

On with the show

After two year shutdown, VPP plans May opening

Heather Wright
The Independent

“Relieved, excited, anxious, all those things, but mostly I’m excited and thrilled that theatre is coming back.”

That from artistic director of Victoria Playhouse Petrolia, David Rogers as the theatre announced it will raise the curtain on the 2022 season in May.

Theatres around the world shuttered in 2020 as the COVID-19 pandemic was declared. Rogers says the VPP was looking forward to one of its best years ever for advanced ticket sales in March just as the province of Ontario locked down the province to try to take the virus out at the knees.

As the pandemic dragged on, it became clear there would be no 2020 season, save a couple of performances at half capacity. Rogers and Artistic Director David Hogan decided to postpone the shows for a year hoping 2021 would see a return to live theatre. But, 2021 was just as difficult, with the season being delayed again.

But with the Ontario government lifting all capacity limits as of March 1, the theatre is confident the show can go on and announced its season opener - The Roaring Twenties - will hit the stage May 10.

“I think this is one of the only summer theatres, that I know of , that was able to keep the exact same season,” he says adding the theme of The Roaring Twenties actually reflects the feelings many people in Ontario have after two years of pandemic living.

“The show is actually New Year’s Eve 1929 and all the performers are celebrating the decade of great music,” he says.

“The 20s came after the Spanish Flu (pandemic) and people had a need to be together and to be entertained. And that’s what we want. That’s what we’re hoping to offer.”

The new season will also offer work to a lot of artists who have struggled financially through the pandemic. Rogers says many older actors have simply retired.

SEE VPP PG 3

PROTEST ROLLS THROUGH PETROLIA



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

This quarry truck was part of a 40 vehicle convoy which made its way through Lambton Saturday. It went through Petrolia on the way back to the Warwick Township farm where protesters held up during a six day blockade of Highway 402. Lambton OPP have charged the driver. See story page 2

Gladu says constituents bank accounts frozen under Emergency Act

Heather Wright
The Independent

Sarnia-Lambton MP Marilyn Gladu says some of her constituents are being caught up in an RCMP action to freeze the bank accounts of people involved in a recent protest in Ottawa just for making a donation or buying a T-shirt.

She’s says it’s just one example of the “vast overreach” of the Emergency Act in place to deal with the so called Freedom Convoy which crippled Ottawa for nearly four weeks and caused the shutdowns of both the Ambassador and Bluewater Bridges in February.

The protesters organized by Canada Unity

want all COVID-19 mandates dropped. The group said it wanted to remove the current government and form an interim government themselves with the governor general and senate to accomplish it.

The protesters dug in and had been in the capital since Jan. 28. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau used the Emergencies Act – the first time that has ever been done – to bring the situation which crippled the capital and caused Gladu to return to her riding for her safety to an end.

The Conservative Party and Gladu have protested the move saying the protest could have been ended with powers already in place.

Under the act, the government can begin

to use its powers before it is approved by Parliament. One of the first things to happen was bank accounts linked to the protest were seized.

Gladu says less than a dozen people from the area have contacted her saying they didn’t have access to their money even though they only donated money.

“We have multiple constituents, had their bank accounts frozen, due to buying freedom convoy T shirts for \$20 or I had another individual donated \$50,” she tells *The Independent*. The MP is also worried about other people who have donated and whose information is now in the public domain and are concerned their accounts may be next.

SEE BANK PG 2

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Charges laid after Saturday convoy

Heather Wright
The Independent

Lambton OPP have charged a man after the latest convoy on Lambton roads.

Around 4 pm Saturday, police stopped a large quarry truck driving on Egremont Road in Warwick Township. The truck had been part of a protest which started at Egremont and Forest Road around 10:45 am that day and made its way into Sarnia and then back to an Egremont Road farm through Petrolia.

The vehicle was stopped near the farm where protesters were meeting after the convoy through the streets. Police arrested the driver.

Officials allege he'd been involved in last week's blockade of Highway 402 for six days at the Forest Road exit.

The protestors used the farm at the highway for a base camp during the protest in support of the Freedom Convoy which parked transports in Ottawa from Jan. 28 until Sunday. The protest was organized by Canada Unity to remove all COVID-19 mandates including vaccine mandates for international truck drivers. The group planned to remove the current government with the help of the senate and the governor general to meet their goals. Over the weekend, the main organizers were arrested and charged with various offences. Police have also cleared most of the protesters out of downtown Ottawa after the federal government invoked the Emergency Act. The legislation allowed police to seize bank accounts of people who donated to the protesters and allowed



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

A convoy of about 40 vehicles moved through Lambton Saturday - a show of support for an Ottawa protest.

police to form a single command to clear the protest.

The act - which was approved Monday - requires a full accounting of what happened through an inquiry after the incident is over.

Meantime, the OPP said the protest in Lambton County last week is being investigated by the OPP Criminal Investigation Branch.

Saturday there was a large police presence in the area watching the convoy as it moved through the county. There was also a smaller group driving in the area with a military type vehicle and three other pickup trucks.

There was an increase in police presence in Lambton with cruisers circling the roadways and parked beside the entrances to the highway.

Police stopped a large quarry truck, as the protest was winding down. Steve Verberne is facing two criminal charges; mischief and operating a vehicle while prohibited.

He's also facing five Highway Traffic Act charges including failing to stop at a stop sign and driving a commercial motor vehicle with an improper licence.

Bank, RCMP says large donors targeted

CON'T FROM PG 1

"I have heard of the financial institutions here that are telling people, they're going to freeze their accounts... I'm concerned, because I think that this is way overreach on the part of the government."

When asked if she was 100 per cent certain the accounts had been frozen because of the Emergency Act, Gladu said: "I don't have all of the details, I have what the people are telling me. I'm not sure whether they got frozen by provincial emergency by federal emergency but the fact that they're contacting me, that's the information that I have at this point. And so I'm expressing the concern."

"This is obviously for the investigation of the people that are actively involved at whatever level of government to go and explain to Canadians why people that buy T shirts are having serious financial punitive measures taken against them."

Both the RCMP and local banks say people who have made small donations or purchased T-shirts will not have their assets frozen.

Over the weekend, Gladu engaged with a constituent on social media who said he'd been told by someone at his local Libro Credit Union if he bought a T-shirt or made a donation his assets would be frozen.

Officials from Libro Financial say that's simply not true.

Mike Donachie, the communications manager for Libro says it is "simply not the case that Libro has or intends to freeze any accounts for small dona-

tions. There's no truth to that."

