

TASTE OF SPRING



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Hayden Campbell, 3, of Watford, was digging into his pancakes and sausage during the Warwick Firefighters Maple Syrup Festival Sunday at the fire hall in the village. The firefighters say they served about 650 people in an effort to raise money for Camp Bucko, a summer camp for burn victims.

Double digit raises for some Lambton administrators

Heather Wright
The Independent

While most the average Ontarian received wage increase of about 2.8 per cent, some Lambton administrators got double digit pay increases according to the 2022 edition of the Sunshine List.

Since 1996, the provincial government requires all government agencies to release the salaries of publicly paid staff who make more than \$100,000. This year in Lambton County, the biggest increases were seen in St. Clair Township where 10 administrators in all made the list.

St. Clair's Chief Administrative Officer, John Rodey, reported a 17.2 per cent increase compared to the year before. He made \$177,283.81 in wages and another \$1,128.72 in benefits.

St. Clair's Director of Community Services, Kendall Lindsay, also received a double digit increase of 11.2 per cent from the previous year, with a

salary of \$121,372.46 reported.

Other staff, including the clerk and former fire chief, Walt Anderson, received pay increases of 5.4 per cent.

In Warwick, the top administrator's wages also rose 17.2 per cent bringing Amanda Gubbel's salary to over \$118,000.

Two new names were added to the Sunshine List in Warwick, both the public works manager and the treasurer surpassed the \$100,000 salary figure with Treasure/Deputy CAO Trevor Jarrett making \$111,019.20.

In Plympton-Wyoming, there were also double digit increases.

CAO Carolyn Tripp had a pay raise of 10 per cent or about \$14,517 in one year. That brings her salary to \$160,267.13 on this edition of the Sunshine List.

The town's treasurer, Norma Roddick-Preece also made the list for the second year with a 13.8 per cent hike.

SEE SUNSHINE LIST PG 2

'How could we have an oversight like this?'

Heather Wright
The Independent

Petrolia taxpayers are out nearly \$5,300 because an email from a potential bidder for a three-ton compact excavator was overlooked.

In February, council approved the purchase of a brand new Kubota compact excavator at a cost of \$49,735 from Southpoint Equipment in Reece's Corners.

But it came to light at Monday's council meeting that another bid from a local company was overlooked.

Director of Operations Mike Thompson said Advantage Farm Equipment in Wyoming also bid on the compact excavator and it's machine, a Bobcat, met the specifications and was the lowest price at \$ 44,463. That's \$5,272 less than the machine council already approved.

Councillor Ross O'Hara was surprised by the issue. "How could we have an oversight like this ... There must be some explanation of this," he said.

Thompson told council the bids for

the excavator were submitted by email and "the one was missed (on email) by me, it was a mistake."

Thompson then got a call from the dealership.

"The gentleman called me about a month ago, he couldn't understand why his quote wasn't on the report. At the time when he asked I didn't know what he was talking about. But then I looked back at my emails, and it was an oversight on my part."

Thompson brought "the unfortunate oversight" back to council Monday.

Councillor Wade Deighton, who has returned from a three-month leave of absence, asked if the town would be "violating any rules or laws ... Even though it was an oversight" if they rescinded the motion.

"I think no matter what council decides, it's an awkward situation," said Mayor Brad Loosley.

Councillor Marty Souch agreed "We're in a no-win situation," he said during the virtual meeting.

SEE EXCAVATOR PG 2

ONE-OF-A-KIND, MILLENNIUM HERITAGE DEALERSHIP



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Sarnia man admits shooting his fiancé in the back eight or nine times

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

A Sarnia man has admitted to killing his fiancée, shooting her eight or nine times while she sat in a red chair in their Sarnia garage. Joseph Dicarło, 45, and Natalie Bartlett were in a three-year relationship before her death. Dicarło had accused her that fall of cheating while she accused him of a physical assault, something which he denied. She had moved out of the home with her two young children to London for about two months where she enrolled the two girls in school. The pair reunited in Dec. 2020. By Dec. 17, they were engaged. But Assistant Crown Attorney Suzanne LaSha told Sarnia Court March 23, the relationship turned sour. LaSha said the text messages that were exchanged between them showed the tension. Dicarło had

texted his fiancée that he wanted her out of the house just days before the murder. The couple was sleeping in separate bedrooms a week before the murder, LaSha said. Bartlett, she added, was giving him the silent treatment just two days before her death, just waiting for him to erupt so she could call the police. On the night she was killed, Bartlett and Dicarło fought about the dishes. She gathered them up and dumped them on the bed he was sleeping in. Later that night, he gathered them up again and moved them to her bed. Late in the evening, they were in the garage having drinks, as they usually did according to the agreed statement of facts. Dicarło, a hunter who had guns stored in the home, went to his gun case and retrieved a nine millimeter handgun from the gun case and went back to the garage.

LaSha says Dicarło shot Bartlett eight or nine times in the back while the children slept in the house. One unspent bullet was found on a stool in the garage. Dicarło called for an ambulance and gave the Lee Court address telling the dispatcher the 39 year old resident isn't breathing. The dispatcher asked if he can start CPR and Dicarło said "possibly" according to the transcript of the 9-1-1 call. When the dispatcher asked what happened, Dicarło hangs up. Police arrived at the home to find the man outside and relatively calm. Inside they found the still warm body of the victim, obviously shot a number of times. The agreed statement of

facts read into the record says gun residue and Bartlett's blood were found on Dicarło's hands. Police arrested Dicarło and charged him with first degree murder. He pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in Sarnia Superior

Court on March 23. He has been in custody since being arrested during the night of the murder. Bartlett's murder was the fourth in two weeks in January which shook the community.

- THE INDEPENDENT

Excavator purchase to cost taxpayers \$5,200 extra

CON'T FROM PG 1

"We're going to be in trouble either way to accept it from (Southpoint) and move forward. And hope it doesn't happen again," said Souch. Deighton suggested since Southpoint had already ordered the equipment for the town, the original purchase should move forward. He added it was unfortunate Advantage's "email was lost in translation. "I guess that's kind of why we should be using a closed system or at least a sealed bid system, to get away

from this type of thing." The town does have a bylaw which governs how purchases are made - a procurement bylaw. It requires any purchase to be made through a competitive bid. Petrolia's policy allows directors and the CAO to ask for at least three bids from different companies or call for proposals publicly for goods between \$25,000 and \$50,000. Anything over \$50,000 has to be tendered with strict procedures on when and how the bids are opened. In this

case, the bids for the unit which was budgeted for \$50,000, were requested by email and went directly to the director of operations. There was no requirement for the bids to be opened publicly because it was a formal quotation. O'Hara was one of the people opposed to moving ahead with the purchase. "I agree, it was our mistake in the town. But the fact it is still, around \$5,000 difference of taxpayers money," O'Hara said adding the mistake shouldn't damage the "good relationship" with Southpoint.

