoukas tells *The Independent* he was charged both Friday and Saturday under the Reopening Act. He now faces fines of up to \$5,000. "We're fighting it - we have legal help to fight it - we don't think it's very legitimate. We think this is at all illegitimate. And I think it's all gonna come crashing down on them, hopefully. But we're gonna fight it. And you know, we'll cross the road with the fines when it comes down to it," he says. Restaurants have borne the brunt of government shutdowns to try to stop the spread

of COVID-19. In early January, the Ford government closed indoor dining for the fourth time in less than two years. Stoukas had only been open three months when the shutdowns began. He estimates he could have been bringing in \$20,000 a month if he would have been open. "That would be staff getting paid, suppliers getting paid, people like contractors getting paid. It would have been good for the economy. But me, that's my retirement gone" he says. Stoukas blames it all on the Ford government's handling of the pandemic.

SEE RESTAURANT PG 2

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# Appeals against Dawn-Euphemia, Warwick dropped by Buurma Acres

CON'T FROM PG 1

It ordered the organization to fix the building to reduce the possibility of odours escaping and spontaneous combustion of the material.

Lawyers for Brooke-Alvinston called it a win, hoping Buurma Acres would do more to eliminate the odour which led to complaints from neighbours.

It was an expensive battle. *The Independent* calculated that by May 2021, Brooke-Alvinston had already spent \$128,260.72 defending itself at the NFPPB. Warwick had also incurred \$12,500 in costs. Brooke-Alvinston, Warwick and Dawn-Euphemia, who were all advised Buurma Acres had filed cases

before the NFPPB, were to split those bills three ways once the legal proceedings were over.

But even with the ruling from the board, Buurma had not exhausted his legal options yet.

Lawyers for Buurma filed written arguments to the board asking it to order Brooke-Alvinston to pay \$125,000 of its \$173,121 legal bill.

Buurma’s lawyers said the municipality “made a clear and concerted effort to malign the character of David Buurma as a principal of LaSalle Agri Inc. It is alleged that this started before the hearing and came out further during the course of the hearing,” adding “there was an attempt to ‘demonize’ the fertilizer itself.”

The municipality denied those

claims.

Board Chair Glenn Walker said “there was no attempt to malign the character of David Buurma personally; and if there was, there is no evidence to suggest that this was done maliciously.”

Buurma’s lawyers also said the municipality should have paid legal costs because it failed to call evidence from anyone with farming experience or about concerns about the environment, or expert witness about the odour concerns and the potential fire hazard.

Walker said Brooke-Alvinston’s choices in defending itself “does not represent clearly unreasonable, frivolous, vexatious or bad faith conduct.” He ordered



FILE PHOTO

Steaming biomass fertilizer which was the subject of appeals to the natural Farm Practices Board

Buurma Acres to pay the municipality \$1,000 to offset its legal costs for the appeal.

Walker added at the time that added in any future cases the costs would be “more realistic.”

On Jan. 10, Buurma’s lawyers quietly withdrew the appeals they

had filed against Dawn-Euphemia and Warwick Township, seemingly ending the long fight over the smelly fertilizer issue.

Buurma has until the end of May to complete the changes ordered by the board at the Churchill Line site.

## No classes closed in Lambton in first week

CON'T FROM PG 1

“So we have filled all of our jobs, while teachers and educated educational staff are a way we’ve been able to replace them. We’ve not had to close a single class or school,” he told reporters Jan. 20. “We’ve not had to utilize emergency stop things such as supervisors, a library technicians or principals to cover classes, which were part of our contingency plan.”

John Howitt, director of education of the Lambton-Kent public board agreed saying 98 per cent of students returned to school with only two per cent choosing a remote option. And he says the public board was also able to cover all classes without closing classrooms.

But there has been people ill and at home in isolation. “We are seeing as of Jan. 19, approximately 10 per cent of our staff, either ill or screened to isolation and about 12 per cent of our student body who are in face-to-face learning, either screened to isolation or ill. Those numbers are approaching concern where we’re going to have to use central staff to help fill ... classes, but were not there yet.”

Howitt says it could get worse. “If we look at the data that has come out of western Canada, it seemed to be around seven to 10 days after reopening, that the real staffing

crisis hit. We’re hoping not to have that scenario repeated, but are being responsible to reflect on the data and ensure our contingency plans are still in place.”

And while administrators are cautious in their optimism, teachers are still concerned according to Lambton Kent Elementary Teachers’ Federation President Laurel Liddicoat Newton.

She’s been getting calls from her teachers. “My elementary teachers are scared for their students and their own families and their own health,” she tells *The Independent*.

She adds it has been “extremely stressful. I haven’t been notified how many of my teachers have been off today. I do know there have been many schools struggling to find coverage with the schools. Many central staff have had to be deployed into schools away from their usual roles.”

The province posted data from schools about how many people are absent from the schools Monday. In Lambton, North Lambton Secondary in Forest had the highest absenteeism rate of 33.2 per cent. East Lambton had the highest rate in elementary schools at 26.9 per cent. Most schools were around 10 to 20 per cent. In all, 16 of the province’s schools were closed in the first week of classes because illness and the isolation requirements.

## Restaurant remains open despite charges

CON'T FROM PG 1

“I don’t blame Coronavirus. I blame the government rules,” he says “I’ve come to the conclusion that these guys will never quit. But the only way for this place to be viable for me to continue here is if they leave me alone.”

Despite the possibility of fines, Stoukas continues to be open, welcoming people to sit down for a meal. And he says he’s been

busy.

“It’s as if the pandemics not even happening, that’s how busy we are during the lockdown because people want this. The people have spoken.

“I have nothing to lose. When you’re on the verge of bankruptcy. I can’t be scared of these guys, you know? And the only reason I’m on the verge of bankruptcy is because of them.”



### This Month In Lambton

January 2022



Warden Kevin Marriott @LambtonWarden

### COVID-19 Service Impacts

With COVID-19 continuing to circulate in our community and across the province at a rapid pace, impacts to services are anticipated across County divisions.

Steps continue to be taken across all divisions to protect the health and safety of our workforce and ensure essential services remain available. While every effort will be made to ensure continuity of services, some service changes may be implemented to meeting staffing and essential service needs.