The RCMP also clarified the situation issuing a news release Tuesday. "Under the emergency economic measures order (Emergencies Act), the list that was provided to financial institutions included identities of individuals who were influencers in the illegal protest in Ottawa, and owners and/or drivers of vehicles who did not want to leave the area impacted by the protest. At no time did we provide a list of donors to financial institutions."

Gladu and the Conservatives were joined by the Bloc Quebecois opposing the minority Liberal government's move to use the Emergency Measures Act which allows the RCMP to seize bank accounts.

The Sarnia-Lambton MP says that while there are provisions for an inquiry into the move and even though the NDP could withdraw its support at any time to end the measures, she believes the Liberals should not have used the extraordinary measures. "They have given themselves unlimited powers and they can extend them at will," she says adding the Prime Minister can invoke more measures and "there are no parameters around those measures."

"The other thing that is very disturbing to me, is that after the convoy was cleared, they still persisted in putting these emergency measures in place. And the question was asked to the Prime Minister, 'what additional things do you need? That you don't have know that everything's cleared out? 'There it is overreach."



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Oil producer says homes near wells a mistake

Heather Wright
The Independent

Petrolia has given a local developer the green light to build 46 more homes in the Glenview subdivision. But an oil producer says the town is getting bad advice about laws which protect his oil field in the area.

Council approved a zoning change which allows land formerly considered major open space and environmental protection as residential at its council meeting Feb. 14.

The first homes in Glenview Estates were built in the 1990s around the historic golf course.

The latest subdivision is tucked between holes 15, 16 and 17 and a pond which is the back-yard of the homes fronting on First Street. The developers hope to build 46 more homes around the golf course.

The developers have been working since 2019 on the project, trying to get the land zoned residential. First they had to solve a drainage problem, and also faced concerns from neighbours about homes being built in an area which was already home to wildlife.

They also faced objections from Walter Brand whose family has owned oil fields in the area for 80 years. He continues to operate the fields now and says according to regulations under the Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Act, housing can't be built within 75 meters of his well. That could eliminated the construction of about four homes and forced the developer to move roads.

Council put off the decision in June so the developer could hire an expert to look at the issue. Engineer Jim McIntosh confirmed the act did prohibit development 75 meters from a well, but said the housing development could go ahead. McIntosh found nine oil wells within the property to be developed. Five are owned by Brand. But he doesn't think those active wells should stop

the project.

"The offset distances (75 meters) specified in the standards are for new oil and natural gas wells and infrastructure relative to other existing facilities," McIntosh wrote in a letter to the developer. "Also discussed in my report was the historical status of the Petrolia oil field, which is silent on offsets of historical oil wells and related facilities from other infrastructure," he added

"The act clearly exempts the construction within the subdivisions from being bound by any offset provisions within the regulations or standards with respect to any of the Walter Brand producing historical oil wells. As such, the house lots close to the Walter Brand property could be developed."

McIntosh goes on to say the developer "may want to include fencing on the edge of the Walter Brand property to provide a visual barrier between the oil wells and structures within the new subdivisions...as a compromise" to Brand's objections.

But Brand says the town and the developer are getting bad advice. While the Brand oil fields are historic, they are still active and must follow the Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Act - including the 75 meter setback.

"The Oil Gas and Salt Resources Act does not differentiate between old or new wells, historic or current. Any perceived difference is purely operational. A well, is a well, is a well," Brand told council.

"I disagree totally with what the planner has written. I disagree with some of this. Dr. McIntosh has written." Mayor Brad Loosley told Brand council members are not experts in the field and should follow an expert opinion. Brand disagreed.

"These are operational wells in production. You've made a mistake."

Brand added; "I will pursue this."

OPP officer needs treatment after exposure to drug

It's evidence of just how toxic fentanyl can be.

Lambton OPP say an officer had to be taken to hospital after coming into contact with the drug during the search of a car.

On Feb. 21, police stopped a car in Thedford. It had a stolen licence plate. The

driver was taken into custody and police searched the car finding fentanyl. One of the officers started to feel the effects of the drug and was taken to hospital by ambulance. He was released after being monitored.

A North Middlesex man, Anthony Riley, 26, faces 10 charges.

VPP patrons have been holding onto their tickets

CON'T FROM PG 1

Rogers says he feels for a lot of younger actors just getting their start who wouldn't have had a steady career or savings when the pandemic hit.

"Usually, a young actor has waiting tables to fall back on when they're not working for those two months, because it's not a steady industry." With the restaurant industry closed on an off through the pandemic, that wasn't an outlet available to them either. Some, Rogers says, have left the industry.

"A lot of younger artists have shifted, have pivoted their careers, some of them have gone into real estate or have used their creativity and other outlets to become photographers, artists in different forms."

Rogers says many of the artist familiar to VPP patrons will be returning to Petrolia this year. And he expects to see many familiar patrons as well.

"2020 was going to be our most successful season ever in terms pre-ticket sales, and we were so excited about that," he says.

When the doors closed, Rogers says a lot of the patrons "were generously and held on to their tickets thinking we might reopen in a couple of months, right. That's what we all thought."

That wasn't to be and Rogers said they contacted the patrons a number of times over the two year pandemic to let them

know, they were still waiting for the right time to open.

Eventually, "a very few" patrons asked for refunds, but the majority just held onto their tickets, waiting for the curtain to rise.

"We're so fortunate that we were able to keep the same season and many people held on to their tickets," he says.

As they plan for the 2022 season admits they are a bit anxious knowing anything can happen, but Rogers says they are confident they can pivot with any capacity limits or rules that might come their way.

"We will adapt, if all of a sudden they slap some 50 per cent capacity on, we will adapt, which we had to do for the last few shows.

"We're prepared for that. Hopefully, that's not going to happen, but we're certainly prepared for that."

Rogers adds there "will be folks that are not comfortable coming back" to a large crowd of people at a theater, the VPP will work with them, he says, to find a show that fits their needs.

The 2022 season opens May 10 and runs until Oct. 9.

One casualty of all the pandemic changes is the cast of On Golden Pond, two years ago, Hal Linden was scheduled to star with Michael Learned. This year, Walter Borden will take the role of Norman in the classic play by Ernest Thompson.

CALL FOR BOARD & BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS



St. Joseph's Hospice Resource Centre of Sarnia-Lambton (Hospice) is seeking candidates to serve on its Board of Directors and Board Committees in a volunteer capacity. Hospice relies heavily on our volunteers, and along with our dedicated staff, we are able to deliver an excellent level of service to those approaching end-of-life, those caring for them, and those grieving for them. As a Board Member and a Board Committee Member, you will provide your input and governance to our not-for-profit organization as we strive to carry on the legacy of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

St. Joseph's Hospice Resource Centre of Sarnia Lambton is a faith-based organization that provides quality of life at the end of life, offering compassionate, holistic care and support to individuals living with a life limiting illness. Support for their family members, caregivers, and those grieving the loss of a loved one is offered at no cost and is available irrespective of age, gender, religion, race, ethnicity, or economic status.



