

## Highland Glen boat ramp fix possible this spring

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming is pushing to have the Highland Glen boat ramp repaired in time for the spring boating and fishing season.

That comes even though the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority still owns the regional park and is only in talks with the town to transfer the land.

The boat launch was closed in 2019 after high water and winds damaged the steel groins around the ramp. The conservation authority hired an engineer to look at the damage to the ramp and also the banks of the park which were collapsing. Aecom Engineering said it would take about \$3 million over a number of years to fix the damage.

The authority board decided to continue studying the problem and then began negotiations with the town, which has been advocating for the boat ramp to be reopened.

Residents in the area are looking for fast action. Brian Lofgren told Plympton-Wyoming councillors it's time to get the ramp open - hopefully by the end of April before the salmon derby begins.

"The bottom line is that there have been discussions on this boat ramp for the past two years and nothing has been done. I am sorry to put it this way but I cannot think of another way to ask this, how long does it take this council to make a decision and move on?" he asked council March 30.

Lofgren says there isn't a boat access for 41 kilometres along the lake without Highland Glen. "This is also a safety issue... If any emergency came up out on this area of the lake, it would take a long time for anyone to get to a boat, canoe, kayak or any other watercraft. There needs to be a boat ramp in order to meet any rightful access and safety issues on Lake Huron in this area," he says.

**SEE HIGHLAND GLEN PG 2**

## ONCE AN OILER, ALWAYS AN OILER



PHOTO CREDIT

Meghan Hunter sports a sweater made for her by Mary Freer when she was just 11 years old and spent hours around the Petrolia arena hoping to play hockey with whatever team needed an extra player. Hunter, an Oil Springs native who played with the Petrolia Oilers as a kid, was inducted in Petrolia's Wall of Fame Friday, celebrating her accomplishments in hockey including becoming one of the first female scouts in the NHL for the Chicago Blackhawks. See the story on page 7.

## Petrolia road project bid comes in 40 per cent under budget

Heather Wright  
The Independent

As construction season begins, the Town of Petrolia had a pleasant surprise. In a time when many construction projects are far more expensive than expected, the contract to rebuild Valentina Street has come in more than \$180,000 under budget.

The town recently moved up the reconstruction of the street off Petrolia Line as Goldleaf Construction started building a 50 unit seniors condominium project. The street inside the development - which will link Valentina off Petrolia Line to the other side

of the street near the former soccer fields - will be built and paid for by the contractor. But the short piece of Valentina from Petrolia Line to the development will be rebuilt on the town's dime. Mike Thompson, director of operations, in a report to council said the reconstruction of Valentina was moved up because of the new development.

Thompson says a total of \$475,250 was set aside for the project. But when the tenders were opened, COPE Construction came in as the lowest tender with a bid of \$288,427. The report shows eight different companies, all from southwestern Ontario, bid on the project which is expected to start in May

and be completed by mid-June.

The bids ranged from COPE's low of \$288,427 to a high of \$491,869 from a Sarnia contractor with three of the bids over \$400,000.

The engineer for the project, David Graham with MIG recommended COPE. "We have had experience working with them on similar projects and found the quality of their work to be well on par with the industry standard. We find no valid reason not to award Cope Construction and Contracting Inc. the contract."

A public meeting will be held for neighbours April 25.

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# Warwick moves downtown April 14

Heather Wright  
The Independent

After years of planning, and a four month delay, Warwick Township will soon be moving into its new digs on Watford's main street.

The township will be leasing a space on Nauvoo Road which is being built by Watford Investment Group. It's part of a three building development which began to take shape during the pandemic. The township

administration was expected to move in to the new digs by the end of 2021.

Developer Frank Callipari at the time said construction delays were caused by pandemic shortages of materials and delays by contractors.

CAO Amanda Gubbels told council Monday the move in date to the new building the town will lease on Nauvoo Road is now slated for April 14. The public will be able to access services at the new build-

ing on April 19, after the Easter long weekend.

Gubbels says most of the building is now ready with only a few finishing touches - such as historic photos of the town which will grace the new office walls - left to complete.

While the building will be open to the public on the 19th, Gubbels says a public open house is being planned for later in April to allow people to come in and tour the new office space.

# Lambton helping with Old Plympton Hall

The Independent

Lambton County is helping Plympton-Wyoming get 'creative' with one of the oldest buildings in town.