Service changes and additional details will be available on the Changes, Closures and Cancellations page of [lambtononline.ca/COVID-19](http://lambtononline.ca/COVID-19). If you are planning to attend a County facility in person, please call ahead.

### Share Your Pandemic Experiences

Lambton County Archives is currently accepting COVID-19 submissions from the public. Share your stories and photos with the Archives to help mark this historic moment in time.

Make a submission through the form available on [lambtonarchives.ca](http://lambtonarchives.ca).

### Virtual Talk: *Whodunit? The Shaw Gusher Question*

Have you heard the story about Shaw and his oil gusher? No, not that Shaw, the other one! Join us for the Virtual Talk: *Whodunit? The Shaw Gusher Question* on Thursday, February 17 at 7:00 p.m.

In this talk, Lambton Heritage Museum’s Curator/Supervisor, Dana Thorne, will share the story behind the confusion of John Shaw and Hugh Nixon Shaw. Which Shaw brought in Canada’s first oil gusher in 1862 and how did historians get it wrong for so long? Virtual talks are free and registration is required. Register online now at [oilmuseum.ca](http://oilmuseum.ca).

### Looking Ahead

**9:30 a.m., Feb. 2, 2022** - Council Meeting

**9 a.m. & 11 a.m., Feb. 16, 2022** - Committee A.M. & Committee P.M.

Agendas, minutes and links to meeting live stream videos can be found at [lambtononline.ca/meetings](http://lambtononline.ca/meetings).

To read more, go to [lambtononline.ca](http://lambtononline.ca)



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# COVID battle continues in LTC

Heather Wright  
The Independent

The Omicron variant of COVID-19 is proving to be a difficult foe for long term care homes in Lambton.

There are nine outbreaks in homes for the aged in the county as of Tuesday - some have been ongoing for more than 27 days. And there are many seniors and staff who are ill from the virus.

Lambton Public Health reported Tuesday there were at least 257 people ill. Public health doesn't report the exact number of cases in a home until more than five people have been infected.

In one home, Trillium Villa in Sarnia, 91 people - 56 residents and 35 staff - have tested positive for COVID-19 since the outbreak began Jan. 3.

Fiddick's Nursing Home in Petrolia went into outbreak Dec. 30 and is still battling the illness as of Tuesday. Fourteen residents and 26 staff have been ill over the course of the outbreak.

Watford Quality Care has been in outbreak since Jan. 5 and 22 people - 11 staff and 11 residents - have been ill.

Lambton County Development Services is also struggling to keep the fast moving variant out of its homes for the developmentally disabled. Homes in Wyoming, Corunna and Oil Springs all are dealing with COVID-19.

And the outbreak at the Sarnia Jail continues to grow with 35 inmates and six corrections officers COVID-19 positive.

And another five people have passed away since Jan. 18 bringing the death toll in 2022 to 21 people. In all, 103 people have now died of COVID-19 during the pandemic.

And while some of the numbers are grim, Lambton's Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Sudit Ranade, says it is time for people to shift their thinking from trying to avoid getting the virus to calculating what is an acceptable risk for them.

"When you're when your existing interventions are less effective, and you have a virus that's more transmissible, you have to accept a certain amount of transmission, you have to accept ... that we're going to mitigate only the highest risk consequences as opposed to worrying about transmission everywhere," says Ranade.

And he admits that's going to be a huge shift in thinking for some.

Ranade says people were told "if we just kept doing it, if we just kept going, that we would somehow escaped ever being exposed to this virus. And because that is no longer a realistic possibility, people are going to experience that sense of loss. What did I do all of this for?"

Ranade says those sacrifices were necessary when there wasn't a vaccine.

Now, he says, the vaccine will reduce the risk for a large number of people and we'll need to concentrate our resources on the most vulnerable from here on in "because Omicron is forcing it, we don't really have a choice about it."

# COVID restrictions begin changing Monday

Premier Doug Ford says restaurants and bars will be able to open at half capacity starting Jan. 31.

Ford announced Jan. 20 restrictions - which were supposed to be lifted starting Jan. 17, would be extended.

Social gathering limits would increase to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors at that time. Restaurants, bars, retailers, shopping malls, casinos, bingo halls and religious services can continue at 50 per cent capacity. Large events will operate with 50 per cent or 500 people.

The gathering limits will be increased

further Feb. 21, to 25 people indoors and 100 outdoors. The province will also remove capacity limits where proof of vaccination is required. Places like nightclubs and wedding receptions will be allowed to have 25 per cent capacity.

The capacity limits will be eliminated for religious services March 14 although restaurants and bars will continue to have limits. Fifty people will be able to gather indoors and there will be no limits on outdoor gathering.

Ford did not say when the proof of vaccination regime and masking would end.

# PW eyes four per cent tax increase

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming administrators are recommending a four per cent municipal tax increase this year.

Councillors got their first look at the budget Jan. 19. Treasurer Norma Roddick-Preece says the proposed \$24 million operating and capital budget draws heavily on the municipality's savings. About \$5.7 million is recommended to be taken out of reserve to complete projects. "Future budgets will need to start to rebuild depleted reserves," she says.

There are a couple of big ticket items in the budget, including \$1 million allocated for repairs to Highland Glen.

Plympton-Wyoming is in negotiations with the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority take over the Lake Huron park. Council has been frustrated with the lack of progress repairing a boat launch which was damaged nearly three years ago.

Conservation authority figures pin the cost of refurbishing the ramp and repairing the shoreline damage at about \$3 million over a number of years.

There is also money set aside to reinforce the slope of Hillcrest Road, which has been failing for a couple of years, and the reconstruction of Queen Street between Fleming Road and Windcliff Lane. The area is ripe with new housing developments.

And while the four per cent increase may seem higher than normal, Roddick-Preece points out inflation is running at nearly five per cent. And she adds the town has a massive infrastructure debt. If the town were to adequately maintain all it's assets, Roddick-Preece says taxes would need to go up 72 per cent or \$6 million.

As it stands, the capital budget is up \$1.3 million from 2021 and the operating budget has increased \$1.1 million from 2021. The largest increase comes in the general government portion of the budget with spending going up 13.2 per cent.