Sunshine List highlights some big pay increases

CON'T FROM PG 1

Roddick-Preece reported \$14,377 more on the 2022 list for a salary of \$118,129.09. There were two names on the Sunshine List in Petrolia - a first. CAO Rick Charlebois received a six per cent increase in 2021 bringing his salary to \$157,497.53. That's \$8,677 more the previous year. Director of Operations Mike Thompson joined the Sunshine List in 2022, with a salary of \$102,307.31. For the first time, The Township of Dawn-Euphemia has an employee on the list - Administrator Donna Clermont's pay rose above \$100,00 by \$626. Brooke-Alvinston and Enniskillen remain the only Central Lambton municipalities without employees on the Sunshine List. At the County of Lambton, the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Sudit Ranade, was the top earner on the 2022 list with a salary of \$313,508.07 - a 4.65 per cent increase over the previous year. Other top staff at the county received increases in the five per cent range with CAO

Ron VanHorne bringing in \$225,033, Stephane Thiffeault, GM of Corporate Services and the County Solicitor earning \$206,940. Other general managers earned \$196,507 - a 5.6 per cent increase from the previous year. Not everyone got a pay increase. At Bluewater Health, the president and CEO, Mike Lapaine actually saw his salary go down 3.6 per cent this year to \$319,546.60. He also get benefits, including a car allowance, totalling \$10,577. There were five executives at the hospital who made the sunshine list. While every level of government releases its statistics each year, they also add a caveat - the threshold the province uses for high wages hasn't changed since 1996. In a report to Petrolia Council, Charlebois says the average rate of yearly inflation since 1996 is 1.91 per cent. That would mean that \$100,000 in 1996 would be about \$160,000 now. Across Ontario, 244,390 staffers - everyone from nurses and doctors to politicians and municipal administrators - made the list this year, earning a total salary of \$30,240,295,606.44.

The majority of the people on the Sunshine List - about 85 per cent - made between \$100,000 and \$150,000. The highest paid public employee in Ontario is the head of Ontario Power Generation, Kenneth Hartwick, who made \$1,628,246. In fact the only public employees making more than \$1 million a year are a Hartwick and three of his colleagues from OPG. Premier Doug Ford reported \$208,974 in salary on the 2022 list - the same as the year before. When Ford first took office, the salary was about \$112,000. There are four people in the administration of the provincial government who make more than the premier. Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey took home \$146,538.72 - the same as the year before. Lambton-Kent-Middlesex MPP Monte McNaughton - who is also the province's Labour Minister - was paid \$165,851.04 according to the list. The average salary of an Ontario worker is \$52,260 according to Workopolis. Salaries in the private sector rose about 2.8 per cent in 2021.

5

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES TO REDUCE NECK PAIN



1. WARM UP BEFORE

and stretch out after physical activities such as sports, gardening or other household projects.

2. STRETCH AFTER

an hour of television viewing or sitting at the computer.

3. WORK ON YOUR POSTURE

both standing & seated to keep your spine properly aligned.

4. ERGONOMIC WORK STATION

with good low back support.

5. DRINK WATER

to keep the disks of your spine hydrated.

Some things to avoid: Cradling a phone on your shoulder; Falling asleep on the arm of the sofa; and Thin pillows that provide no neck support

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NOTICE

FLUSHING OF HYDRANTS and WATERMAINS

Monday, April 4th – Friday, April 15th, 2022

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) will be flushing water mains throughout Warwick Township, as part of the annual flushing program.

You may experience discoloured water coming from your tap. If this happens, we suggest you try the following:

- remove the aerators from your taps and flush all the house lines until the water runs clear.

- you may want to refrain from doing laundry during this period to avoid staining of your clothing.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

OCWA will continue to work on the flushing programs to ensure consumer satisfaction. Any concerns, please contact OCWA at the phone numbers below.

Township of Warwick
6332 Nauvoo Rd.
Watford, Ontario
NOM 2S0
www.warwicktownship.ca

Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA)
Southwest Region
9210 Graham Rd.
West Elgin, Ontario
NOL 2P0

OCWA's 24 hour Emergency Contact # 1-888-522-0117

Plans for subdivision may need to be reworked because of oil fields

Heather Wright
The Independent

There is a wrinkle in the plan to build 46 new homes in the Glenview subdivision.

In February, Petrolia gave a developer the go head to build the homes around the historic golf course. The latest phase of the housing is tucked between holes 15, 16 and 17 and a pond which is the backyard of the homes fronting on First Street.

They 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.

And there were objections from a local oil producer Walter Brand. His family has owned wells in the area for 80 years. They’re designated as historic and a consultant told the town’s planners that meant the normal rules under the Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Act, didn’t apply because of that.

That act says housing can’t be built within 75 meters of working oil wells.

That regulation would eliminate the construction of about four homes and forced the developer to move roads.

Engineer Jim McIntosh said in a report to council in February there are nine oil wells near the property

to be developed.

Five are owned by Brand. But it was McIntosh’s opinion those active wells should not 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.”

Brand objected saying his oil field is designated as historic, but continues to be active and is covered by the regulations.

“These are operational wells in production. You’ve made a mistake,” Brand told Mayor Brad Loosley in February.

Monday, when council was questioned by a resident during the question period during the council meeting about Brand’s concerns, Loosley said “we rely on our planners expertise to give

us advice. And when we went out to get a professional opinion on that, we basically have to go by that.”

But Brand was firm after receiving an opinion of his own from the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry, with the help of Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey.

“The ministry can confirm that petroleum wells within fields designated as historical oil fields are not exempt from the setbacks in the standard. The ministry generally does not provide comment on site specific planning, where the municipality has the approval authority, municipal planning authority are responsible for ensuring that their decisions on Planning Act applications are consistent with the provincial policy statement, PPS, and where applicable provincial plan,” Brand read from the letter provided.

“This is from the ministry, the setbacks are in fact valid. And they must be adhered to.”

Councillor Wade Deighton agreed the issue needed another look.

“I would think that this warrants that we at least have a discussion again with our planner,” he told council.

“It’s not something we can dispute the MNR on. It obviously was missed some where along the way.”



Plans for 46 homes in Glenview Estates may have to be reworked because of a historic oil field in the area.

Councillor Grant Purdy agreed. “I think in light of this new information, it is incumbent upon us to make sure that we get it right.”

Council agreed and sent Brand’s opinion from the MNR to the planner for comment with Brand urging council to take action before work begins on the subdivision.

“The law has to be followed,” Brand says.

“And I’m sorry, you got erroneous information but this is an active, producing oil property. It is not what Jim McIntosh said it was. And I failed to understand how the county planning department can disregard provincial law.

“We have to do this legally. And this can be ironed out beforehand so it doesn’t end up into a legal confrontation, which would hold the develop more and more,” said Brand.

“It should be settled now.”

Emergency repairs needed as Hillcrest slides

Heather Wright
The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming’s director of public works say emergency repairs to the bank of the hill which Hillcrest Road sits atop will hold until the formal construction can begin.

Adam Sobanski says the bank of the slope began failing in 2020. At the time, the town did “remedial work” to divert water to run away from the bank.

Over 2021, the town worked on the engineering for the major repairs which would be needed.

By January, municipal council had approved \$680,411 worth of work on the road, the slope and the Bonnie Doon Creek Drain.

Birnam Excavating was given the work.

But as Sobanski and his staff continued working with the federal department of fisheries and the provincial ministry of natural resources on the fish and wildlife issues,

more problems were detected.

“We were bogged down in paperwork attempting to get the project going with those departments (and) we had a bank failure. So the bank has failed further and further putting the road and our infrastructure at jeopardy,” Sobanski told Plympton-Wyoming councillors Monday.

“So we pushed those applications into emergency status, which I understand we’ve gotten approval for.

“The contractor started delivering full loads of riprap to reinforce the bank to prevent any further damages to infrastructure, our property.

Sobanski says the protective stone is being placed on the bank this week.

He expects those repairs, which were slated for the spring anyway and are part of the approved project, will hold the slope until the full reconstruction can be completed likely this July.

Watford man fined after hitting speeds of 140 kms

The Independent

A Watford man delivering freshly butchered beef to his customers, got more than he bargained for along the way.

Alexander Dortmans, 27, was traveling north on Old Heritage Road in Petrolia Aug. 6, delivering beef to his friends when police spotted him going 125 kilometres in a 60-kilometre zone. He was clocked at 140 kilometres in a 90-kilometre zone before a traffic stop was made. His blood-alcohol level was above the legal limit.