Council closed the Old Plympton Hall citing safety concerns in February. Officials estimated it would take upwards of \$365,000 to repair the building constructed in 1869. Council asked town staff to look into options. Shortly after the meeting, County of Lambton officials called, offering their expertise to help find an "innovative way to preserve the facility

and search for grant opportunities," according to a report from Public Works Director Adam Sobanski.

"County staff feel that the Town should obtain a Historical Pathology Report on the facility. The report would outline potential improvements and uses of the facility while maintaining its historical significance. The report would also be a key part of seeking grants in the future to accommodate any improvements."

Council agreed to apply for a funding for a report through the Creative County Grant process.

# Dawn-Euphemia plows ahead with public works addition despite 60 per cent cost increase

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Dawn-Euphemia has decided to bite the bullet and move ahead on a planned addition to a public works garage that is going to cost about 60 per cent more than expected.

The township agreed to put a three bay addition on the Cairo garage and estimated it would cost about \$225,000. But that was eight months ago.

When Paul Dalton, the public

works manager, and the staff at the township put the project out for tender, only two companies notified of the project bid. And the lowest tender came in at just at \$358,704 before taxes. Dalton, in a report to council says when the engineering costs are factored in, the building will be about \$145,000 more than first expected.

"We've been working on it for eight or 10 months," says Mayor Al Broad.

"You get your cost estimate back then and everything has changed

since then.

"It is a little bit higher than we were expecting. Plus not only that, we sent it out to I don't know how many contractors, but we only got two back. So that alone, you know, tends to create to not much competition."

In his report, Dalton urged council to move ahead with the project anyway.

"I have conversed with a vast amount of building contractors, as well as investment analysts, all who provide the same information.

That there is nothing to indicate that there will be any reason to expect a decrease for the expenses of construction," he wrote.

"The demand is huge. I am proposing to proceed with construction."

"The less innovative thought would be not to proceed however, that would mean that this would probably never be built," he added noting the space is required now.

Dalton added in the future, the Cairo garage may be used to house anything from fire services to other

shared services with all levels of government in the future. Without the addition, that would close those doors.

Dalton added cancelling the project would mean forfeiting a \$100,000 grant which will help pay for the addition.

Council, with the exception of Councillor Leslea Williams, agreed to move ahead.

The extra \$145,000 needed for the project will be taken from the Equipment Reserve Fund which has about \$746,000 in it.

# St. Clair man 'lucky' after passing out in Courtright

Blake Ellis  
The Independent

A Sarnia judge says a St. Clair Township man is lucky no one was hurt as he passed out from drug use in Courtright.

Alexander Boe was found slumped over the steering wheel of his vehicle at the Courtright Variety Store June 3. He had the car in gear with his foot on the brake.

Sarnia Court heard March 30 that Boe apologized to police when they arrived on the scene, telling them he had pulled into the variety store to take a nap. He was sweating, yet all the windows of his vehicle were down. An empty bottle of methadone was spotted on the seat

of the car and a plastic straw was found in his pocket. He admitted it was a straw used to snort cocaine. He failed a drug recognition test and was arrested.

Boe is addicted to opioids which began when he was given a prescription for a back injury seven years ago. He was able to overcome it at the time, but he relapsed. "I can't change the decision I made that day, but I am moving forward," he said. Boe plead guilty to impaired driving and was fined \$3,000. His licence has also been suspended for a year.

"This could easily be a jail sentence," said Judge Krista Leszczynski, appeared before her in Sarnia court on March 30. "You are very lucky no one was hurt or killed."

# OPTIMISTIC GIFT



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Another feel-good Friday in Watford as the co-chairs of the East Lambton Community Complex, Rhonda and George Noll accepted a \$100,000 pledge from the Watford Optimist Club. President Gary Herygers made the presentation to the complex fundraising team. Last Friday, Lambton Mutual presented its \$200,000 pledge to the \$2 million campaign for the new community centre at the Watford Arena.

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Sessions can be accessed via Zoom and will last approximately 2 hours.

2:00 pm <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88262519874>

6:00 pm <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86385878927>

*We hope you can join us!*



# Editorial

## Fast opening unlikely

It is not surprising anglers and boaters want the boat ramp at Highland Glen Conservation Area reopened. What is surprising is the speed in which they, and some members of Plympton-Wyoming council, want that to happen.

In 2019, the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority, which still owns the regional park, shut down the boat launch after high water and high winds damaged the steel sheeting which protected it. As the authority looked for a solution - at a snail's pace - the water and wind continued to cause damage. Now, large pieces of the banks at the park have been washed away.