If council would approve the spending plan without changes, taxpayers would see their bill rise \$26.22 for every \$100,000 of assessment. With housing prices in Lambton averaging at \$475,000 this year, that would amount to about \$125 more a year.

Council is to look at the budget again Wednesday night.

# OOPS



OPP PHOTO

Lambton OPP had an unusual call Monday. Around 6 pm, officers were called to Highway 402 at the Mandaumin Road overpass where a snow plow with its box erect hit the overpass. The eastbound ramp was closed from 6 pm to 11:25 pm while the vehicle was removed. It's not clear if there was any damage done to the overpass.

# VALENTINE'S DAY

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# Editorial

## Hopeful and wary

It is encouraging to see children heading back to school after two weeks of post Christmas online learning to prepare for life in the classroom in the age of Omicron.

The provincial government said it needed time to prepare by sending more personal protective equipment for teachers - N95 masks - and HEPA air filters. The N95s appeared weeks ago and some of the air filters are still missing in action in Lambton but students went back to class anyway.

It seems most families were, if not comfortable, committed to getting children back to normal, if that's what life in a classroom can be called right now. The public board says 98 per cent of children returned to in person learning with the rest opting for the board's remote learning; basically teachers sending out assignments to kids at home and being available to talk outside of class hours.

Both the public and Catholic board said they were not stretched for staff as of Jan. 20. The teachers' union disputed that by Monday saying there were times when finding teachers to teach classes left vacant by educators who were either at home with COVID-19 or forced to isolate because of it was difficult.

Across the board, not one school in Chatham-Kent had more than 30 per cent of the school away during the week - that was the threshold the province set for reporting a high level of illness to local public health units. In our region, not one school or classroom had to close.

And while this all seems good, it is clear educators are waiting for the other shoe to drop. John Howitt, the director of the public board, told reporters Thursday, he was looking at data from the provinces in Western Canada which opened up earlier. The real wave of Omicron fuelled illness started 10 days after students returned to class. He's still bracing to see if that happens here.

The province sent out a message that things are improving and soon Omicron will be a thing of the past. We're hopeful that's true, however given the history of this pandemic, we think its foolish to make that prediction. Call us hopeful but wary and weary.

## Letters to the Editor

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

## Our Story



PHOTO SUPPLIED BY JOHN STINTON

John Stinton, who managed the 1992 Petrolia Midget B Team brought in this photo of the first North American Silver Stick win for a Petrolia Midget Club. The team beat Smith Falls in the final 5-3. Pictured here are Steve McGrail (left) Captain Chris Stinton and Assistant Captain Chris Walker accepting the banner, stick and hardware. The team included Tyler Vaillant, Mike Page, Keith Graham, Mike Dubuque, Curtis Strangway, Tim Hendra, Steve Thayer, Derek Jackson, Kevin Logan, Matt Munro, Brad Nichols, Colin Blackwood, Scott McGregor and Mark Dwinnell. They were coached by Ken Gould, Jeff Wilson was the assistant coach, Stinson was the manager and Chris Stirling was the assistant manager of the championship team.

## Thoughts on Meatloaf and earworms

Meatloaf, the rock opera singer, who gave us I Would Do Anything for Love, But I Won't Do That, died this week.

I wasn't a huge fan of Mr. Loaf, as *The Globe and Mail* once called him during the height of his fame in the 1980s. But like almost every other kid of the 80s and 90s, I know the words to at least the chorus of every song that Meatloaf performed which hit the Top 40.

So, when the tributes began pouring in Friday for the unlikely rock star, the tunes started playing and I sang along. Until Tuesday.

Yes, some of Meatloaf's iconic lyrics have been circling around in my head

for days now. The earworm from Paradise in the Dashboard Light has been driving me a little nutty. I think the phrase "they were barely 17 and they were barely dressed" keeps rattling around in my mind because I don't think I'd ever really heard those words before.

At first, I thought; 'What a clever turn of phrase. Well done Mr. Loaf.'

And then, as it usually does when as an adult I listen to the songs that were the soundtrack for my youth, I was shocked by what the rocker was actually saying. Oh my.

And then, the thought 'I wonder if my mother knew what we were listening to when we were kids because this

certainly isn't very wholesome.'

I would guess she didn't notice, just as I didn't when my kids were learning the lyrics of sketchy country songs when they were young.

So, I guess I can forgive Meatloaf for his racy songs. But, I cannot forgive that they're still in my ear five days later. No, I won't do that.



Heather Wright

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# The Independent

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# THE WAIT IS ALMOST OVER.



PHOTO CREDIT

COVID-19 restrictions have once again moved back the opening of the newly renovated Oil Museum of Canada. It, along with Lambton County’s other museums and galleries, will be opening their doors Feb. 2. The province is lifting some of the restrictions which shuttered the building. The Oil Museum has been under renovations for well over a year now and was slated to reopen Wednesday. Those who register to enter the Oil Springs landmark will see new exhibits, interactive learning experiences and get a fresh view of the oldest oil fields in the country. “The Oil Museum was first opened in 1960 and had its last major renovation 30 years ago,” said Laurie Webb, Manager, Museums, Gallery and Archives in a news release. “This project has not only allowed us to bring the physical building and its systems up to modern standards, but has given us the opportunity to completely redesign the permanent exhibition. Visitors will see the significant history of the area presented in new and engaging ways, creating a memorable experience for all visitors.” The museum plans a grand reopening in the summer.

# Lambton man admits using his toddlers to make porn

**Blake Ellis**  
Local Journalism Initiative

A Lambton County father, who says he’s not sexually attracted to children, has been sentenced to five years in prison for using his own daughters to make child pornography. The 32-year old man pled guilty to sexual interference as well as charges related to making and distributing child pornography on Jan. 21. His name cannot be released since it would identify the victims of the crime, his children. The charges stemmed from four incidents involving his two daughters who were both under the age of three years. On two occasions, he admitted

to sending pornographic photos of his daughters to others through text messages. The man has admitted to having a sexual addiction and has participated in a program while he has been in jail to deal with this addiction. Despite this, he believes he is not sexually attracted to children. But Justice Krista Leszczynski said the man was downplaying the impact the crimes had on his daughters just because they were young. “They were powerless against you,” she said as she gave her verdict. Leszczynski said the girls will likely become aware of this sometime in the future and will struggle with wondering if and when these photos

might resurface. The man has been in custody since November 2020, and will be credited with the time he has already served. He has well over three years left to serve in his sentence with 1,196 days yet to complete. He will be placed on the sex offender registry for life, will not be allowed to go to parks, daycares, schools or public swimming areas where children under 16 will be. He will also not be allowed to have employment which will have him be near anyone under the age of 16. He will not be allowed to contact his children. He will also not be allowed to have a weapon for 10 years.