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To be considered for a position on the Board/Board Committees, please submit your resume and application form to Karen Merritt at kmerritt@sjhospice.ca by March 18, 2022. Applications are available at <https://www.stjosephshospice.ca> Interviews will be conducted the week of March 28, 2022. Hospice will accommodate candidate needs under the Ontario Human Rights Code and processes will be modified to remove barriers to accommodate disabilities, if required.

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Editorial

Ford focused on election not protest

If you only watched the social media feed of the Ontario Conservatives this past week, you might be convinced that nothing was happening in the province other than electioneering for the June election.

Throughout the course of the week, as many of us kept close tabs, drama unfolded in Ottawa. It was for many stunning. A convoy of protesters wanting an end to COVID-19 mandates - whose organizers stated goal was to replace the Liberal minority government with the help of the governor general and senate - were removed in slow motion by police. The group had been there since Jan. 28, blowing horns and by police accounts, harrassing neighbours for wearing masks, yelling at racialized people walking down the street, and turning the area around Parliament Hill into party central 24/7 complete with food, clubs, and hot tubs.

There was also a dark underbelly to this, with some people wandering around with Nazi and Confederate flags. Organizers - who are known white nationals - and members of the federal Conservative Party who largely supported the protesters, wrote that off as a few bad apples.

The Ottawa Police did little for weeks and seemed immobile. Residents in the area pleaded for help from the province. The premier said little. Eventually, the federal government controversially invoked the federal Emergencies Act. The Ontario premier was meantime was busy removing tolls from Toronto area highways and ending the fees on licence stickers and patting his “All-Star Team” of MPPs on the back and making thinly-veiled references about the election.

Oh there were a few words at the beginning of each announcement about what was going on in Ottawa, but there were never any solutions. Ford called on all levels of government to act, while doing little of that himself. In fact, on Tuesday, he said more about the carbon tax than the occupation of Ottawa and the threat it may have held.

It’s clear the premier has a single focus, winning the next election and that’s not good for Ontario during these difficult times.

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



FROM THE DAVE BURWELL POSTCARD COLLECTION

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Opinion

Politicians must be aware of both sides believes Warwick reader

EDITOR:

Concerning the recent call for the Integrity Commissioner for the Township of Warwick.
I feel that our mayor was elected to office to represent the whole township, the vaxxers and the non-vaxxers, those that condemn the convoys, and those that support the convoys.
Her job is to be aware of and support her constituents at all times. There are

two sides to every story and a good politician must be aware of both sides' feelings.
Protests are not illegal in Canada. Our mayor was pictured in Ottawa holding a sign that simply said, "God keep our land glorious and free." Would that also be unlawful?
As far as a councillor declaring that the convoy was illegal, I would think that, with the shoddy way that the

government has handled this event, that the legality of the convoy may be decided by a judge in the Supreme Court of Canada long after the protestors have dispersed and the dust has settled.

**Chuck Hollingsworth
Warwick, ON**

CAMPBELL HOUSE GETS NEW ROOF



LIANA RUSSWURM PHOTO

Repairs have begun on Campbell House at the AW Campbell Conservation Area in Alvinston. The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority board had decided to pull down the home of the man who established the park because it was in poor repair. A number of members of the community were upset with the idea saying Archie Campbell should be remembered for his gift and too much of the community's history has already been lost. The conservation authority gave a reprieve to see what the community could do. Last week, roofer Steve Cheshire, volunteered to repair the roof to stop further damage from being done. He's expected to finish the roof this week and then move on to repairing some of the spots around the building which allow raccoons into the building. The fate of the building and whether a community group will take it over, has yet to be determined.

St. Clair River health improving 'step by step' officials say

Heather Brouwer
The Independent

St. Clair River is getting closer to getting a clean bill of health.
Natasha Pozega, coordinator for the St. Clair River Canadian Remedial Action Plan, provided an update to St. Clair Township council at its Feb. 7 meeting saying the river is moving closer to being delisted as an Area of Concern.
The St. Clair River was identified as an Area of Concern in 1987 due to environmental degradation, and a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) was developed to address the ecological harm and restore the waterway.
One of the more important moves was the clean up of 13,300 cubic meters of mercury contaminated sediment by Dow Chemicals in 2002. But there was still work to do. There has also been a 75 per cent reduction as municipalities separate their water

and sewer systems from the river.
An initial assessment was completed in 1991, and of 14 potential indicators of environmental health – called Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) – a dozen were deemed impaired.
"Environmental damage was quite significant and water quality conditions were quite poor," said Pozega.
"Through the implementation of the remedial action plan over the past 30 years, significant progress has been made."
Since then, seven of the BUIs have been redesignated to 'not impaired,' leaving four that are deemed 'impaired' and one that 'requires further assessment.'
That comes as several studies show that fish and wildlife populations in the area are similar to or better than populations found outside the area of concern.
Studies have also shown local and lake wide fish tumour data was

assessed and revealed no indication of impairment.
Pozega told St. Clair council that a report on the river's drinking water quality was accepted earlier this month by the Canadian Remedial Action Plan Implementation Committee.
"So, it is actually going to be entering the redesignation process in the coming months."
In addition to the progress on drinking water, an engineering and design plan was developed in 2021 to address three remaining areas of mercury contaminated sediment in the river – at Guthrie Park, Froomfield, and the industrial docks – using an erosion-resistant cover, consisting of fine gravel.
Another ongoing program is a fish consumption survey, which fishers in the St. Clair River are being asked to fill out online or by phone.
"We're moving the yardstick forward step by step," said Pozega.

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Warwick mayor to face Integrity Commission probe for anti-mandate support

Heather Wright
The Independent

Warwick council wants Integrity Commissioner to investigate Mayor Jackie Rombouts’ support of the anti-vaccine mandate protests.

Last week, Rombouts travelled to Ottawa to visit with John Lammers of Petrolia who has been with several hundred people occupying the streets of Ottawa. The so-called Freedom Convoy was organized by Canada Unity stating they would protest until all mandates against COVID-19 were removed. But the group also has a stated goal of overthrowing the current government and installing the group’s leaders as a temporary government to accomplish it.

There has been widespread concern about the organizers who have ties to the white nationalist movement. Nazi and Confederate flags have been seen in the protest along with flags with expletives condemning Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

Rombouts told *The Independent* she did not see any racism while she was in Ottawa and believed the media had been lying about what has been happening on Parliament Hill. She also said the Prime Minister should meet with the protesters and listen to them.