When the authority did get a report on the damage, its cost sent shivers down the spines of politicians. The \$3 million cost to repair the lakeshore and the ramp - the only one on Lake Huron between Sarnia and Grand Bend - was just too high, many said.

That left the people who used the park frustrated. Petitions circulated in 2019, 2020 and 2021 looking for support to put pressure on the politicians to reopen the ramp.

It didn't happen. The damage only got worse. And now Plympton-Wyoming is negotiating to take over the park with the specific intent to get that boat launch up and running in 2022.

The neighbours want it open this spring. Councilor Tim Wilkins - who has been one of the most vocal supporters of the project - thinks it is possible. He wants the town just to fix the repairs at the ramp that it currently does not own. Just fix what is already there instead of redesigning it as the engineers suggest.

But in the world of municipal politics and liability, nothing is that simple.

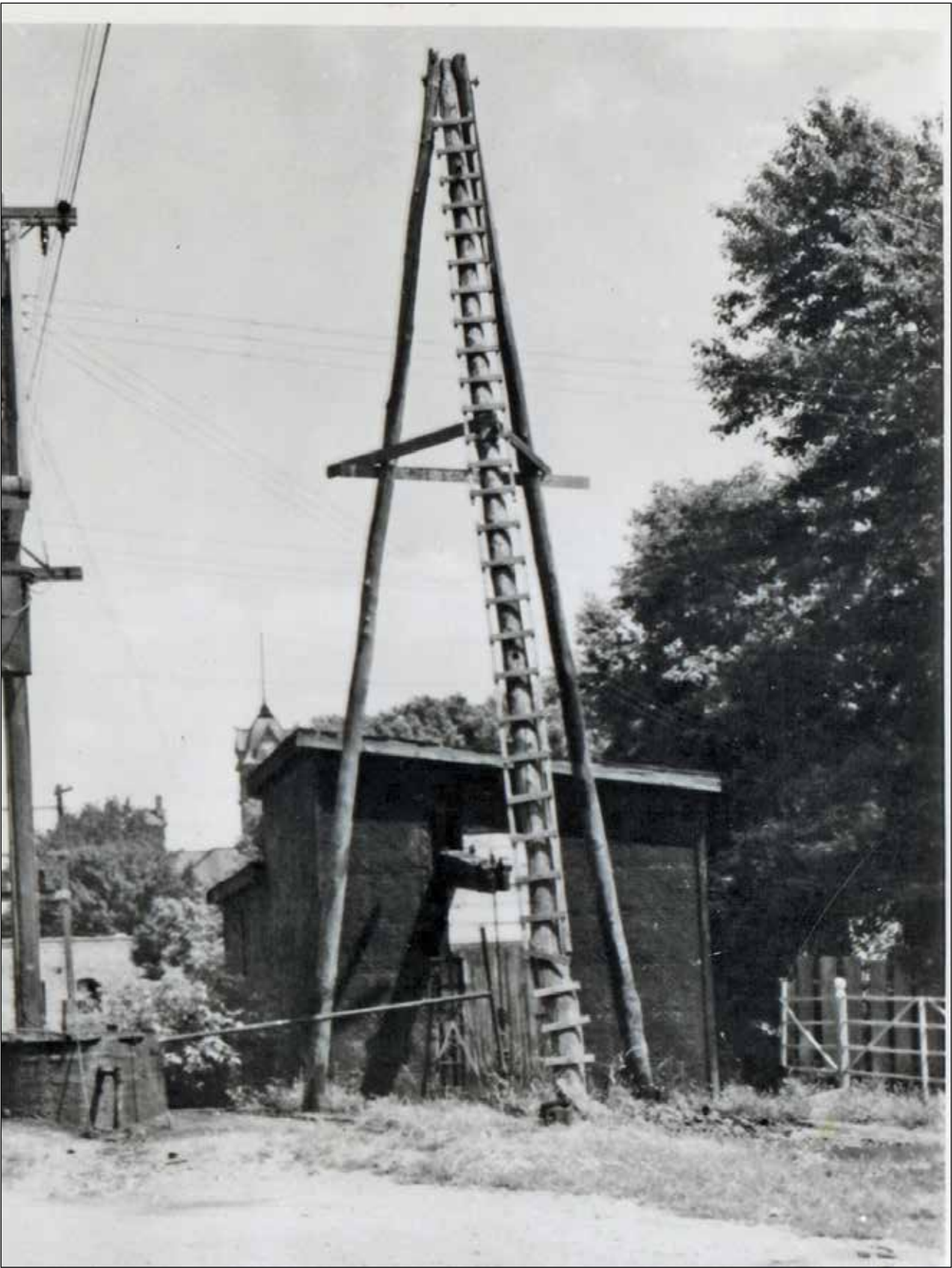
It's unlikely the St. Clair Region will allow the repairs until the land is officially turned over. There isn't an operating agreement with Plympton-Wyoming for the park yet. And municipal insurance agents, we assume, would not like the risk involved in the "quick fix" method.