- THE INDEPENDENT

# COOL AWARD



PHOTO CREDIT

Amy Ewing and her brother, Cody, have won and Ontario Business Achievement Award from the Sarnia Lambton Chamber of Commerce. Johnny G’s Premium Pizza was named a ‘Cool Place to Work.’

# St. Clair’s insurance rates climb

**Heather Brouwer**  
The Independent

St. Clair Township’s insurance premium is going up by almost \$100,000. Tony Commisso, Regional Manager for the Intact Public Entities, presented the renewal report Jan. 17. The township will pay \$98,285 more compared to 2021, an increase of about 16 per cent. “The conversation I’m having tonight with St. Clair is the same conversation I’ve had with every municipality to date,” said Commisso, adding that insurers are playing “catch up” with the influx of claims activity, due in large part to extreme weather. The average municipal rate increase over the past few months has been 22.7 per cent. “The good news is St. Clair’s adjustment is below that,” he said. “What we need to recognize today is that the strategy we adopted years ago is seeing dividends, and we have reduced the township’s claims frequency and severity significantly.” According to St. Clair Township Mayor Steve Arnold, two key elements of that strategy were focusing on updating, reviewing, and training staff and installing GPS on vehicles. The focus on training was to prevent injuries, and the GPS in vehicles gives staff records of snow and ice removal, which becomes useful if the township is challenged in court. “That really helped in a lot of litigation,” said Arnold. He said he knew staff had successfully reduced the amount of insurance claims, and that’s what makes it especially hard that premiums have increased by such a large margin. “We’re doing our best to balance budgets, and it’s frustrating when we see insurance is still going up especially when we don’t have the claims.”

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## Corunna man guilty of hitting, stalking ex

**Blake Ellis**  
Local Journalism Initiative

A 25 year-old Corunna man found in his ex-girlfriend’s house will be sentenced for assault and making threats.

Aaron Wakefield pled guilty on Jan. 20 in Sarnia court to being unlawfully in a dwelling, assault and making threats.

Court heard Wakefield had first been arrested Aug. 5, for assault and making threats. Crown Attorney David Rowes said he had threatened to smash her

head and slammed her hand in a door before leaving the home. Wakefield was arrested and released the next day.

Then, on Aug. 10, the woman came home to find the doors of her Moore St. home open with her dogs outside. She called Wakefield on his cell phone and he admitted he was inside the home at the time even though there was a court order that he not contact her.

Wakefield says he has no recollection of these incidents because he was drunk.

He is to be sentenced on March 24.

- THE INDEPENDENT

## Tax increase above four percent likely

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

Dawn-Euphemia councillors are hoping to whittle down this year’s municipal tax increase to just over 4.1 per cent.

Council hashed out some of the details of the \$4.2 million operating and \$1.3 million capital budget Monday afternoon.

Treasurer Marc Seguin told councillors spending has increased by 4.9 per cent in the 2022 budget however he drafted the budget without taking money out of the reserves. He’s also put in about \$500,000 for future projects.

And he noted the fire tanker truck came in about \$30,000 under budget.

One of the larger capital projects in

the works is an addition to the Cairo public works building. Manager Paul Dalton says a two bay addition is expected to cost about \$226,000 with \$100,000 coming from a grant. An extra \$50,000 was set aside for it for increasing building costs.

Dalton also warned council about the state of the large culverts in the municipality which have “been poor for many years, however, they are now deteriorating to a point that a projected additional life span is nearly impossible to forecast.” Two culverts are slated for repair for 2022. Dalton says at least one is considered an emergency repair.

Council set a course to pair back some of the suggested 4.9 increase signalling 4.1 per cent would be better. They’ll look at the document again in


## SLEDGE LESSONS



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lambton Jr Sting’s Jace McGrail was learning the ropes of sledge hockey with Cash Stevenson at his home near Oil Springs this week. Stevenson plays for the Sarnia Ice Hawks and gave the call up for the Sarnia Legionnaires some tips on remaining upright.





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PHOTO VIA FACEBOOK

VPP Performer Jesse Grandmont talked with Conan O'Brien about life at the World Expo in Dubai recently.

## Find inspirations, making new friends in Dubai

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

Jesse Grandmont has found new inspiration in Dubai.

While many Canadian artists are struggling through the COVID-19 pandemic, the favourite from Victoria Playhouse Petrolia has been working since August at the World Expo in Dubai.

A friend alerted the violinist about the opportunity and Grandmont sent in a resume. He earned a position - along with hundreds of musicians from around the world - playing nightly at the Expo.

It has been an eye-opening experience to be in Dubai, he told *The Independent* in a video chat recently, noting everything you have seen that was amazing in North America is bigger and better in Dubai.

But it is the experience of playing with eclectic musicians which has given him new musical inspiration.

"Everyone has their own thing here," says Grandmont. "No one does the same thing as the next person like at all. It's really, really crazy, actually...Everyone has their own kind of flair and way of performing and music that they play....We're able to share the way that we do things and the collaborations are really cool."

Grandmont, who had just finished performing before the interview, recounted how he had been at the gym in the hotel and heard a guy with an accordion playing. They started talking and decided they should jam. Before long, he, the accordion player and two others were making music.

"We went, 'Hey, we should try this as a group.' So tonight, we played on the mainstage at an Expo and so it's yeah, it's kind of crazy."

Grandmont says the organizers of Expo encourage the collaboration.

The whole atmosphere, including seeing big name acts such as Alicia Keys and the Black Eyed Peas, and international music stars he's never heard of before, has opened up a new world for him.

"I'm going to want to try some new things I can kind of feel that," he says.

"I'm already playing with other musicians and learning so much about other types of music that I just never necessarily considered...so it's definitely having an impact for sure. Like I said, 'I don't know what it is, but like, I know for sure (his music) is gonna change.'"