Her words came in the middle of a protest in her own

municipality on Highway 402. About 25 farm vehicles parked on the highway near Forest Line. Transport trucks were re-routed around the blockade on local and county roads. That drew the ire of residents who were concerned about the increased traffic and the fact thousands of heavy trucks were destroying the roads.

The Highway 402 convoy left the road Monday afternoon, with Rombouts saying she helped convince them to leave. But Warwick councillors were not impressed. Rombouts faced concerns for her stand as councillors denounced the protest at a special council meeting which was supposed to focus on the fire service.

Councillor Todd White says Rombouts’ comments were not appropriate for the head of council saying he was “embarrassed... and appalled...There’s been a total disregard of our council, of the staff of Warwick Township, of the community through this; a person’s actions who are in a place of leadership within a community do matter,” says White. “I think our reputation in a number of areas has been compromised.”

“For clarification, what are you accusing me of?” asked Rombouts as the conversation turned prickly.

“Not having the best interests of the township at heart, as we all should as councillors. I’m also

(saying) you’re bringing huge reputational risks towards us,” said White.

He wasn’t alone in his concern. “I do feel as though that you have gone rogue,” says Councillor Colin Mitchell.

Rombouts defended herself. “I had nothing to do with the convoy blockage on the 402. I did not encourage it. I was not involved with the group at all. I wasn’t even in the township when they did the blockage of the 402.”

White pointed out the mayor didn’t distance herself from the protests. “I’m sorry, Mayor, but you didn’t even denounce that it was an illegal action. And the rest of us took the time afterwards and did.”

Rombouts continued: “I believe that there is a large portion of our community who supports the convoy,” she said. “If I had have denounced them, if I had have called them names, if I had have called them economic terrorists like a lot of people have, it would have divided our community more.

“I did not endorse anything illegal,” says Rombouts. “If they were breaking the law, the OPP would have gone and arrested them. But the fact remains, that there is a huge division in our community and obviously in our council.”

While White and Mitchell were the most vocal with their concerns,

both Deputy Mayor Jerry Westgate and Councillor Wayne Morris also believed there should be an investigation.

Westgate says one councillor’s beliefs shouldn’t expose the entire township council to criticism.

Rombouts expressed a need for the community to come together.. “I don’t see how us fighting as a council is going to help us bridge the divide that is happening in our community. I think that we need empathy for everybody and we need to learn to heal from this. And we need to come together as a council and as a community. There’s a lot of people and a lot of pain on both sides of this issue,” she told council. “I have not deliberately – I have not led anything, I have not encouraged anybody to do anything illegal.

“I am trying my best to navigate through this.”

All four councillors voted in favour of asking the Integrity Commissioner to investigate Rombouts actions.

It’s not the first time they sought advice on the mayor’s stands during the pandemic. In September, as the province introduced the vaccine passports, Rombouts posted a statement on social media which gained a lot of attention.

In the statement which was tagged StrongAndFree, she said “I will refuse the Ontario vaccine


passport and will not patron any business or organization that will not welcome all my fellow Ontarian’s equally...I have no desire to live in a two-tiered society where there are haves and have nots. Where people live in fear of each other, Where it is acceptable to discriminate against our neighbours, family and friends. This is Canada, Strong and Free. I am prepared to defend it.”

Township officials confirm councillors were concerned about the statements and how they reflected on the municipality. The Integrity Commissioner was approached for an opinion and according to multiple sources, the opinion was Rombouts was only speaking for herself and in the Integrity Commissioner’s opinion had not done anything wrong.

Councillor Wayne Morris Thursday said he would leave it to the Integrity Commissioner to figure out if Rombouts had miss stepped this time around.

“I’m not going to get into the question here is whether the mayor went outside the line of her job. We have the Integrity Commissioner to decide that; as far as I’m concerned, let him make the decision,” says Morris. “If the mayor has done something wrong, the consequences will follow. If she hasn’t, it’s a dead subject. It’s gone. The voters in October decide right or wrong.”





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Lambton looks at 2.5 per cent tax increase

Heather Wright
The Independent

Lambton taxpayers could see a tax increase of 2.5 per cent on county services. Larry Palarchio, Lambton’s treasurer, unveiled the proposed \$246.9 million 2022 budget Feb. 16 during a virtual special county council meeting.

Palarchio says that includes \$205,907,000 to run the county - the operating budget - and another \$41,022,000 for capital projects.

Most of increase in spending can be attributed to the Infrastructure and Development, Social Services and Long Term Care departments, he said.

“This draft budget takes into account strategic investments for our community as we look to future needs and gradually transition away from impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Lambton County Warden Kevin Marriott in a news release. “These investments, especially in regards to affordable housing and long-term care, are crucial for Lambton County as demand for these services is already increasing, and is anticipated to continue increasing as we move forward.”

The draft budget includes putting \$18.5 million into various reserves to finance large, necessary projects in the future or to pay for unexpected opportunities and emergencies. By putting \$18.5 million into reserves, the county will end up with \$54 million in total - about \$1.3 million more than at the end of 2021.

Lambton’s three long term care homes will be high on the list of items needing reserve funding. Lambton Meadowview Villa is the first building to be replaced. County officials have begun planning and expect it could cost \$50 million.

The county is also putting away \$500,000 so it can purchase the county shared services building in Sarnia when the lease expires, should it wish to. That’s a \$23 million expense.

Lambton also needs to pump up to \$39.4 million into affordable housing by 2031.

Palarchio is also concerned there could

be future cost increases as the provincial government changes how it funds children’s services. The Ford government, before the pandemic, also talked about decreasing how much money it provided to public health units from 75 per cent now to 70 per cent. That plan was shelved as the province dealt with COVID-19.

Palarchio says the federal and provincial grants for infrastructure projects are also expected to decline in the future.

Palarchio says the cost pressures and revenue losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic are projected to continue in 2022. He told county councillors the pandemic piled on an addition \$14.8 million dollars in costs. That includes the increases in public health spending, help for long term care homes - like screening, testing and pandemic pay. Social Services also used extra cash for homelessness initiatives and child care.

All but \$300,000 of that was covered by COVID-19 grants from federal and provincial governments, something he expects will continue.

There are other issues on the horizon. Canada’s inflation rate continues to climb and Palarchio says it will affect the county operation.

But he told county councillors Lambton is in good financial shape, particularly when it comes to its debt. By law, the county could carry as much as \$90 million in debt if it chose. That would mean about \$19 million in yearly debt servicing charges.