Dortmans plead guilty to careless driving in Sarnia Court on March 28.

The careless driving charge comes from the speed he was travelling and the fact he was under the influence of alcohol, said Assistant Crown Attorney Sarah Carmody.

Dortmans was given a \$2,000 fine and probation of one year.

He is not to drive during the first 30 days of his probation.

Dortman will have to have an emission-interlocking device installed in his vehicle and have a blood-alcohol level of zero at all times while driving.

He apologized to Justice Joe Wilson, saying that he had learned from his mistake and it will never happen again.



This Month In Lambton

March 2022



Warden Kevin Marriott
@LambtonWarden

Bowen’s Creek Habitat Management Area designated as Protected Area

The County of Lambton, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and Ontario Nature are pleased to announce that the Bowen’s Creek Habitat Management Area now qualifies as a Protected Area, and is contributing to Canada’s target to protect 25% of lands and waters by 2025.

The Bowen’s Creek Habitat Management Area, located along the St. Clair River, is among the first municipal conservation lands confirmed to be managed to the national standards for protected and conserved areas.

Numerous community partners have contributed to enhancements through restoration projects including wetland creation and native tree, wildlife shrub, and tall grass prairie plantings.

To learn more about the Bowen’s Creek Habitat Management Area and other managed lands in Lambton County, please visit www.lambtononline.ca/managed-lands.

LPH hosting rabies vaccination clinics

Several low-cost rabies vaccination clinics will be held across Lambton County in April and May. Clinics are open to all cats and dogs, three months of age and older. Animals must be in good health and not vaccinated within the last year.

Animals must be leashed or contained. The cost is \$25 per animal (cash only). All COVID-19 protocols relevant at the time of the events will be followed.


Owners of dogs and cats are required by law to vaccinate their pets against rabies. Vaccinating pets is important to prevent the spread of rabies.

Visit LambtonPublicHealth.ca for clinic dates, locations and more information.

Looking Ahead

9:30 a.m., April 6, 2022 - Council Meeting
9 a.m. & 11 a.m., April 20, 2022 - Committee A.M. & P.M. Meetings

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



Office of the County Warden
519-845-0801 | 1-866-324-6912
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Editorial

Close the loopholes

It appears the Town of Petrolia and the politicians who lead it have learned very little in the last few years about accountability at town hall.

Monday, councillors collectively rang their hands after learning they had paid too much for a compact excavator.

In February, after a director had put out a formal quotation for the piece of equipment which was budgeted for \$50,000, council happily approved the purchase which came in just under budget at \$49,735.

But Monday, council learned the director had missed an email from a possible supplier for a compact excavator - an email that could have saved the town about more than 10 per cent of the cost. Council decided to go with the original approval but there was much consternation about the tough spot they were in.

“I think no matter what council decides, it’s an awkward situation,” said Mayor Brad Loosley. An awkward situation which could have easily been avoided.

“How could we have an oversight like this?” asked Councillor Ross O’Hara. That’s an easy one to answer, the town’s procurement policies have way to much leeway for staff to do what they choose, for our liking. Remember the six contracts administrators had council approve to the vendors of their choice earlier this year?

“We’re in a no win situation,” said Councillor Marty Souch Monday of the hole dug in the excavator purchase. “We’re going to be in trouble either way. Accept it and move forward and hope it doesn’t happen again,” said Souch. Hope? Hope is not a plan.

But wait, there is hope. “I guess that’s kind of why we should be using a closed system, or at least a sealed bid system, to get away from this type of thing,” said Councillor Wade Deighton. Now we’re on to something.

Petrolia politicians have approved policies which allowed this to happen. The latest edition was unveiled in 2018, in the wake of the CAO’s resignation. But those new policies allowed a \$50,000 piece of equipment be bought with so little oversight that someone can lost a quote in their email. Why wouldn’t there be some double checking going on - like if using email, why wouldn’t someone in the finance department also get the bids and the emails be opened at the same time, similar to written quotes?

In 2017, the town found out the hard way that its procurement policies were lacking when a former CAO played landlord for the town. Apparently, those policies still aren’t fool proof. For councillors to simply express remorse, offer some vague hopes for better things in the future without telling administration to close the loopholes that led to this is ridiculous. And it will lead to more problems in the future. You thing Petrolia would know better by now.

Letters to the Editor

The Independent welcomes Letters to the Editor.

Our preferred methods to receive letters are via email to news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca 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 POST CARD COLLECTION

This is the Oil Springs Masonic Temple. According to this postcard it was built in 1866 and remodelled in 1906. The hall, which stood at the corner of Oil Springs Line and Elizabeth Street, was demolished in the late 1990s or early 2000s.

Letting my head catch up to our family’s reality

From the moment your kids make their first appearance in this world, you know they won’t be with you forever.

Children are conceived, born, grow, go to school, make friends and eventually leave your house either for school or marriage. That’s just the way it is.

You would think that we would be hard wired to want and accept this. I guess in some ways we are.

In other ways, we’re not.

This whole “growing up and leaving home” thing is getting real in the Wright household.

In about one month, our oldest daughter is getting married, bringing a new family member into the fold. While Emily has been in university for four years and living away from home, marriage gives that whole leaving home thing a feel of finality. Which is good because of course we wish her a

long and happy marriage. And really, we’re used to Emily living on her own.

But that’s not the only big change coming. Both Lauren and John have been accepted to colleges and will be leaving in less than six months.

Leaving me to ask - what the heck just happened here? I mean, I knew this would happen but when the youngest gets the acceptance letter saying he’s headed to college, your mind has to catch up with reality. How could our littlest dude - who by the way is now a 6’3” dude who towers over his mother - be leaving?

I’m going to blame the pandemic for my weak grasp on the reality of it all.

During the last two years, we’ve spent a lot of time together. Dinners are always raucous affairs with lots of craziness and laughter. We’ve planted ourselves in front of the TV to

watch everything from Netflix to the Super Bowl to award shows and the Big Bang Theory almost nightly.

Barry and I are proud of the people our kids have become and we love spending time with them especially as they need less direction and are able to pick up their own socks - when they remember. Maybe that’s the key to dealing with this big shift coming in our lives. Perhaps John and Lauren could be more annoying, then it won’t be as hard to see them go.



Heather Wright

The Independent
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Day care deal may cut Lambton’s two year wait list

Heather Wright
The Independent

Valerie Colasanti says \$10 a daycare will help boost Lambton’s economy by providing quality child care for kids and more opportunities for women. And the head of social services in Lambton County is hopeful it will make a big dent in the wait list which can leave some parents wondering if they can get child care for over two years.

The provincial and federal government have signed a \$10.2 billion deal which will see the cost of licenced day drop by 25 per cent next month. The

federal government’s goal is to provide daycare for \$10 per day by 2025. Care for infants and toddlers can be seven times more than that.

In Lambton, Colasanti says some families put their name on the waiting list for child care two years before they need it, particularly for infants and toddlers. Right now there are 1,322 children waiting for licenced child care spaces. There are about 57 child care centres with 3,200 children enrolled.

Colasanti is hopeful the funding boost will create the 85,000 spaces the government projects.

And she says this is just the boost families need to allow women to return to the workforce after the COVID-19 pandemic.

“It’s really good news for the economy, the community, and those looking to enter the workforce. And a lot of people have still opted not to return to childcare, as we know, many women left the workforce during COVID,” she says.

But COVID-19 has been hard on the child care industry as well. Colasanti says early childhood educators have left the business and now Lambton is actively working to recruit more workers to meet demand particularly for school aged children where the shortage of workers is acute.

No bylaw for off-roaders in St. Clair after all

Heather Brouwer
The Independent

St. Clair Township will not be enacting an off-road vehicle by-law after all.