And being at Expo also lead to an opportunity of a lifetime for the fan of Conan O'Brien. The comedian turned TV talk show host has a podcast called *Conan Needs a Fan*. Grandmont listens all the time and recently heard a call for new guests. He

wrote in, told him he was playing his "guitar violin" at the World Expo in Dubai and soon the producers were on the phone to book him onto the podcast.

Grandmont, who has been performing for most of his life, says it was nerve-racking.

"I was super nervous to be honest. I recorded the episode at the beginning of December or end of November but it didn't come out until just last week. And when I listened to it, I really was like, 'Man, I don't even really remember having this conversation because it just went by so fast.'"

"By the time you know, they wrapped it I was like, 'oh my god, did we even talk about anything?'"

Grandmont was relieved to see O'Brien seemed to enjoy the talk and spent some time thinking about his question of who the comedian - who also is a musician - would want to play with if he had the chance.

"I get asked that constantly and so it was kind of a no brainer for me to ask that. But, I guess because music isn't his first bag, he hadn't ever been asked before."

O'Brien was fascinated by his guitar violin "That's fantastic...I want to hear something." He also sung along as Grandmont rocked the podcast with some Guns and Roses.

"You're a shoulder guitarist," he says.

"You would be surprised how many people tell me that," said Grandmont on the podcast which can be found on YouTube.

And while this is an experience of a lifetime, Grandmont admits he's missed Petrolia, particularly at Christmas.

The violinist has been part of Starbright Christmas for years, a show which needs weeks of practice starting in November.

"Usually around Christmas Eve I'm so sick of Christmas music because we had been doing it since the beginning of November with all the shows," he says.

"This year, I got to Christmas Eve, and there was this beautiful concert on the mainstage Broadway star, Leah Salonga, who many people know, she did this concert of Christmas songs, and I just went like, 'oh my god, I didn't play Christmas music and I didn't play Starbright.'"

"I was definitely texting all my VPP family, including my little sister," he says.

It won't be long until Grandmont will be able to see his VPP family in person. The World Expo wraps up at the end of March and he hopes to return to Petrolia to perform this summer.



**Jesse Grandmont**



### TOWN OF PLYMPTON-WYOMING NOTICE OF PASSING OF A ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

**TAKE NOTICE** that on January 24<sup>th</sup> 2022 the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming passed By-law 118 of 2021 under Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, to adopt Zoning By-law Amendment (ZBA) 118 of 2021.

**THE PURPOSE OF ZBA No. 118 of 2021** is to amend the Town's Zoning By-law 97 of 2003. This By-law restricts the location of alternate/renewable energy infrastructure to locations which conform to the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Official Plan (OPA 54) policies. These policies include consideration for noise and odour control, potential tower collapse, ice throw and haulage routes. The project particulars, including maximum height, the required minimum setbacks to property lines and municipal rights-of-way, and mitigation of any other concerns will be determined on a site-by-site basis in compliance with provided environmental assessments, notwithstanding the regulations in section 3.31 of this Zoning By-law

**APPEALS**  
Any person or agency may appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) in respect to Council's decision by filing an appeal with the Clerk of the Corporation of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming not later than **February 14<sup>th</sup> 2022**. A notice of appeal must set out the reasons for the appeal and must be accompanied by a certified cheque or money order in the amount of \$1,100.00, made payable to the Minister of Finance, which is the fee prescribed under the Ontario Land Tribunal Act. A copy of an appeal form is available from the OLT website at <https://olt.gov.on.ca/>

The decision of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming is final if a notice of appeal is not received on or before the last day for filing a notice of appeal.

**ONLY INDIVIDUALS**, corporations or public bodies may appeal a decision of the approval authority to the Ontario Land Tribunal. A notice of appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a notice of appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or the group on its behalf.

**NO PERSON** or public body shall be added as a party to the hearing of the appeal unless, before the requested zoning by-law amendment was passed, the person or public body made oral submission at a public meeting or written submission to the council or, in the opinion of the Ontario Land Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

**NO KEY MAP** is included as the lands affected are the entire municipality.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** is available for inspection during regular office hours at the Municipal Office at 546 Niagara Street, Wyoming, ON.

**DATED AT THE TOWN OF PLYMPTON-WYOMING THIS 25<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2022.**

Ella Lassaline  
Planning Technician  
Town of Plympton-Wyoming  
546 Niagara St., Box 250  
Wyoming, ON, N0N 1T0  
(519) 845-3939  
[elassaline@plympton-wyoming.ca](mailto:elassaline@plympton-wyoming.ca)



LAMBTON MUTUAL  
INSURANCE COMPANY

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF

### LAMBTON MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

The Annual Meeting of the Policyholders of LAMBTON MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY will be held by way of a virtual meeting on

**Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.**

TO:

1. Receive, consider and approve the Annual Statements and Auditors' Report for the year ended December 31, 2021.
2. Elect two directors for a three-year term in accordance with Company By-laws.
3. Appoint auditors.
4. Transact such further business as may rightly come before the meeting.

Please email [watford@lambtonmutual.com](mailto:watford@lambtonmutual.com) if you wish to attend and request your link to the virtual meeting.

NOTE: The Annual Statements for the Company for the year ending December 31, 2021 may be viewed on the Company's website at [www.lambtonmutual.com](http://www.lambtonmutual.com). A Member may obtain a copy of the Annual Statements by sending a written notice to the Company's head office at least 14 days before the Meeting.



# Moore renos could be done this year

**Heather Brouwer**  
The Independent

Work is anticipated to begin soon on upgrades to Rink 1 at the Moore Sports Complex in St. Clair Township.

“The pandemic hasn’t hurt that process,” says Mayor Steve Arnold, pointing to the lack of foot traffic in the facility due to COVID-19 restrictions.

If all goes according to plan, Rink 1 may be finished and ready for use by the end of 2022.

Meanwhile, work continues on Rink 2. “I believe that by summer, Rink 2 will be ready,” says Arnold.

However, as indicated in a Dec. 6 report from Director of Community Services Kendall Lindsay, timelines are tough to

predict.

“Many delays have happened and are expected to continue as the pandemic has made it hard to order and receive anything,” wrote Lindsay.