Instead, Lambton is expected to pay about \$5.3 million for its yearly interest and principal on the \$20.8 million debt.

Palarchio says that’s a good thing considering most economist believe the Bank of Canada will need to raise interest rates this year to slow the growth in the rate of inflation. It now stands at five per cent.

There will be no big cash give-aways to community groups this year. At its Nov. 3 meeting, county council decided to suspend the county capital grant program for 2022. No new capital grant requests will be entertained in the 2022 Budget.

County councillors will meet March 4 to deliberate the 2022 budget.

Farm worker pulled from empty grain bin

Heather Wright
The Independent

A Petrolia area farm worker was shaken but okay after falling into a grain bin he was cleaning.

Petrolia/North Enniskillen Fire Chief Jay Arns says crews were called to Churchill Line about 8:30 pm last night. When they arrived they used the ladder truck to set up a rope system and lowered a firefighter from the tactical rescue unit into the bin to see how the man was.

While the bin was empty, Arns says it was still a tricky situation. “It would have been slippery and it would have been a lot of debris and stuff inside the silo as well. There’s definitely some challenges with getting getting packaged up and getting ready to come out.

““He had a system to climb out and they just couldn’t get out of the grain bin; he fell back down to the bottom and that’s where he stayed until we got there. He was shaken up probably just because he had been stuck in there for you know, 15 or 20 minutes.”

The man emerged unharmed.

Arns says the tactical rescue unit trains regularly for incidents like this, including just last week.



Submitted Photo
Petrolia/North Enniskillen firefighter use a rope system to rescue a farm worker trapped in an empty grain bin.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 3

TAKE NOTICE that on the 14th day of February, 2022 the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Petrolia passed By-law No. 08 of 2022, under Section 17, Subsection 23 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended, to adopt proposed Official Plan Amendment No. 3 to the Town of Petrolia Official Plan.

THE PROPOSED OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT would redesignate the subject lands from the current “Major Open Space and Hazard & Environmental Protection” designations to the “Residential” designation. A portion of the lands are also subject to policies that are intended to protect important natural features. The proposed amendment would remove the “Residential Special Policy Area” designation from those lands that do not contain these features.

The lands affected by Official Plan Amendment No. 3 are described as Part of Lots 13 and 14, Concession 9. The subject lands are located south of First Avenue, east of Tile Road. The lands are owned by 1432324 Ontario Ltd. (Agent: Ray Dobbin) and are shown more particularly on the Key Map.

The applicant is planning the development of a residential subdivision on the subject property. The Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments are necessary for the development of residential uses on the property.

A COMPLETE COPY of Official Plan Amendment No. 3 is available for inspection by visiting www.petrolia.civicweb.net, or in person during regular office hours at the Town of Petrolia Municipal Office. An email copy of the amendment may also be requested by contacting the Clerks Office directly. Phone: 519-882-2350 or email clerksdepartment@petrolia.ca

APPEALS to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal in respect of the By-law may be made by filing with the Clerk of the Town of Petrolia a written notice of appeal, **not later than the 5th day of March, 2022**, setting out the reasons for the appeal and accompanied by the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal fee made payable to the Minister of Finance.

Dated at the Town of
Petrolia, this 15th day
of February, 2022



Mandi Pearson - Clerk
Town of Petrolia, 411 Greenfield St., Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0



This Month In Lambton February 2022



Warden Kevin Marriott
@LambtonWarden

LSSC access changes

The George St. entrance to the Lambton Shared Services Centre (LSSC) has been closed to all visitors and staff to accommodate construction progress of the above ground parking lot.

A temporary entrance is now available off Vidal St. Visitor parking is available in the parking lot off Cromwell St., and wayfinding signage has been posted. All visitors and staff are asked to use this entrance until further notice.

LSSC will continue to be open with restricted access to the public during construction.

Oil Museum re-opens after extensive renovation

The Oil Museum of Canada is pleased to welcome back visitors after undergoing an extensive renovation.

The improved facility and renewed exhibit are sure to make your visit a memorable one. Visitors will learn about this National Historic Site and local oil history through interactive features, artifacts, and more.

Book your visit at oilmuseum.ca.



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



Fine Free!

Say good-bye to overdue fines! Starting March 1, Lambton County Library will be removing fines on overdue materials.

While there are no fines on overdue materials, due dates will remain on items and items are still required to be returned. Any items that are not returned after 30 days past their due date will be considered lost. Fees on lost or damaged items will still apply.

Enjoy the great outdoors at LHM

Visit Lambton Heritage Museum to snowshoe the Woodlands Heritage Trail. Regular museum admission prices include a snowshoe rental and there are a variety of sizes for adults and children available.

Book your visit at heritagemuseum.ca.

Looking Ahead

9:30 a.m., Mar. 2, 2022 - Budget Meeting
Agendas, minutes and links to meeting live stream videos can be found at lambtononline.ca/meetings.

To read more, go to lambtononline.ca

Gladu's new job raises eyebrows

Heather Wright
The Independent

Sarnia-Lambton MP Marilyn Gladu is back in the Conservative Party's shadow cabinet. And not everyone is happy about it. Gladu has been named Associate Shadow Minister for International Trade and Supply Chains by Interim Leader Candice Bergen. Gladu has played a role in the CPC's shadow cabinet on and off throughout her time as an MP. However, Former Leader Erin O'Toole left her off the list the last time around after she organized a Civil Liberties Caucus to voice concerns about the rights of unvaccinated Canadians.

Bergen returned her to the shadow cabinet Tuesday.

Bergen and Gladu were recently pictured together having dinner with people participating in the so-called Freedom Convoy on the weekend hundreds of trucks pulled up to Parliament Hill and parked on the streets. Police from Ottawa, the OPP, Quebec and the RCMP cleared

Struggle for gun at pot shop nets more prison time

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

A London man who pointed a gun at police during a tense stand off at a marijuana shop in Kettle and Stony Point is facing more jail time.

Mason Ireland plead guilty to assaulting an officer and possession of a weapon in the June 2020 event. His hearing in Sarnia court Feb. 16 shed light which police did not report at the time.

On June 19, 2020, police were called to the Paradise Dispensary on Kettle and Stony Point First Nation. A marijuana shop had been set up without proper authorization from the First Nation. A crowd had gathered and was trying to have it shut down.

At one point in the chaotic situation, a fire was set in a nearby building, Assistant

Prescription drug use leads to dealing

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

The Kettle and Stony Point police received a tip a 62 year-old man was getting a large amount of OxyContin from a drug supplier. Police stopped his car at 6 p.m. on June 18, 2020. There were 100 OxyContin pills found with a street value of approximately \$10,000. Police also seized \$740 and his cell phone. Police found texts on his phone showing he was dealing the drugs.