As important as the launch is to the safety of boaters and as much as residents want it open now, we would be surprised if there will any boats are launched at Highland Glen this summer.

## Letters to the Editor

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

## Our Story



FROM THE DAVE BURWELL POSTCARD COLLECTION

This postcard, from the Dave Burwell Collection, is billed as the oldest oil well in Petrolia. The postcard states it is on King St. Residents can remember an old well behind the United Church on Petrolia Line, which could be this photo since Victoria Hall can be seen in the background.

The

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Publisher / Editor: Heather Wright  
[news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)

Sales Associates: [sales@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:sales@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)

Classifieds / Graphics: Connie McFadden  
[office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)

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# COVID-19 outbreaks increase in Lambton

The Independent

There are five COVID-19 outbreaks in Lambton County.

Lambton Public Health releases data on the pandemic three times a week. Friday, public health reported 105 new cases since the previous Wednesday and Monday another 79 cases were reported.

The uptick in cases is in line with provincial statistics which have been steadily increasing this week, as a new variant of the virus starts to circulate in the wake of the lifting of gathering limits and mask mandates.

Monday Public Health Ontario reported 2,248 new cases with testing limited to long term care, retirement homes, hospitals and congregate care settings. The weekly average of cases in Ontario is now 2,808 cases per day.

In Lambton, there are now five outbreaks, including one at Fairwinds Lodge where 13 residents are ill. There are also staff members ill there however Lambton Public Health does not report the number of cases unless it reaches more than five.

Both Vision Nursing Home and Trillium Villa are also in outbreak. Trillium’s outbreak has nine residents and seven staff members who are COVID-19 positive.

There is also an outbreak at Ryan’s House, a residential withdrawal management centre in Sarnia. Huron House Boys Home is also has a COVID-19 outbreak.

# BACK ON GREENFIELD ST



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

A worker from COPE Construction watches as a backhoe cuts into the pavement at the end of Greenfield Street. The construction crews are working on both Greenfield, which the company built over a period of nine months last year, and Wingfield St. “taking care of deficiencies identified over the winter,” according to Mike Thompson, director of operations in an email to The Independent. Thompson says it is “very common” to find deficiencies which the contractor must fix. Thompson didn’t respond to email questions about what the deficiencies are however crews have been noticed digging around manholes on Greenfield. COPE is also slated to lay a second layer of pavement on Greenfield. Any cost of the work, Thompson said, was included in the original cost of the \$1.8 million contract.

# Petrolia man to serve another 40 days for crime spree

Blake Ellis  
Local Journalism Initiative

A 23 year-old Petrolia man will spend 40 more days in jail after pleading guilty to charges connected to a crime spree from December 2020 to February 2021.

Logan Hanlon pleaded guilty to four counts of assault, one count of theft, and two breaches of probation and received six months in jail in Sarnia court on April 1. He already served the majority of the sentence as he waited for the outcome of his plea.

Defence Lawyer Michelle Farquhar said her client has been addicted to methamphetamines since he was 15 or 16 years of age. He has been homeless for some time. And he’s been in and out of trouble with the law.

On Dec. 31, 2020, Hanlon punched a man in the right eye in the common area at the Inn of the Good Shepherd homeless shelter in Sarnia. Hanlon did not know the man and the altercation was unprovoked. He was kicked out of the shelter and was found by police on Indian Road.

Eighteen days later, he was in Petrolia at the Circle K store. The clerk told Hanlon he was trespassing. Instead of leaving, Hanlon purchased a lighter and stole two more. He tried to intimidate the clerk and punched him in the eye. He was arrested in Petrolia a short time later and a knife was found in his pocket.

And then just over a month later, a homeowner confronted Hanlon who was on the front porch of his Sarnia home.