That decision came at its March 21 council meeting, after a report from staff indicated that there hadn’t been an increase in relevant complaints since a change in provincial regulations.

“We put it off and wanted to see what

happened for a year and see if there was an increase in issues,” said Mayor Steve Arnold.

In January of 2021, changes in provincial legislation effectively authorized the use of off-road vehicles on township roads, unless a bylaw to prohibit their use was passed.

According to staff’s report, council engaged in “robust” discussions about a possible by-law over the course of several months, but ultimately did not pass the bylaw, opting instead to revisit the matter.

“It remains the recommendation of staff that the township opt not to pass or enact an [off-road vehicle] bylaw, as its enforcement would remain very challenging, and the volume of complaints received related to their offensive use has not increased,” wrote Clerk Jeff Baranek.

The motion to withdraw the draft by-law was carried.

Driver nearly hits worker, plows through construction

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

A drunk driver careened through a road construction site nearly hitting a worker before ending up on the green at the Kingwell Glen Golf Club in Petrolia led to the loss of a 52 year-old Sarnia man’s driving privileges for a year.

Jack Laanstra was also been fined \$2,000 in Sarnia court on March 28.

A commercial van ignored a street closure sign and drove through a road construction site on Dufferin Avenue. He nearly hit a construction worker

before going through a construction fence and entering the Kingswell Glen golf course.

He then turned around and returned to the construction site.

Police saw the van parked at a Grove Street home where two individuals were drinking beer on the front porch. The driver was inside going to the washroom.

Jack Laanstra told police he had only drank one beer. There was an odour of alcohol on his breath. He failed a breathalyzer test. He was taken back to the Petrolia OPP Detachment where it was found he had double the legal blood-alcohol limit.

He plead guilty to impaired driving. This was a “rock bottom type of incident” for Laanstra, said Defence Lawyer Nick Cake. He now identifies himself as an alcoholic since being charged and has gotten help. He now rarely drinks.

Laanstra apologized, saying he had made some poor choices. “This was likely more good luck than good management,” said Justice Joe Wilson, referring to why there hadn’t been more mishaps.

- THE INDEPENDENT

St Clair okays long term plan to spend \$37 million on water upgrades

Heather Brouwer
The Independent

St. Clair Township has agreed in principle to spend over \$37 million to upgrades to the Lambton Area Water Supply System over the next 20 years.

At the March 21 council meeting, LAWSS representatives said that funds contributed by its six municipal members will be used for renewal of infrastructure, building of redundancy and resiliency, and improvements to capacity over the next two decades.

LAWSS estimates that \$135 million is needed to complete this work, and St. Clair Township will cover about 27.5 per cent of the costs – the same as the proportion of water that it uses. One of the projects will twin a waterline through the township.

Brooke-Alvinston to spruce up cenotaph in honour of the Queen

The Independent

Alvinston’s cenotaph is going to be spruced up in honour of Queen Elizabeth II’s platinum jubilee.

The federal government is providing funding to communities to do some-

thing in honour of the longest serving monarch in history who is Canada’s head of state.

Brooke-Alvinston staff applied for a grant to upgrade the plants, mulch and improve the fencing and lighting around the cenotaph in front of the Alvinston Library.

The municipality just received word it would get a \$5,000 federal grant to do the work under the Celebrations and Commemorative program.

The work will take place this year.

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Former Petrolia councillor dies

The Independent

Former Petrolia councillor and the founder of Fiddick’s Nursing Home has passed away.
A private service has already been held for Maxine Fiddick.

In her obituary, family said Fiddick “was a force to be reckoned with, her greatest aspiration in life was that of caring for people. All People. Maxine’s compassion and empathy were her greatest attributes; mix that with a brilliant mind, incredible business savvy, ceaseless energy and an overwhelming desire to help community, that was Maxine Fiddick.”

Fiddick began providing care in 1968 working with her son, Mike, for the last 35 years at the Petrolia home.

“Maxine was not an easy boss, her standards were high and she demanded the very best from her team, especially from her son Mike, who worked hand in hand with Maxine for more then 35 years.”

Fiddick served as a town councillor as well as a board member of the District Health Council.
Petrolia Mayor Brad Loosley paid tribute to Fiddick on social media saying she was “a tireless worker for the community and most important – a friend.”



Maxine Fiddick



Chuck Baresich of Haggerty Creek in Cairo wants southern Ontario to be a hub for agri technology.

Robocrop: Farmers get a glimpse of their future workforce

Calvi Leon
Local Journalism Initiative

Southwestern Ontario farmers got a glimpse of three leading-edge robotic devices aimed at solving challenges facing the agriculture industry.
An emerging agriculture robotics company, Haggerty AgRobotics, teamed up with agri-investment agency RH Accelerator and The Grove, an agri-food hub at Western Fair District Friday, to showcase three new robots designed to combat the industry’s ongoing labour shortage and reduce use of chemicals on crops.
“What these robots allow farmers to do, is ... keep their existing staff and use a robot to supplement when they need labour for a very short period,” said Chuck Baresich, Haggerty’s

general manager and founder.
The robot is especially beneficial for completing “repetitive, menial tasks over and over again,” such as weeding, he said. “The robot doesn’t care. It doesn’t care how hot it is, what time of day it is. It will just keep on weeding all day long.”
Two of the electric farm robots on display are intended to be used for non-chemical weeding, while the third is primarily for soil testing.
“Most of these technologies have never been shown in Ontario before,” said Joe Dales, co-founder of RH Accelerator and an event organizer. “It’s (about) making sure farmers and agri-businesses ... know that these technologies are coming to Ontario and that we’re at the forefront of adoption.”

Though the long-term hope is to integrate robots into farming, the technology must be developed and tested before hitting the market, Dales added.
Friday’s three-hour event drew about 100 farmers, agri-businesses, researchers and students to The Grove, kicking off with a Haggerty presentation about its plans to augment the farm workforce with robotics. Baresich said his company wants to make Southwestern Ontario “an innovation hub,” where researchers and industry leaders “recognize that we should be building these things here.”
“We’re trying to illustrate there’s a market for this here and people are interested.”

LONDON FREE PRESS

Cell cues OPP to impaired driving

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

Had Christopher Britney been wearing his seatbelt and put his cellphone down, Lambton OPP might not have taken notice of him on the Petrolia Line near Centre Street on May 12.
Instead, Britney was stopped near Maude Street as he headed west on Petrolia Line.
Sarnia court heard the driver had slurred speech and an odor of alcohol on his breath. He failed a breathalyzer when he was arrested and taken to the Petrolia OPP detachment where he registered a blood-alcohol level double the legal limit.
He plead guilty to impaired driving in Sarnia Court on March 28 and was fined \$2,500. Britney is barred from driving for one year since he had one other drunk driving conviction dating back to 2006.
Defence Lawyer Nick Cake said there was no bad driving other than not wearing a seatbelt and using the cell phone. He is the “author of his own misfortune,” said Cake.
Britney apologized to Justice Joe Wilson before being sentenced adding he was seven months sober on the day he appeared in court.

- THE INDEPENDENT

OWS plans \$2.4 million expansion

The Independent

Petrolia-based OWS Rail Car Inc. is expanding.
The company which provides rail car repairs and maintenance is upgrading its Clifford St. location in Sarnia.
In a news release, Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey says the company has received \$360,000 from the province’s Regional Development program to help with a \$2.4 million project.
It will help the company expand into new services including locomotive repairs and maintenance, modify its facilities and purchase new equipment and machinery. The expansion is expected to create 11 new jobs.
“It’s great to see OWS Rail Car Inc. invest in new technology and grow their market share while creating jobs and boosting the economy of Sarnia-Lambton,” says Bailey in the news release.
The provincial investment comes from the Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation Competitiveness fund for investment in technology and a skilled workforce.