Driver turns himself in after fleeing police

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

Joshua Broadfield says he panicked and made a bad decision when he sped away from Sarnia Police.

The 34 year-old Sarnia man plead guilty to fleeing from police Aug 20. Police spotted a car around 3:20 am that day on Brock Street. It turned on London Road. When police tried to stop the car, it sped up and police decided not to chase it.

Another officer tried to stop the car on Exmouth, but wasn't successful.

Broadfield lost control of the car and hit a public works sign on Devine Street. He

the demonstrators out over the weekend after the resignation of the Ottawa Police Chief and the Prime Minister invoking the Emergency Act – a move the CPC opposed. Not everyone is happy with Gladu's appointment. "The CPC just named Marilyn Gladu shadow minister for International Trade and Supply chains "to proactively work with sectors that affect our economy." Literally an MP who publicly supported blockaders and doing her own research on vaccines. Is anyone in charge over there?" wrote Flavio Volpe, the head of the Automotive Parts Manufacturers Association.

The association went to court to get an injunction to clear protesters from the Ambassador Bridge one week before the Ottawa blockade was dismantled.

"You can not play cute on lawless blockades and then be a credible voice on trade over border access points," he says. "Supply chain vulnerabilities are dealt with serious conversation and contemplation of pandemic realities, not by denying them."

Crown Attorney Aniko Coughlan told the court.

Ireland came out the front door of the Paradise Dispensary, she said, and pointed a 22-calibre rifle at an Ontario Provincial Police officer and a band constable. He was ordered by police to drop the gun several times. He ignored them. Police wrestled the gun away from him, ending the standoff.

Ireland was convicted of a March 19, 2019 armed robbery in London. At the time of the Kettle and Stony Point incident, he was out on bail and was ordered not to have any firearms.

Ireland was sentenced to an additional year in jail for the incident on top of the four and a half years he's already serving for armed robbery.

He is serving this sentence at the Beaver Creek Institute in Gravenhurst.

Kevin Shawnoo pled guilty to drug trafficking in Sarnia court on Feb. 17. Defence lawyer Terry Brandon explained Shawnoo became addicted to his medication. Once he could no longer get the prescription, he turned to drug dealing to get his fix.

His sentence will be split with six months of house arrest and six months of a curfew. This is to be followed by one year of probation where he is to participate in drug and alcohol abuse counselling and have no weapons.

- THE INDEPENDENT

drove away but the damaged car was found abandoned in a parking lot. "I did panic and I made a very bad decision" he told Sarnia court Feb. 15. "I understand I abused my privilege."

Judge Deborah Austin said Broadfield was only before the courts because he turned himself into police. Without this, it was unlikely that charges would have been laid. He was placed on probation for six months and is to pay a \$2,000 fine. He is not allowed to drive for 15 months and has to pay restitution of \$9,716 to the Sarnia Public Works Department for the damaged sign.

- THE INDEPENDENT

March 2022

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March 2022

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Sports

Flyers can lock up PJHL playoff berth Thursday

Barry Wright
The Independent

The Petrolia Flyers can clinch a playoff spot in the PJHL's Stobbs Division with a regulation victory against the Dresden Junior Kings Thursday at Greenwood.

Game time is 7:30. Petrolia has a seven points advantage over both

the Kings and Wallaceburg who are battling for the final postseason berth. The Kings and Thunderhawks are both on the road Wednesday. The Flyers split two games last week. Andrew Jaques had a goal and two assists to lead the home team to a 5-4 win over Amherstburg on Minor Hockey Night at Greenwood last Tuesday before bowling to the Blades

6-4 in Blenheim on Sunday. A scheduled contest between the Flyers and Lakeshore in Petrolia last Thursday was postponed due to inclement weather. Tyler Richardson had 45 and 43 saves respectively for the Flyers. He now has 10 games this season where he has moved 40 or more saves. Saturday, the Flyers take on the Flags in Mooretown.

Mooretown reaches 20-win plateau with two victories

Barry Wright
The Independent

Nolan Farr had a goal and two assists and Nathan King kicked aside 33 shots to lead the Mooretown Flags to a 4-2 home ice triumph over Amherstburg in PJHL action.

The game, last Saturday at the Moore

Sports Complex, was Mooretown's 20th victory of the season to go along with six losses and a tie. Brodie Conlon scored twice, and King blocked 29 shots for his second shutout of the season as Mooretown blanked the Junior Kings, 5-0 last Friday in Dresden while the Flags and 73's skated to a 1-1 overtime tie in

Essex last Tuesday night. King made 95 of 98 saves over the three contests. Mooretown, who has clinched at least a third-place finish in the division, has another busy week ahead. They host Wallaceburg on Wednesday at 8:30, travel to Lakeshore on Friday and entertain the Petrolia Flyers Saturday.

Squires win playoff opener with OT victory on the road

The Independent

Brandon Liwanpo scored in overtime to lift the Petrolia Squires to a 6-5 win on Sunday in Milverton. It was game one of a best-of-seven Senior A semi-final series. The first game was originally scheduled for Saturday but was postponed

when Milverton could not travel to Petrolia due to inclement weather in midwestern Ontario. The second game was to have been played on Tuesday (Feb. 22) in Petrolia but the score was not available prior to our press time. Eric Marsh had two goals in the opening game series victory with

Ethan DuPont, Derek Wagner and Jared Pageua, with his first career goal as a Squire, scoring the others. Isaac McLean had three assists. Game three in the series is this Saturday at Greenwood at 8:30, followed by game four in Milverton on Sunday afternoon.

Killer Bees final games of season

The inaugural Western Ontario Super Hockey League regular season for the Alvinston Killer Bees will come to an end this weekend with back-to-back games against the Strathroy Jets. The Jets will host Alvinston on Friday night at 7:30 before the teams return to the Brooke-Inwood-Alvinston Community Complex for a Saturday night contest at 6:30. Alvinston's scheduled game last Saturday afternoon with the Fighting Irish in Stratford was cancelled due to poor weather.

Oil Springs' Kelly commits to Lions

LCCIV's Ashley Kelly is the latest to commit her talent to the Lambton College women's softball club for its inaugural season this fall. "I'm excited to take my softball career to the next level with Lambton College," said the Oil Springs product in a statement on the Lions website. "Fans should expect to see my give 100 per cent effort and a ton of passion for the game," she added. Kelly, who catches and plays third base, has been playing her club ball with the London Lightning program.