“I’m stealing stuff, I’m a meth head. Leave me alone, said Hanlon as the man chased him. Hanlon attempted to punch him but missed and instead was pushed into a snowbank.

Two days later, Hanlon again punched a clerk in the head at a Circle K, this time at the Exmouth Street location in Sarnia.

Friday, Hanlon told Justice Deborah Austin he hopes to be accepted into an addictions program in London when he is released from jail. “It looks like I will be doing a lot better,” he said.

Austin called his behavior unacceptable, noting that all his assaults were unprovoked and involved innocent people.

Hanlon will be on probation 18 months.

- THE INDEPENDENT

# Warwick removes testing requirement for unvaccinated councillors

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Warwick councillors attending in person meetings won’t have to have a COVID-19 rapid test anymore.

The township’s vaccine policy made it mandatory for all staff who were not vaccinated against COVID-19 to take weekly rapid tests to reduce the risk of spreading the virus. It was modelled after a policy in place at Lambton County.

Warwick councillors also adopted the policy for council and volunteers.

But this week, CAO Amanda Gubbels says the township suspended the policy for its employees, at the advice of Lambton County and Lambton

Public Health.

While Gubbels can make that move for staff, the policy for councillors and volunteers had to be dealt with by council.

The issue has been a thorny one in Warwick after Mayor Jackie Rombouts said she didn’t believe people should be pressured to have a vaccine in order to continue working.

In the past few months, as restrictions around the pandemic eased, councillors agreed to continue meeting online until the new administrative building was ready for use, in part because at least one councillor, Todd White, was concerned about the spread of COVID-19 and how that would affect the residents of his long term care

home.

Gubbels told councillors the testing policy would put council in an unusual spot since if the meetings were held at the arena, councillors would not need testing but at the new council building, under the policy that was in place, they would.

After hearing the township had eased its policy Monday, Councillor Wayne Morris and Jerry Westgate, along with the mayor, voted in favour of removing the mandate for testing for councillors.

Both White and Councillor Colin Mitchell voted against the move.

Warwick is not the only group easing restrictions, Lambton County councillors were set to meet in person for the first time in two years Wednesday also.

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# Two years, 730 live performances later, Spalding takes a little break

Heather Wright  
The Independent

After two years of daily concerts to lift the spirits of people in Lambton County during the pandemic, Joan Spalding “is taking a little time off.”

The Plympton-Wyoming singer – known as the First Lady of Bluewater Country – has turned on her phone, strapped on her guitar and harmonica and performed some of her favourites for her fans live on Facebook for the last 730 days.

To put that in perspective, Canadian singer Celine Dion – known as the Queen of Las Vegas – performed 717 shows in her epic show new day. She performed them over four years.

March 31, Plympton-Wyoming Mayor Lonny Napper stopped by before her show and presented her with a plaque for her musical

mission. Napper says over the last two years Spalding “has done a lot to help us enjoy the day.”

Spalding has played every bar with live music in Lambton, recorded albums with friends including Doug Springstead and entered music competitions she she was a teen. She is the only woman to win the Canadian Open Singing Contest three years in a row.

When the pandemic hit and the gigs stopped, she learned how to livestream and started entertaining her fans every day either from her home or from an outdoor venue.

“You work so hard, keeping your career up, and then all of a sudden you think you’re gonna lose it. Anyway, that’s how I continued,” she told *The Independent* on the first anniversary of her daily concerts.

Her fans showed their appreciation of her dedication as

she serenaded them again today. “Thank you Joan for getting us through the past two years,” said Pat Sayers on the Spalding’s Facebook feed. “Your dedication is unbelievable.”

“Thank you for your beautiful music that has kept me strong during this fight, making the days so much brighter.

“Now, enjoy some deserved time for yourself,” wrote Bonnie Francis.

While today’s virtual show is the last in the daily streak of 730, fans won’t have to wait long to get their Joan Spalding fix.

She’s going to be off until Monday or Wednesday – she wasn’t sure, she told her fans.

But Spalding, like many other musicians who have been waiting to get back to what they love, has a gig this weekend and so the streak ends at 730.



PHOTO VIA YOUTUBE

Plympton-Wyoming Mayor Lonny Napper stopped by Joan Spalding's home studio Thursday to thank her for two solid years of live performances on social media during the pandemic.

## LCCVI student leader wins prestigious scholarship

Heather Wright  
The Independent

LCCVI’s student council co-prime minister is joining a very prestigious group.