So far, the in-floor heat has been installed and has been pressure tested in Rink 2. The new compressor room is currently getting its roof installed.

It was announced earlier this month that the project to upgrade the arena — which is anticipated to cost between \$8- and \$10 million once all the work is complete — will receive \$500,000 in funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Renovations, which included the replacement of one of the last direct ammonia refrigeration systems in any arena in Canada, began last spring.

# Drive with a beer nets licence suspension

**Blake Ellis**  
Local Journalism Initiative

An early morning drive with some beer in Enniskillen Township has netted a 19 year-old woman with a drunk driving conviction

The court heard that on Aug. 1, at about 3 a.m., a pick-up truck was seen by police crossing Old Heritage Road. Police followed the truck for about half a kilometre and watched as it crossed the center line

twice and hit the shoulder twice. Once the truck was stopped, police observed an open beer can in the truck. OPP tested the driver who had a blood alcohol level of 140 – well over the 80 limit.

Victoria Smith pled guilty to the charge in Sarnia court Jan. 21. She was fined \$1,500 and lost her license for a year.

“I have learned my lesson and I never want to be in this situation again,” said Smith, before the sentence was given.

# Stewardson Line fire cause undetermined

Plympton-Wyoming’s fire chief says the cause of a blaze which leveled a large shed on Stewardson Line is unknown.

Firefighters were called to the rural area Friday morning and found a large shed on fire. Warwick and Watford crews were called in to help run water with their tankers to the location. “This shuttle proved very effective as the crews from each service

worked very well together,” says Chief Darryl Thompson.

Firefighters worked from the outside to put out the fire, since the roof was compromised. A excavator was brought in to make sure the fire was extinguished.

Thompson says the cause of the fire isn’t know and there was less than \$500,000 damage done.

# Business booster urges end to COVID stigma

**Cathy Dobson**  
Special to The Independent

Rodney Medwid and his wife Kendra Petley say their recent bout with COVID-19 was a real lesson in how some people try to shame anyone who gets the virus.

Rodney and Kendra, administrators of an influential Facebook page, Supporting Sarnia Lambton, with 21,000 members, used their social media platform to try to educate the community.

“I decided to be really open about having COVID because there’s some kind of strange stigma around it,” he explained.

It’s bad enough that COVID makes you feel physically ill. It shouldn’t make you feel emotionally stressed too because there are people who question your behaviour and why you got it. So Rodney figured he would take advantage of his reputation as the “least shy guy in Lambton County” and use his online influence to try to get rid of the judgement that some people have.

He began posting how he and his family were feeling a few days after the worst of his symptoms lifted, when he had enough energy to deal with however people responded online.

The couple’s youngest, three-year-old Brixton, was the first to test positive and the others followed suit within a few days. For a little while, the Medwid/Petley house was awash with Kleenex, thermometers, soup and naps.

“I decided to just be straight up about it and let people know (on social media) because no one with Covid is really going public and I think more need to come

forward for the safety aspect,” Rodney said.

People with COVID may feel like people assume they are sick because they’ve been circulating and perhaps breaking COVID protocols, said Kendra.

“But we have always erred on the side of caution. We stick to COVID rules,” she said. “Seriously, we only saw one other family over the holidays and they are as strict as us.

“The fact we got it anyway shows you how easily it’s transmitted,” she said. “I find it really frustrating that we have been so careful for two years and we still got it. It’s incredibly contagious.”

“We don’t mess around,” added Rodney about taking all precaution. “When we began to feel sick, we isolated. We want people to get that message.”

His posts about getting COVID have received thousands of responses, almost all supportive with many wishes for the family to get better fast. The few who were ignorant, blaming, or judgemental, were immediately deleted.

Rodney and Kendra are strict about showing nothing but support and kindness on their page.

“Hopefully it starts a trend so people know they should be letting others know if they’ve got COVID,” he said.

At this writing, Rodney and the boys have recovered after about 10 days down with it. Kendra continues to deal with fatigue, headache and lost her sense of taste and smell. But the family is nearly well again, grateful to feel better and hopeful that their story will fight the stigma prevalent in the community.



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# Sports

## Flyers, Flags swing back into action

Barry Wright  
The Independent

Following an unscheduled break of several weeks, the Petrolia Flyers, Mooretown Flags, and the rest of the PJHL will get back on the ice next week.

The Flyers are scheduled to host the unbeaten Lakeshore Canadiens Feb. 3 at Greenwood, while the

Flags takes on the Sharks in Wheatley Feb. 2.

The league was paused in early January by provincial government-imposed restrictions due to COVID-19 concerns over the Omicron variant.

Due to the Christmas break, neither team has seen any action since late December.

Petrolia has seven games

to make up since the season was shuttered earlier this month while Mooretown has eight games to be rescheduled.

Flags GM John Baker says the season is expected to be extended to early March to complete the 32-game campaign.

Meantime, the first game back for the Sarnia Legionnaires of the GOJHL

is expected to be on Thursday, Feb. 3 against the St. Marys Lincolns at the Sarnia Arena.



## Killer Bees sign Memorial Cup champ

The Independent

The Alvinston Killer Bees have added Chad Heffernan to their lineup for the remainder of the Western Ontario Super Hockey League season.

The 25 year-old played four seasons in the OHL, including

winning a Memorial Cup with the London Knights in 2016. He also played with St. Marys of the GOJHL.

The Bees are back in action on Saturday, Feb. 5 in Tillsonburg. They host Stratford on Saturday, Feb. 12 in Alvinston at 6:30.

Meantime, in WOAA Senior “A” playoffs, the Petrolia Squires have received a first-round bye and will play either Creemore or Milverton in the semifinals.

Dates have not yet been announced.



Chad Heffernan

## Former Petrolia Jet named to CK AAA coaching staff

The Independent

A younger brother of Pat Verbeek has been selected as a head coach of the U14 squad for the Chatham Kent

Cyclones AAA program.

Tim Verbeek played a season of Junior B hockey with the Petrolia Jets in 1995-96 before embarking on an OHL career with the

Kitchener Rangers, Sarnia Sting and Barrie Colts.

He won a league championship with the Colts in 2000.