Petrolia based OWS is expanding its Sarnia site to provide locomotive repairs

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COVID vaccine clinics closing

The Independent

Lambton’s three COVID-19 vaccine clinics are closing. Lambton Public Health says there has been a “significant decrease in demand” for COVID-19 shots recently so it is closing the dedicated clinics in Point Edward, Forest and Wyoming Thursday.

If you need a COVID-19 vaccine in the future, you can schedule an appointment at Lambton Public Health every Tuesday in April, at a pharmacy or by talking to your family physician. And officials say there will be future pop-up clinics in rural communities.

In all, 269,489 vaccines have been given to date in Lambton with 80 per cent of the population over five years-old fully vaccinated.

Lambton is averaging about 26 new cases of COVID-19 each day with testing limited to hospitals, long term care and retirement homes and congregate living homes. There is only one outbreak right now at Fairwinds Lodge in Sarnia where 15 residents and less than five staff are ill with the virus.

Since the pandemic began, there have been 10,333 cases of COVID-19 officially diagnosed in Lambton. Officials say 133 people in Lambton lost their lives because of the virus.

Teen took parents car, faces charges

The Independent

A Petrolia teen is facing five charges after taking their parent’s car and crashing through a fence.

Lambton OPP are just releasing information about the accident which occurred March 11.

Police were called to Point Edward after someone found an abandoned vehicle which had hit a fence and was damaged. The owner was called. They didn’t know the vehicle was missing but their teen was missing. Police say the teen took the vehicle without permission.

The teen – who has not been named – has been charged with taking a vehicle without consent, careless driving, failing to remain at the scene of an accident, and two charges because he is a G1 licence holder

HAPPY FRIDAY



SUBMITTED PHOTO

It was a happy Friday for members of the East Lambton Community Complex fundraising team as Lambton Mutual pitched in \$200,000 to the \$2 million drive for the new community centre. With the gift, Lambton Mutual will have naming rights on the Community Hall/Gymnasium for the coming 20 years. The gift means in the last week, over \$500,000 has been raised toward the goal after members of the committee also committed \$240,000 to the project. Rombouts Construction also added a \$25,000 donation. Pictured are from the left, Lambton Mutual President Deb Van Eyk, board members Randy Gilliard and Clare Moffatt and ELCC Committee Members Rick Bebingh and Rhonda and George Noll.

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Sports



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

The Petrolia Flyers celebrate as they score in their March 23 loss to Dresden in the tier two playoffs.

Flyers split first two games of playoffs

Barry Wright
The Independent

Games this week will determine which two teams will advance to the tier two playoff finals in the PJHL's Stobbs Division. Through the first week, the Petrolia Flyers, Blenheim Blades, and Dresden Junior Kings are all 1-1. Petrolia is at home to Blenheim Thursday before they take on the Kings in Dresden on Friday. Both games are scheduled for 7:30.

The Flyers rallied from 2-0 and 4-1 deficits to get back to within a goal in the

third period at home last Thursday but eventually fell short, 6-4, to Dresden. Noah Harse, Bailey Moffatt, Evan Morningstar, and Victor Tang scored for Petrolia. Landon Marcy added two assists. Tyler Richardson made 31 stops.

In what amounted to a must-win contest on Sunday, the Flyers bounced the Blades, 3-1 in Blenheim.

Clay Dolbear had the game-winner on the powerplay early in the third period. Daniel Gibson and Cole Hudson also scored for Petrolia. Richardson blocked 25 of 26 shots sent his way.

Flags eliminated by Essex Tuesday

The Independent

The Mooretown Flags had no losses to give. The Essex 73's scored twice in the opening three minutes and 15 seconds on home ice Tuesday and went on to beat the Mooretown Flags 9-1, eliminating the Flags from the playoffs.

Essex wins the best-of-seven divisional semifinals, four games to one.

Last Thursday, Nolan Farr scored both Flag goals in a 3-2 overtime setback to the 73's and ex-Petrolia goaltender Jakob Knowles blocked 30 shots for the shutout to backstop Essex to a 4-0 win at Mooretown last Saturday night.

CRUSHING IT



JOHN WRIGHT PHOTO

The Shallow Lake Crushers are up to two games to one in the WOAA Senior "A" championship series after an 8-3 triumph at Greenwood last Saturday. The fourth game scheduled for Sunday afternoon in the Owen Sound-area community was postponed due to inclement weather. The game had not yet been rescheduled.



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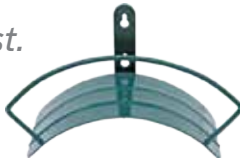
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HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

There were so many people in net you couldn't see the goaltender during the Lambton-Kent girls hockey final between LCCVI and Wallaceburg. The Tartans claimed the title in a tight 1-0 game. The boys final is Wednesday.

Lancers, Eagles take flight in LK title fight

The Independent

LCCVI will travel to Forest Wednesday for the LKSSAA boys' A/AA hockey final against North Lambton. Puck drop at the Shores Recreation Complex is 12:30. The Eagles beat the Lancers twice during the regular season, both by 4-1 scores. The Eagles blanked John McGregor, 8-0 in the semifinals while LCCVI advanced with a forfeit victory over Great Lakes last week. Meantime, Wallaceburg scored late in

the third period to defeat LCCVI, 1-0 in the girls' hockey final in the downriver community last week. Taryn Jacobs broke the scoreless tie with less than two minutes remaining. Morgan Gorry earned the shutout. Rianne McEachren took the tough luck goaltending loss for LCCVI. The Lancers advanced with a semifinal win over Great Lakes while the Tartans punched their ticket with a victory over North Lambton.

Former Jets goalie wins national championship

The Independent

Jeremy Symington can add national champion to his list of hockey accomplishments. The Camlachie product watched on the weekend as his Adrian College Bulldogs beat Geneseo, 5-2 in the NCAA Division III championship contest in Lake Placid, New York. Symington has been an assistant coach and

goaltending coach with the Bulldogs for the past decade. He played two seasons with the Petrolia Jets in the 1990's before embarking on a collegiate career at St. Lawrence University in upstate New York. He was drafted by the New York Rangers in 1997.

Forest's Black cracks top ten at international x-country event

Connor Black finished ninth at the 2022 Pan Am Cross Country Cup in stifling heat and humidity in Brazil on Sunday. His 10K time of 32:34 helped Team Canada to a second place finish behind Brazil in the men's

senior team standings. Black, from Forest and a North Lambton grad, is a former provincial and national cross country champion while he attended the University of Guelph.

Historic road race back on track for Victoria Day weekend

After a two year absence, the Watford to Alvinston Road Race is back. Organizers are accepting online entries now for the 16K and 8K race held on the Victoria Day

weekend. Like so many other events, the road race was cancelled due to the pandemic over the past two years.



The Petrolia Oilers U15 team celebrates after punching their ticket to the OMHA championship weekend. They're among the teams representing Lambton in the big shows in April.

Lambton teams gunning for Red Hat glory

The Independent

Red Hat fever has hit Lambton County as the Ontario Minor Hockey Associations champions are about to be crowned. The Petrolia Oilers U15 squad and the Mooretown Flags U13's are both on the docket this weekend at the OMHA championship weekend in Barrie. Both teams are scheduled to open play on Friday afternoon. The Oilers are in a group with LaSalle, Niagara-on-the-Lake and Prince Edward County. The Flags' grouping includes Fort Eire, Napanee and Aurora. Meantime, several other area teams will compete in events in Windsor next

weekend. They are U11, U13 and U13 AE squads from East Lambton, the U11 teams from Lambton Shores and the Petrolia U18 AE team. Elsewhere, the Lambton Jr. Sting "AAA" U15 squad, with representation from our readership area, travels to Kitchener this weekend for the Alliance Minor Hockey of Ontario championship weekend while the Junior Sting will host the U10 and U11 championship weekend at the Progressive Auto Sales Arena beginning Friday morning at 9 and continuing through Sunday. And the Mooretown Lady Flags U11 and U15 teams have qualified for the Ontario Women's Hockey Championship weekend beginning on April 7.