LCCVI remains in first place tie in senior girls volleyball action

LCCVI improved to 4-1 with a straight sets win over Wallaceburg in LKSSAA senior girls' volleyball action last Wednesday. The Lancers prevailed 25-11, 25-14 and 25-21. John McGregor also improved to 4-1 with a straight set win over Great Lakes.

LCCVI is scheduled to finish the regular season (Wed, Feb. 23) with a doubleheader against Great Lakes in Petrolia, while JMSS travels to Wallaceburg on the same day. The Lancer junior contest is scheduled for 5:45, with the seniors to follow at 7 pm. In junior play last week, LCCVI beat

Wallaceburg in straight sets. Playoffs are expected to begin next week. Meantime, the restart of the LKSSAA season in boys basketball, boys' and girls' hockey and boys' and girls' curling is scheduled to resume this week.



The Town of
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is now accepting applications for the following Summer Positions:

4 Months (May – August):
Senior Lifeguard
Deadline to apply: Friday, March 18th, 2022

2 Months (June – August):
Junior Lifeguard
Deadline to apply: Friday, March 18th, 2022

4 Months (May – August):
Roads Labourer
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Deadline to apply: Friday March 25th, 2022

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Coming Events
ONTARIO ANCESTORS / SCOTLAND RESEARCH - Lambton Country Branch OGS will be hosting a Zoom meeting that is free on **Tuesday, March 8, 2022 @ 7pm.** Featuring Christine Woodcock - Scottish SIG Ontario Ancestors, to get a link to Zoom email lambton@ogs.on.ca
Lambton County Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society DROP-IN: Monday, February 28 @ 2-3:30 pm email lambton@ogs.on.ca for zoom link or call 519-882-0835

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COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS REACH MORE THAN
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CANADIANS


Source: News Media Canada

NOTICE OF THE PASSING OF AN UPDATE TO THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING BY-LAW FOR THE TOWN OF PETROLIA

TAKE NOTICE, that the Council of the Town of Petrolia passed By-law No. 07 of 2022 on the 14th day of February, 2022

APPEALS to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal in respect of the By-law may be made by filing with the Clerk of the Town of Petrolia a written notice of appeal, **not later than the 5th day of March, 2022**, setting out the reasons for the appeal and accompanied by the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal fee made payable to the Minister of Finance.

IF A PERSON or public body did not make oral or written submissions to the Town of Petrolia before the by-law was passed; the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the By-law to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal. Only individuals, corporations and public bodies may appeal a by-law to the Local Planning Appeal 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 by-law was passed, the person or public body made oral submissions at a public meeting or written submissions to Town of Petrolia Council or, in the opinion of the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

A COMPLETE COPY of the By-law is available for inspection by visiting www.petrolia.civicweb.net, or in person during regular office hours at the Town of Petrolia Municipal Office. An email copy of the By-Law may also be requested by contacting the Clerks Office directly. Phone: 519-882-2350 or email clerksdepartment@petrolia.ca

THE KEY MAP shows more particularly the subject lands.

THE PURPOSE AND EFFECT of this By-law is to amend By-law 63 of 2017 by changing the zone symbol that applies to those lands indicated on Schedule "A" to this By-law from the "Open Space (OS) Zone" and "Environmental Protection (EP) Zone" to the "Residential-1 (R1-h) Zone; and

by adding the following to Subsection 5.3 (Residential-1 with a Holding Provision):

In addition, for lands described as Part Lots 13 and 14, Concession 9 (generally located south of First Avenue, east of Tile Road) the holding (h) symbol will be removed only when the subdivision agreement between the Town and the property owner is executed.

The Council of the Town of Petrolia has adopted this By-law and is now circulating it in accordance with Provincial Regulations.

Dated at the Town of Petrolia, this 15th day of February 2022


Mandi Pearson, Clerk
Town of Petrolia, 411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0



Church DIRECTORY

Christ Anglican Church
414 Oil Street, Petrolia
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Stay Safe Everyone
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christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com

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www.stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net

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Pastor Katherine Hawley

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Monday @ 12 noon



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or email: office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

In Memory

McNally


In loving memory of our special little friend Cassie Lynne, who left for heaven. February 27, 1987 at just 5 1/2 years old.

Cassie you are someone Who we lovingly remember Someone who won't be forgotten But cherished from year to year The twinkle in your eyes And gentle smile Will forever stay within our hearts.

Lovingly remembered by Rick, Rita & family

LUCAN - In loving memory of a dear little friend, Kristel Leighann, who left us to live with Jesus, 35 years ago on February 22, 1987. She was 5 1/2 years old.

Dear Kristel,
The years have passed, but time cannot take away our memories. You are always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts.



Sadly missed and lovingly remembered by Jim, Marie, Candice, Charity & families.

David F. Bell

May 31, 1953 - February 26, 2017




In memory of a husband, father and grandpa/papa
It has been 5 years since you were taken from us so suddenly. Sometimes it seems so long ago, other times it seems like it was just yesterday. Just know that you are missed and loved greatly every day. Although you are in Heaven now You're not that far away Our hearts are full of memories And you're with us everyday.
Love forever ~ Diana and family

In loving memory of our precious daughter Kristel Leighann who gained her wings at the tender age of 5 1/2 years old. February 22, 1987

Today's the anniversary Of the day we lost you And for a long time We felt as if our life's had ended too
The love lives on forever In every precious memory And every treasured thought of you No matter the years That have gone by Our love remains with you Until we hold you once again
To special to ever be forgotten We miss and love you Kristel Forever and always


LUCAN



Loved by Dad, Mom, Rick Jr, Lindsey & Aubrey, Brittney, Shawn & Gabby

In loving memory of a cherished daughter, precious sister, and an 'angel' aunt, CASSIE LYNN, who left us to live with Jesus, 35 years ago, on February 27, 1987. She was 5 1/2 years old.

Cassie Lynn McNally



Dear Cassie,
As the years have passed, our memories have not dimmed. We ache to see you and hold you tight. You are in our hearts, but we miss you so much It still hurts. But one day Jesus will make it all right.
We are so thankful that God gifted us with you. Our lives are richer because you are ours. We hear your happy laugh. We see your beautiful smile, That still shines as brightly as the stars.
God has blessed us with courage and strength. We have a life filled with joy and love. But our family circle won't be quite complete Until we are with you in Heaven above.
In Heaven there are only tears of joy. In Heaven there is no pain. We will share your pictures and stories, Until God calls us home to be with you again.
We miss you and love you so much - Daddy, Mommy, Candice, Chris, Charity, Shane, Maleah, Braxton, Alayna, Levin, Celina, Atticus and Shepherd.