The 42 year-old went to

play nine seasons and more than 500 regular season and playoff games of pro hockey split between teams in the AHL and ECHL.

## Little NHL tournament nixed for third straight year

The Independent

The Little NHL (Native Hockey League) tournament scheduled for March break in Mississauga has been cancelled over concerns over COVID and the Omicron variant.

“While this isn’t the kind of three-peat anyone aspires to, the decision to cancel the tournament for the third year in a row was made entirely out of concern for the health and safety of First Nation communities across Ontario, especially those unequipped

to deal with increased demands on already very limited resources,” said Chief Scott McLeod of the host Nipissing First Nation near North Bay.

One of the largest minor hockey tournaments in Ontario, the most recent

event in 2018 drew over 200 boys’ and girls’ teams and more than 3,000 players.

In the past, area teams, including players from Aamjiwnaang, Walpole Island the Kettle and Stony Point, have all competed at the event.

## Curling’s best come to southern Ontario in 2023

The Independent

Curling Canada has awarded the Tim Horton’s Brier to London for 2023.

The national men’s championship is scheduled for Budweiser Gardens from March 3-12.

“Our past events in

London have been memorable for some many reasons, so it was a pretty easy decision to return based on the superb bid they submitted,” said Katherine Henderson, Chief Executive Officer of Curling Canada as part of the announcement Monday.

“I can’t wait to be there in 2023,” she added.

London has previously hosted the Brier in 1975 and 2011 and it was the host city for the World Men’s Championship in 1981.

The winner of the ‘23 Brier will represent Canada at world championship at a

yet to be named Canadian location next April.



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**CAMPBELL**  
**Ilene Frances (Rees)**

With heart-breaking sadness I announce the passing of my loving sister **Ilene Campbell (Rees)**. Ilene passed away **Friday, December 31, 2021** at Royal Alexander Hospital in Edmonton, Alberta. Ilene was predeceased by her parents Samuel and Sarah Rees (Wagner). Ilene was born in the family home (October 16th, 1940) on Robert Street, Petrolia and was raised there until she met her loving husband Doug Campbell who predeceased her December 31, 2017. They were married 65 years. Loving Mom of Debbie (Juan Paredes), Tammie Melnyk, and Bill (Darlene) Campbell. Dear Grama of Juan Jr. Paredes, Sarah (Chris Hertel) Melnyk, Chantelle, Darlena, and grandson Cameron Campbell who had predeceased his Grama. Loving Great Grama of Cameron, Chevelle, and Natalia Campbell. Ilene was predeceased by her sister Delores Broad (Marvin), and by brothers Gerald Rees, and Sam Rees. Survived by her sister Geraldine Duffy (Jack), Sisters-In-Law Helen Rees and Nancy and Les Zimmerman (Campbell), and her Brother-In-Law Ken Campbell. Beloved Aunt and Great Aunt to many Nieces and Nephews. Great Nephew Korey Broad held a special place in her heart. Ilene was a beautiful, caring, and loving sister who loved all her family and friends and they loved her. **A memorial will be held as soon as conditions allow.** As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to C.E.E. Hospital Foundation or the Humane Society.

**HUNKING**  
**Gerald Douglas**

**Gerald Douglas Hunking, 87 years**, of Petrolia and formerly of Clinton, died on **Monday, January 17, 2022** at C.E.E. Hospital, Petrolia. Born in Hullett Township, the son of the late Harvey and Evelyn Hunking. Gerald was predeceased by his wife Dorothy (nee Glazier) (2008). Gerald will be missed by his son Brian and his wife Sandra Hunking, his grandchildren Carrie Elliott and Jorge Paiva, Craig Hunking and Ann-Marie Pineo, and Brandon Hunking, and his great grandchildren Kole and Bryce Elliott and Jaxson Hunking. He is also survived by a sister-in-law Gloria McWhirter and Doug Murray. He was predeceased by a brother Don and Myrna Hunking, sisters Hazel and Joe Crosato and Ferne and Bill Moore, and brother-in-law Raleigh and Pat Glazier. He will be missed by his many nieces and nephews. **A service was held on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at the Needham-Jay Funeral Home, 4059 Petrolia Line, Petrolia. Interment was in Hillsdale Cemetery.** As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario or C.E.E. Hospital Foundation. **Memories and condolences may be shared online at [www.needhamjay.com](http://www.needhamjay.com).**

**BRYSON**  
**Doreen Yvonne**

Peacefully passed away at Fiddick's Nursing Home in Petrolia on **Saturday, January 22, 2022**, at the age of **92 years**. Predeceased by her husband Lorne Bryson (1992). Survived by her daughter Diane Buckingham (Bill), and her grandson Darrell Ford (Sara), and her great-grandchildren Katherine and Christopher. Also survived by her sisters Aleta Laird of Boerne, Texas, and Katherine Dresden of Petrolia, and her nieces and nephews. Predeceased by her parents Leslie and Alfretia Watson, her sister Gloria Helwig (1961) and her brother Gerald Watson (2000). Life member of the Wyoming Legion Ladies Auxiliary with over 65 years of service. **There will be a burial service taking place in the spring;** please check back for updates. For those who wish, memorial donations may be made to Fiddick's Retirement/Nursing Home or the Wyoming Legion Ladies' Auxiliary Br #388. **Online condolences may be left at [www.forestfuneralhome.com](http://www.forestfuneralhome.com).** Funeral arrangements entrusted to DENNING'S OF FOREST

Coming Events

The Lambton Mental Wellness Centre, Family Counselling Centre, Community Law School Sarnia Lambton, Age-Friendly Sarnia, and Literacy Lambton present **Senior to Senior Peer Connection Lunch & Learn Workshop** This online zoom program for adults 50+ will help increase technological skills you have, training on cyber security, identity theft, and online scams. Sessions are from 12-1pm on March 1st, 3rd, or 9th. Register for free at [Lambtonmentalwellnesscentrestaff@outlook.com](mailto:Lambtonmentalwellnesscentrestaff@outlook.com) today!