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Obituaries / Death Notices



FIDDICK
Maxine Ruby (DODGE)
Ducharme

Passed away peacefully on **March 24, 2022 at Fiddick's Nursing Home, Petrolia.** Born January 26th 1930 to Lawson and Daisy Dodge. Beloved Wife of John Ducharme (London). Beloved Mother of Mike & Leza Fiddick, Surrogate Mother of Wendy & Ben Sitek and Todd & Darla Fiddick. Devoted Grandmother to Marchan, Johnathan & Zack Fiddick, Mitchel & Corrine Fiddick, Zachary & Colin Wallis & Great Grandmother of many. Dear Sister of Bill Dodge. Predeceased by Siblings, Betty, Hank, Florence, Jim, Almer, Dorothy, Morley & Gerry. Maxine Fiddick was a force to be reckoned with, her greatest aspiration in life was that of caring for people. All People. Maxine's compassion and empathy were her greatest attributes; mix that with a brilliant mind, incredible business savvy, ceaseless energy and an overwhelming desire to help community, that was Maxine Fiddick. In 1968 Maxine began the legacy of providing care to thousands of people. Maxine's motto from the very beginning was to "treat every resident at Fiddicks Nursing and Retirement Home, as if they were your most beloved family member." Maxine loved her family, her residents and her devoted team. Maxine was not an easy boss, her standards were high and she demanded the very best from her team, especially from her son Mike, who worked hand in hand with Maxine for more than 35 years. Traditions were important to Maxine. Her nurses wore white uniform and cap. Cleanliness was beyond militant, all food was homemade and of the finest ingredients. Nothing was not too good for her people. Pie or cookies must be served with a scoop of ice cream and bread must be buttered from crust to crust. Maxine was a trailblazer, with a vision of future. Maxine brought that vision to her several terms sitting on The Petrolia Town Council and as a Board Member of The District Health Council. Maxine was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion and a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. A supporter of numerous projects toward the betterment of community and local charities. Maxine was a savvy card player, occasional gambler, incredible with trivia and rarely cheated. Maxine loved to laugh, had an incredible sense of humour and could certainly play to a crowd. Maxine was a fine cook and a skilled gardener, she loved her flowers. Purple ones especially. She had the most generous heart and at every parting she would say, "REMEMBER I LOVE YOU!" So we will. We will remember and we are better for having known and loved such an extraordinary woman. Thank you to Maxine's devoted & loving family at Fiddicks Nursing and Retirement Home, who cared for Maxine in her final years. Your devotion and love was shown and felt everyday of her care. She would have been so proud of you all. **A private funeral took place at STEADMAN BROTHERS FUNERAL HOME, Brigden.** Special thank you, to Dr. Daniel & the Bluewater Health Team. In lieu of flowers, we ask in the spirit of Maxine Fiddicks heart of giving, donations be made to THE INN OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD. "That a warm meal will be shared and communion be felt." Or to the Alzheimer's Society-Sarnia Lambton. Memories and condolences may be sent online at www.steadmanbrothers.ca. **Steadman Brothers 519-864-1193.**

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Obituaries / Death Notices

LANGSTAFF
Helen Anita

LANGSTAFF, Helen Anita (Nee Unsworth) – Age 88 passed away on **Thursday, March 17, 2022** at London Health Sciences Center Hospital. Helen joins the love of her life and best friend Elliott Langstaff (2015). She leaves behind her children Carol-Ann (Charles) Conboy, Kelly (Ferneida) Langstaff, John (Sue) Langstaff, George (Val) Langstaff, Arnold (Crystal) Langstaff, Paul, Deborah, Dale, Louanne, Allan, and Cindy Langstaff. Special grandmother of 36 and great grandmother of many. Predeceased by her siblings Larry Unsworth, Doris (Wilbur) and Glen Edward Unsworth and her brother-in-law Ron Wilbur. She will be missed by all who knew her. Helen enjoyed her life on the farm, she was a member of the Zion Free Methodist church, was a proud wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. **Family and friends were received at STEADMAN BROTHERS FUNERAL HOME, Brigden on Sunday, March 27, 2022 from 2-4pm and 7-9pm. A funeral service took place at Zion Free Methodist Church, Sombra on Monday, March 28, 2022 at 1pm. Interment followed at Dresden Cemetery.** Sympathy may be expressed through donations to Zion Free Methodist Church. Memories and condolences may be sent online at www.steadmanbrothers.ca. **Steadman Brothers 519-864-1193.**




HARRISON
Margaret

Margaret Harrison (nee Vanderzwart), of Petrolia, passed away at St. Joseph's Hospice, Sarnia on **Tuesday, March 22, 2022** in **89th year.** Marg is survived by her son James Harrison, her three grandchildren, eleven great grandchildren, her sister Helen Richardson, and her brothers Bill, Hank, and Paul Vanderzwart. She was predeceased by her husband Bill Kapral (2020) and her sister Pauline Vanderzwart. **Cremation has taken place with interment in Hillsdale Cemetery.** Arrangements by Needham-Jay Funeral Home www.needhamjay.com.

Cards of Thanks

THANK YOU for all your acts of kindness shown to Dale throughout his life. To his church family and his pastors Al and Patty Huggett, Tim and Lynette Brown, Pete and Krista Mueller and families for special attention. Also to Erin and Shelly for special attention given and his uncle Randy. Also to the Doctors and Nurses in Petrolia, Sarnia, and London. Special thanks to Gramma. He loved you all.

Oliver Family



McAUSLAN
The family of **Maurice McAuslan** wish to extend a sincere thank you for all the acts of kindness shown to us during this difficult time.

Mary, Dan, Amanda and Aliya

In Memory

McCALLUM

In loving memory of our father, grandfather, great grandfather **Elwood, March 29, 1998,** our mother, grandmother, great grandmother **Lucille, May 16, 1971** and our sister **Lou-anne, April 12, 2017** (also a mother & grandmother)
*Loving memories we will never forget
Sadly missed along life's way
With silent thought & deep regret
We think of you every day
No longer in our lives to share
But in our hearts you will be there.*
Forever Loved & Sadly Missed by
Gary & Judi
Sherry & Randy
Wayne & Mary Lynne
Kevin & Cheryl
Cathy & Tony
Jim & Denise
Maureen & Ron
Souzanne & Mark
and families

In loving memory of **James McRae**
Who passed away on **April 2nd, 2001**

*I cried when you passed away
I still cry today
Although I loved you dearly
I could not make you stay
A golden heart stopped beating
Hard working hands at rest
God broke my heart to prove
He only takes the best.
Always in our thoughts.*

**Forever loved by
Wife Ann and Family**

JARDINE: In loving memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather **Robert (Bob) Jardine** who passed away 29 years ago on **March 30, 1993.**
God saw the road was getting tough and the hike was hard to climb, so He closed your weary eyes and whispered, "Peace be Thine."

**Sadly missed and always loved
& remembered by
Dean and Family**



Wanted to Buy: Bikes

WANTED TO BUY - Adult bicycles womens & mens. All sizes. Good to fair condition. All types of bikes wanted. Please call **519-882-2548** and ask for **Dave.**
ALSO, will pick up scrap bikes.