In Memory

MCNALLY - In Loving memory of a dear granddaughter, niece and cousin, Cassie Lynn McNally, who passed away 35 years ago on February 27, 1987.
Your memory is a keepsake with which we will never part. God has you in his keeping, we have you in our hearts.
Always loved and remembered by Grandma Deanie and the Jardine families.

Card of Thanks

THANK YOU - Many, many thanks for all the lovely cards, beautiful flowers, goodies and phone calls ... I have received. All were very much appreciated.
Thank you again, Bette Shea

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“May there be comfort in knowing that someone so special will never be forgotten.”
—JULIE HÉBERT

Obituary



DUNLOP
Margaret

Margaret Dunlop (nee Hall), died peacefully in her 89th year at Lambton Meadowview Villa, Petrolia on **Friday, February 18, 2022**. Margaret was predeceased by her husband Bob Dunlop (2008). Margaret was the loving mother of Bruce Dunlop, Jane Stevenson, Carol Dunlop, Ken and Janet Dunlop, Steven and Linda Dunlop, the late Donald and Jennifer, Rob Dunlop, and Anne and Kelly Humphrey. She will be missed by her grandchildren Jeffrey and Sarah, Bradley and Valerie, Michael and Katie, Mark, Jennifer, Mathieson, Jessica, Nicholas, and Jacob and her great grandchildren Hunter, Amelia, Allan, Kenneth, and Sabina. She was predeceased by her parents Fred and Zella Hall, her brother Peter Hall, and her brothers and sisters-in-law Jack (Geneanne) Dunlop, James (the late Dorothy) Dunlop, Agnes (Fred) Staffen, Margaret Dunlop, Helen (the late Charles) Howes, and Mary (the late Cal) Wagner. **Visitors will be received on Friday, February 25, 2022 at Needham-Jay Funeral Home, 4059 Petrolia Line, Petrolia to attend please sign-up at <https://signup.com/go/zOycgSW>. A private memorial service will be held.** As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer Society and Petrolia-Enniskillen Agricultural Society.


Obituary

HENDERSON
Reta Pearl



HENDERSON, Reta Pearl (Sack-rider) – Age 94 formerly of RR #3 Oil Springs peacefully passed away with family by her side on **January 31, 2022** at Fiddick's Nursing Home, Petrolia. Beloved wife of the late Lorne C. Henderson (2002). Loving mother of Shirley (Bruce) Durance of Alvinston, David (Kathy) Henderson of Oil Springs and Marian (Jim) Redford of Chatham. Grandmother of Lorilee (Kevin) Fex, Lee-ah (Brad) McGann, Phillip Henderson, Sarah (Jeremy) Babcock, Brock, Olivia, and Will Redford. Great grandmother of Zachary and Zoe Fex, Luna McGann, Grace, Aubrey, and Vivian Babcock, Lily, Rider, and Hunter Henderson. Sister-in-law to Lillian (the late Ross) Maw and sister to Florence (the late Lorne) Given. Predeceased by parents Floyd Sackrider (1927) and Lula Pearl (Tracey) Sackrider-Maw (1985) and stepfather Frank W. Maw (1960), stepsister Mrs. Frank (Mildred) Jackson, brother-in-law Archie Henderson and sister-in-law to Marian (Verne) Patterson. Reta joined the Lady Washington Rebekah Lodge #337 of Oil Springs in 1947, she was a member of the Naomi Chapter #39 Order of the Eastern Star, a member of DO-R-BEST Women's institute and a past Ladies President of Petrolia and Enniskillen Agricultural Society, and a past member of the Oil City United Church Women. **A private family funeral service was held at STEADMAN BROTHERS FUNERAL HOME, Bridgen on Saturday, February 05, 2022. Interment to follow at Oil Springs Cemetery.** Sympathy may be expressed through donations to C.E.E. Petrolia Hospital Foundation (www.ceehf.ca) or plant a tree in Reta's name at Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area (scrca.on.ca). **Memories and condolences may be sent online at www.steadmanbrothers.ca. Steadman Brothers 519-864-1193.**
Thank you: The family of Reta Henderson would like to express their sincere appreciation to our relatives, friends and neighbours for their acts of kindness following her passing on January 31, 2022. Thank you for your condolences through cards, texts, online messages, visits, flowers, food, phone calls, and donations to the Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital and the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area in Reta's memory. Special thanks to the Staff of Fiddick's Retirement and Nursing Home, Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels, Reverend Gibson, Dr. Susan Mather and Dr. Justin Mall for their compassionate support. Your kindness will always be remembered.
Sincerely, Shirley, David, Marian and families.

Death Notices



Death Notices
February 15 - February 20, 2022

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

FEENSTRA, Frank
Age 82, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

DUNLOP, Margaret
(n Hall)
Age 88, formerly of Dawn Twp
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

MURRAY, Bernard "Bernie"
Eugene
Age 60, of Corunna
Knight Funeral Home

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

HART, Charly Gilbert James
Age 71, of Thedford
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

YOUNG, Joseph Edward
(Joe)
Age 57, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

STOCKALL, William "Bill"
Age 95, formerly of Corunna
Knight Funeral Home

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

Historic press has new life at Petrolia Discovery

Heather Wright
The Independent

A printing press that once was part of the operations at The Petrolia Advertiser Top is back in action. During the Family Day open house at Petrolia Discovery, volunteer Eric Curragh showed off the colour press to visitors. It's been part of the Discovery's collection for a number of years but was recently refurbished by Curragh and Richard Poore. "The model itself came out around the Second World War, I'm not sure when The Topic acquired it but from the dates I've seen, it ran up until at

least 1996. I found a, Global Donuts gift certificate and it from 1996." Curragh says this wouldn't have been the main press but it did produce colour copies ever so labouriously. "So you would print all 300 copies of black, then you would wait, you have to line everything back up again, with a new color, clean all of this off, reset it, do a couple of test prints, and then do your new color," he says adding when the presses were really rolling, a couple of hundred sheets could be produced a minute. Curragh hopes in the future to use the press to create the Discovery's own calendar as a fundraiser.

Eric Curragh cranks up the press, right, which came from the now closed Petrolia Topic. He hopes to continue using the press at Petrolia Discovery.



**DEMENTIA
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O N T A R I O

The Dementia-Friendly Canada project is a partnership between Alzheimer Societies across the country. Providing free tools and resources towards building knowledge and confidence to support and include people affected by dementia to live well in our community.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SUPPORT THIS CAUSE?

If your group, business, club, or organization would like to learn more about helping with this goal, contact Christine at 519-332-4444.

Alzheimer Society
S A R N I A - L A M B T O N