Church DIRECTORY

**Christ Anglican Church**  
414 Oil Street, Petrolia  
**Due to Covid-19 we will be closed until further notice.**  
Stay Safe Everyone  
Rev. Michelle Collins-Wongkee  
Church Office 519-882-1430  
[christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com](mailto:christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com)

**St. Paul's United Church**  
4169 Petrolia Line at Centre Street  
**NO In-Person Services for Month of January - prerecorded services will be available online -**  
Rev Carol Ferguson  
Church Office: 519-882-1390  
[www.stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net](http://www.stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net)

**First Baptist Church**  
418 Greenfield Street, Petrolia  
**Out of an abundance of caution with regards to the spread of COVID-19 in our province, we are moving all our services and committee meetings online to Zoom until further notice.**  
Pastor: Alex Craig  
Church Office 519-882-2480  
[fbcpetrolia@gmail.com](mailto:fbcpetrolia@gmail.com)  
[www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca](http://www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca)  
[www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia](https://www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia)

**Wyoming United Church**  
730 Second Street, Wyoming  
**In-person services suspended at this time. Please contact our office at [wyoing\\_united@outlook.com](mailto:wyoing_united@outlook.com) to be sent the Zoom link to join us for our 10am live service.**  
Rev. Steven Longmoore  
Church Office 519-845-3963  
FIND US ON FACEBOOK

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



Classified Deadline:  
Monday @ 12 noon

Classifieds

Word Classifieds: \$10 plus tax for up to 40 words  
Stop in at the office 9a-5p Mon-Fri  
4156 Petrolia Line – Call 226-738-0728  
or email: [office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)

In Memory

### Dale Moore

who passed away  
two years ago  
January 30th, 2020

*Loving you is easy,  
We do it every day  
Missing you is heartache  
That never goes away*

With Love,  
Gail, Ian, Lorie & family  
Shawna , Steve, & family

### JUDITH MARIE SMITH

Passed away January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007

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Wife, daughter, sister, mother  
You are still in our hearts,  
Loved and missed by all,  
Everyday

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Hugh, Marie, Jim, Margot

### Weekly Ad Booking Deadline is Monday @ 12 noon

Send Classified ad requests to:  
[office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)  
and Display ad requests to: [sales@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:sales@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)

## Death Notices

January 9 - January 22, 2022

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

<b>SUNDAY, JANUARY 9</b> <b>THOMSON, Carling Alyssa "Karli"</b> Age 31 Steadman Brothers Funeral Home	<b>HUKING, Gerald Douglas</b> Age 87, of Petrolia Needham-Jay Funeral Home	<b>THURSDAY, JANUARY 20</b> <b>GENERAL, Frederick James</b> Age 89 Denning's of Forest
<b>SATURDAY, JANUARY 15</b> <b>JENSEN, Doris May</b> (n Bygrove) Age 90, of Fort Myers Needham-Jay Funeral Home	<b>TUESDAY, JANUARY 18</b> <b>DEMARSE, Carolyn Catherine</b> (n romlewski) Age 75 D.J. Robb Funeral Home	<b>GILPIN, Ronald Douglas</b> Age 77, of Thedford Gilpin Funeral Chapel - Forest
<b>SUNDAY, JANUARY 16</b> <b>RUSSELL, David George</b> Age 76 McCormack Funeral Home	<b>NORRIS, Roy John "Jack" Alexander</b> Age 82 Smith Funeral Home	<b>STEWART, Marg</b> (n Bell) Age 57 Smith Funeral Home
<b>MONDAY, JANUARY 17</b> <b>CHALUPKA, Alma</b> (n St. Pierre) Age 81, formerly of Alvinston & Glencoe VanHeck Funeral Home	<b>YOUNG, Lucille Marie Adrienne</b> (n Roy) Age 76 Smith Funeral Home	<b>TAMMINEN, Catherine Marie</b> Age 69 Gilpin Funeral Chapel
<b>DOUGLAS, Ruth Elizabeth "Betty"</b> Age 92 Denning's of Forest	<b>WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19</b> <b>BRYSON, Kenneth Albert</b> Age 81 McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home	<b>FRIDAY, JANUARY 21</b> <b>HENRY, Goldie Adrienne</b> Age 82 Denning's of Forest
	<b>HAWKE, Shirley Eileen</b> (n Bell) Age 67 D.J. Robb Funeral Home	<b>KNOWLES, Joan</b> Age 89, of Corunna Knight Funeral Home
	<b>SMITH, Captain Nathan Lyall</b> Age 92 Smith Funeral Home	<b>SATURDAY, JANUARY 22</b> <b>BRYSON, Doreen Yvonne</b> (n Watson) Age 92 Denning's of Forest

## ADVERTISING IS KEY

### TOP REASONS to advertise frequently

1. People may not need your product or service today, but they may need it tomorrow.
2. Frequency builds trust.
3. Frequent advertising adds credibility to your message.
4. When an ad is seen frequently, it gets the consumer yearning for your service and they will take action to buy it.
5. Advertising frequently helps put your name out in front of the competition's.
6. Advertising frequently is a lot like repeatedly inviting a friend to come see you. One day, they are bound to visit!
7. Frequent advertising helps you build a steady source of incoming sales.
8. Out of sight, out of mind.
9. You make more money when you do! It's plain and simple.

### The Independent

Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton

4156 Petrolia Line, Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0  
Phone: 226-738-0728  
email: [sales@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:sales@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)

## Stop the spread of germs that can make you and others sick!

Wash your hands often

Cover your coughs & sneezes

Wear a mask

Keep 6 feet of space when possible

Stay Home if you are sick

Get a COVID vaccine

GET YOUR VACCINE



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P O W E R I N G *l i f e* P O S S I B L E

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PROGRAM**

*Tony & Vicci*  
**LOST 265 LBS.\***



**WE LOST THE**

*“...we’ll  
start  
tomorrow!”*

*“Ideal Protein is  
really about science.  
You’re actually fat-burning,  
rather than ingesting it.”*



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- **GAIN ENERGY**

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TODAY AT:**

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**or visit 4177 Petrolia Line**

Hours: Mon-Fri: 9am-9pm | Sat: 9am-6pm | Sun: 10am-5pm

\*Results of individual. Typical results vary up to 6 and 8 pounds lost during the first two weeks and up to 2 pounds per week thereafter when the Ideal Protein Weight Loss Protocol is followed properly. Consult your Healthcare Professional before starting this or any other diet program.