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

Wanted: Farmland

FARMLAND - Do you want a farmer who wants and values your opinion on how to best farm your land? One who will work with you to develop a crop plan, discuss when your farm is fit to plant and harvest to minimize compaction and maximise profit for the long term? **Then call Shawn at Font Farms (519) 384-2855.**



SHANAHAN
REALTY INC. BROKERAGE

**503 Broadway St
Wyoming**

Great for seniors or as a starter, your one floor home awaits your decorator touches. This solid 3 bdrm bungalow is situated on a large corner lot on the south end of town. High efficiency gas furnace updated in 2017. Single garage attached through enclosed breezeway & covered porch for year round BBQing. Fridge & stove included.

MLS# 40231070 **\$349,900**

SHANAHAN REALTY INC. BROKERAGE
7963 Egremont Road, Watford • 519.849.6783 www.shanahanrealty.com
Leo Shanahan Sales Representative
Direct: 519-878-5981 • leo@shanahanrealty.com • Fax-519.849.6683



Church DIRECTORY

Christ Anglican Church
414 Oil Street, Petrolia

*Join us for
In-Person Services
Sundays
@ 11:15 am*

Everyone Welcome

Rev. Michelle Collins-Wongkee
Church Office 519-882-1430
christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com

**St. Paul's
United Church**
4169 Petrolia Line at Centre Street

*In-Person Services
Sundays
@ 10:30 am*

Rev. Carol Ferguson
Church Office: 519-882-1390
www.stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net

First Baptist Church
418 Greenfield Street, Petrolia

**IN PERSON
CHURCH SERVICE**
Sunday Mornings
@10:30 am

Pastor: Alex Craig
Church Office 519-882-2480
email: fbcpetrolia@gmail.com
www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca

 Find us on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia

**Wyoming United
Church**
730 Second Street, Wyoming

*In-Person Services
taking place
Sundays @ 11 am*

*Those attending will be physically distanced,
must wear a mask and be fully vaccinated.*

Rev. Steven Longmoore
Church Office 519-845-3963
 FIND US ON FACEBOOK

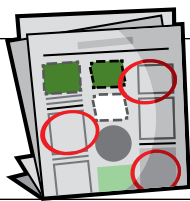
**St. Andrew's
Presbyterian Church**
416 Queen Street, Petrolia
(Behind the Post Office)

*In-Person Service
Sundays
@ 10:00 am*

*Services also available online:
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

community corner



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Shown here are a few of the members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows - Florence Lodge #196 who were on hand to receive a \$5,000 donation from Enbridge. Pictured from left to right are Ben Brown, Bill Mills, Conner Cook, Bill Maynard and Chris Dube. The money was donated to the Lodge, one of the few service groups left in Dawn-Euphemia, to be used for humanitarian efforts within the community.



Obituary



BRADSHAW

Leo Robert

BRADSHAW, Leo Robert – Age 82 of Petrolia, passed away peacefully at his home on **Monday, March 28, 2022**. Beloved husband of Jean Bradshaw. Loving father of Kerrie (Russ) Jacklin, Richard (Carolyne) Bradshaw, Scott (Kim) Bradshaw, Robert (Wendee) Bradshaw and step-father of Scott (Cathy) Jacklin, Russ (Kerrie) Jacklin, Roy (Kerry) Jacklin, Kevin (Cherie) Jacklin, Dawn (Jay) Burdett. Cherished grandfather of Tim (Melanie) Jacklin, Tiffany (Ben) Vanklinken,

Taylor (Riley) Jacklin, Tanner Jacklin, Matt Bradshaw, Syndal Bradshaw, Kayla (Bryant) Lung and step-grandfather of Megan, Cassie, Karli, Kristi, Kati, Brad, Daniel, Jaden, Jonah, Chloe. Great-grandfather of Harly, Regan, Colby, Hadley, Reed, Lola, Josh, Wyatt and step great-grandchildren Ethan and Lexi. Survived by his sister Barb (Denys) Stewart, brother Ed (Lucille) Bradshaw and sister-in-law Rosemary Bradshaw. Predeceased by his parents Lloyd and Hazel, sisters Leda (late Jack) Webster and Noreen (late Germaine) Roy, brothers Jerry (late Lillian) and Bruce, and grandson Michael. Leo was a retiree of Holmes Foundry after 25 years working with a group of fellow workers he liked and respected. Leo and Jean spent many wonderful and fun filled years travelling in Leo's 1967 Camaro convertible, completely restored by Leo, with the Antique and Classic Car Club of Canada – Chemical Valley Region. They also spent many hours touring Lambton County and beyond at flea markets and garage sales for treasures as well as Petrolia and Brigden post cards for both themselves and for the Petrolia Heritage Committee. When not travelling locally they liked to cruise and fly to Great Britain to see family. Leo spent a lot of enjoyable hours on the property committee of First Baptist Church helping out where his talents were both needed and appreciated. **Family and friends will be received at STEADMAN BROTHERS FUNERAL CHAPELS, Brigden on Thursday, March 31, 2022 from 3:00 to 6:00pm. Funeral service will be held on Friday, April 1, 2022 at 11:00am from the funeral home. Interment to follow at Hillsdale Cemetery, Petrolia.** Sympathy may be expressed through donations with cheques to Ducks Unlimited (www.ducks.ca). Memories and condolences may sent online at www.steadmanbrothers.ca. **Steadman Brothers 519-864-1193.**

Notice

St. James Cemetery & Chapel – The St. James Cemetery and Chapel Board has submitted by-laws to the Registrar of the Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002. Any interested parties may contact the Cemetery Administrator, Betty Searson-Anderson, by telephone at 519-882-4926 or by email to st.jamesbrooke79@gmail.com for information or to obtain a copy of the by-laws. **These by-laws are subject to the approval of the Registrar, Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002. Telephone: Bereavement Authority of Ontario 647-483-2645 or 1-844-493-6356. Thank you.**

APRIL GENERAL MEETING

- Tuesday, April 12 - Open to General Public at the Point Edward Arena & Community Centre. Guest speaker: Pete Bothwell. Topic: Spring in-shore Fishing Program for targeting Salmon & Lake Trout in less than 20 ft of Water. As well as a Fishing and Marine Garage Sale - rods/reels— lures—downriggers— Fishfinders — life Jackets — marine radios and much more. For more information contact Paul Heckley 519-869-2593 or pheckley@outlook.com

For people wanting a **Ontario Health Coalition LAWN SIGN** which supports public healthcare, please call Shirley at 226-402-2724. We will deliver and install the sign.

BRITISH COLUMBIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ZOOM MEETING

- April 14 at 7pm, The Lambton County Branch of Ont Ancestors is hosting a Zoom Meeting. Registration is free. Open to the public, all are welcome. For a link to the meeting email lambton@ogs.on.ca or visit lambton.ogs.on.ca.

Death Notices

March 17 - March 28, 2022

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

LANGSTAFF, Helen Anita
(n Unsworth)
Age 88
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

VINKE, Anne Marie
(n Karels)
Age 70
Van Heck Funeral Home

TUESDAY, MONTH 22

HARRISON, Margaret "Marg"
(n Vanderzwaart)
Age 88, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

BROGDEN, Allan "Al" Bruce
Age 80
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

MCEWEN, Peter James
Age 66, of Camlachie
Dennings of Forest

MORRISON, William "Bill" Leslie
Age 68, of Mooretown
Knight Funeral Home

SCOULER, Ronnie-Lynn Louise
Age 35, of Sarnia
Gilpin Funeral Home

SMITH, Nada
(n Mojsilovich)
Age 51
Smith Funeral Home

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

BARNA, Ann Mary
(n Boosey)
Age 78
Smith Funeral Home

BUTTERWORTH, Dorothy Bernice
(Scott, n Turnbull)
Age 95, of Corunna
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

DUCHARME, Maxine Ruby
(n Dodge) Fiddick
Age 92, of Petrolia
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

KEECH, Mary Florence
(n Zink)
Age 85, of Glencoe
VanHeck Funeral Home

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

DOYLE, Denise Rose Marie
Age 91
Needham-Jay - Wyoming Chapel

MONDAY, MARCH 28

BRADSHAW, Leo Robert
Age 82, of Petrolia
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

DOUGLAS, Lorne
Age 72, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

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

2022 Easter Bazaar and Craft Sale

supporting Relay for Life

Saturday, April 2
10am - 3pm

@ Royal Canadian Navy Club - 1420 Lougar Ave., Sarnia

Featuring 25 local vendors
with Gifts for Easter & Mother's Day...

Homemade Baked Goods including Meat Pies & Pizza Kits,
Kiki's Hot Lunch Café with Homemade Chili, Walking Tacos,
Hotdogs & Beverages and much more!

Proudly hosted by the Royal Canadian Navy Club and
Kiki's Crusaders & Friends Fundraising Team.

Calendar

PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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

CLUBS AND REGULAR EVENTS

DAY	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
3rd Thurs	7p	Oil Springs	Optimist Meat Bingo @ The Youth Centre	519-834-2152
Mon	1:30p	Alvinston	Seniors Cards @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Tues	1p	Wyoming	Wyoming Fair Bd - Euchre + coffee & cookies	519-312-0578
Wed	7:30p	Alvinston	LA Cards @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Wed	7p	Forest	Darts @ Forest Legion	519-786-5357
Thurs	7p	Alvinston	Pool League @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Fri	7:30p	Alvinston	Dart League @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Fri	1:30p	Forest	Shuffleboard @ Forest Legion	519-786-5357
Sat	6p	Alvinston	Catch The Ace @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Sat	3:30p	Forest	Meat Raffles @ Forest Legion	519-786-5357

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
Mar 31	10am-3pm	Sarnia	2022 Easter Bazaar and Craft Sale at the Royal Navy Club.	
Apr 5	12-3pm	Petrolia	IODE Maragaret Stokes Chapter Famous Butter Tarts. Contact Carol at 519-882-1684 to order - No calls after 9pm.	
Apr 9	3:30pm	Forest	Forest Legion Special Easter Meat Raffle - Double Ham and Turkey.	
Apr 9	1pm	Alvinston	Easter Egg Hunt at the Alvinston Arena. Entry is free, Ages 0-10.	
Apr 9	9am	Forest	Branch 176 hosts the Ladies Auxiliary Craft Show.	
Apr 10	7pm	Thamesville	Thamesville United Church is hosting a Free Music of Easter Concert. All are welcome!	
Apr 14	7pm	Zoom	Lambton County Branch of Ontario hosting British Columbia Genealogical Society with Special Guest President Eunice Robinson. Email lambton@ogs.on.ca for the link.	
Apr 15	12-2pm	Petrolia	Petrolia & District Lions Easter Eggstravaganza at the the Lions Pavillion. Contact Gail Tanner at 519-882-0765 for further information.	
Apr 15	8am-12pm	Wyoming	Wyoming Lions Breakfast at the Wyoming Lions Hall. Adults - \$10, Kids 10 and under - \$5	
May 21	10am-3pm	Petrolia	Royal Canadian Legion Brach 216 presents a Car Show with the Sarnia Street Cruisers @ 4129 Glenview Dr.	

To have your event included in the above Calendar of Events the following information is required:

Date: _____
Time: _____
Town: _____
Event Title: _____
Phone # / website: _____

You can drop this off at our office or email the information to us at office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

****Deadline for submitting free events is Friday @ 12 noon****

early deadline

for the issue following the Easter weekend


April 21 2022

14

April 14
Thursday @

The Independent
Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton

email us:
[office@](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca) [news@](mailto:news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca) [sales@](mailto:sales@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)
petrolialambtonindependent.ca



April 1st

NO MORE NO DEPOSIT SLIPS NO CHEQUES NO STAMPS NO FOOLING!

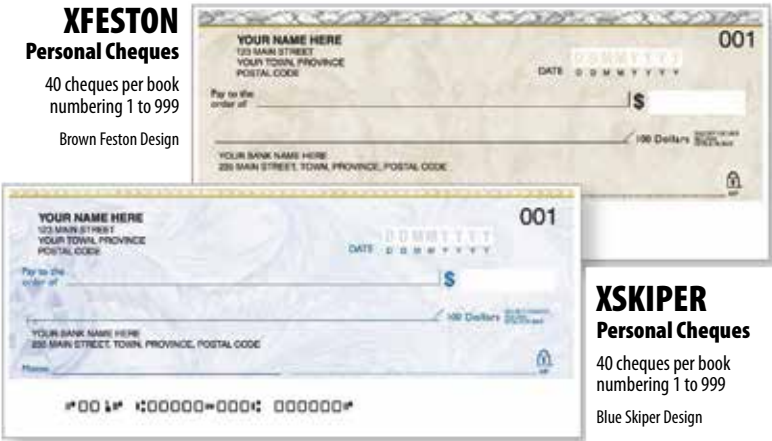
Last Date to Order is Thursday March 31

We are getting out of the cheque business!

The Independent
Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton

226-738-0728
office@petrolialambton
independent.ca

XFESTON
Personal Cheques
40 cheques per book
numbering 1 to 999
Brown Feston Design



SIZE: 6-13/16" x 2-3/4" *prices subject to change without notice

XSKIPER
Personal Cheques
40 cheques per book
numbering 1 to 999
Blue Skipper Design

W53849C
Single-Pocket Deposit Bag
9" x 12" - Clear
100 pre-numbered bags **\$27**

W52858C
Dual-Pocket Deposit Bag
9-1/2" x 15" - Clear Front
Blue Opaque Back
100 pre-numbered bags **\$44**



W102170C
Self-Inking
Endorsement
Stamp **\$32**

2-1/4"x7/8" • Black • up to 5,000 impressions.
Layout A: 5 lines with "For Deposit Only" preprinted
Layout B: 6 lines available to customize your message

W4437
- Black -
Holds
2-to-a-pg
1-copy cheques **\$15**

W4438 - Black **\$14**
Holds 1-to-a-pg 1-copy cheques

W44372
- Blue -
not shown
Holds
2-to-a-pg
2-copy cheques **\$17**

Standard One-to-a-Page Cheques
Choose from Suede Blue or Suede Green Colour



W437, W440 – Standard Two-to-a-Page Cheque					
Copies	200	400	600	800	
1	\$95	\$113	\$133	\$152	
2	\$110	\$128	\$148	\$170	
W438 - Standard One-to-a-Page Cheque					
1	\$95	\$113	\$133	\$152	

Time to
order will
soon be
gone!



Standard Two-to-a-Page Cheques

Available in
1 or 2 copy
formats



W437
Choose from
Suede Blue,
Burgundy or
Green Colour

W440

Personal Cheques

80 cheques 2 books	160 cheques 4 books	320 cheques 8 books
\$29 + tax	\$40 + tax	\$76 + tax

W487
Deposit Slip Book
6-13/16"x7" • 2 or 3 copies • 50 slips per book

W487 – Deposit Slip Book			
Copies	200	300	500
	(4 books)	(6 books)	(10 books)
2	\$41	\$58	\$84
3	\$46	\$62	\$91

W488 – Deposit Slip Book			
Copies	200	300	500
	(8 books)	(12 books)	(20 books)
3	\$46	\$62	\$91



W488
Deposit Slip Book
7-7/8"x3-3/8"
3 copies
25 slips per book