Emma Patchett has been named a Loran Scholar.

The Loran Scholar Foundation offers country’s largest and most comprehensive four-year undergraduate award valued at \$100,000 to 30 young Canadians on the basis of character, service and the promise of leadership. Last year, over 6,000 people applied.

As student council co-prime minister, an athlete involved in a host of sports in and outside of the school walls, and a member of the school bands, Patchett fits the bill. That’s likely why her guidance and enrichment teachers told her about the prestigious scholarship urging her to apply.

Earlier this year, she was one of 90 people interviewed for the Loran. On the day the committee was to call the would-be winners, Patchett was “very stressed out.”

She told all her teachers about the important call she was waiting on and carried her phone into the classroom waiting for it to ring.

At one point, she placed her phone on a window sill to get better reception for the call, and then missed it.

Patchett says it was “a stressful two hours until they called me back.”

She was at work when she finally received the call.

Patchett has lead the LCCVI student council

through the second year of the pandemic, trying to provide activities in the age of social distancing and masks.

That was tough because of the restrictions on extra curriculars during the pandemic. “A lot of kids really rely on sports and music, extra curriculars and clubs for social interaction and for just something to do outside of their classes, so that was really tough on kids’ mental health for sure.”

The student council co-prime minister says her goal is always to make whatever she’s a part of as fun for others as it is for her. And she’s excited for the last few months at LCCVI. “We’re gearing up for some super exciting things coming up now that restrictions are a little bit more lifted.”

Patchett is involved in all kinds of sports including hockey, tennis, cross country and track as well as being the co-president of the Athletic Association.

The Midget B Hockey player with the Sarnia Jr. Sting, paid tribute to her teachers, family and coaches in both sports and music who have “inspired me and who have helped me to become the person I am today because this definitely wouldn’t have happened without all of their influence and their volunteering and support,” she says.



Emma Patchett

## Nine minutes to take over \$1,200 in groceries

Blake Ellis  
Local Journalism Initiative

A 31 year-old Sarnia woman will spend another 15 days in jail after pleading guilty to two counts of theft.

Tara Fraser entered the Real Canadian Superstore on Murphy Road on Jan. 20, 2020, where she filled a grocery cart with hair products, steaks, chicken, a grill and an electric toothbrush. She then left the store without paying.

Fraser was spotted by a security guard and was confronted in the parking lot.

She left the cart and ran. She had only been in the store for about nine minutes and the value of the items she had tried to steal was nearly \$1,225.

It was not the first brush with the law for the woman.

On Dec. 10, 2019, she was found on College Avenue in Sarnia, at the mailbox of her neighbor,

trying to stuff items into her coat. When she was confronted, a parcel fell to the ground, and she walked away.

She was found by police later and a debit card was stuffed up her sleeve of her jacket. She tried to convince the police the debit card had been given to her.


She was arrested

Defence Lawyer Nick Cake told Sarnia Court April 1 that her lengthy criminal record was an “addict’s record,” with many property crimes, court order breaches, and drug-related offenses, noting she has been in and out of jail for about a decade.

Justice Deborah Austin sentenced her to 60 days in jail and has just 15 left to serve.

She will also be on probation for one year after being released.

- THE INDEPENDENT



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

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Petrolia will hold a Public Meeting on Monday, May 9, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. to consider a proposed Official Plan Amendment under Section 21 of the Planning Act and a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment under Section 34 of the Planning Act.

**THE OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT** would remove the “Significant Woodlot” designation from the lands owned by MI 637 (Agent: R. Dobbin Engineering Inc.) and described as Lots 2 to 4, Part Lot 5, Plan 15 and Parts 1 and 2, RP 25R3236 in the Town of Petrolia. The lands would be designated “Residential”.

**THE ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT** would remove the “Significant Woodlot” zoning designation from the above-noted lands. The lands would be zoned “Residential - 1 (H) (R1-H)”.

The subject lands are located on the south side of Discovery Line, between Stanley Street and Eureka Street. The attached Key Map shows the general location of the lands to which the Amendments pertain. The Amendments would accommodate a proposed plan of subdivision.

**ANY PERSON** may attend the public hearing and/or make written or oral representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Official Plan Amendment and/or Zoning By-law Amendment. If you wish to submit a written or make an oral presentation at the public hearing, please contact the Town of Petrolia no later than 4:30 p.m. on Monday, May 9, 2022. The public hearing will be held in person at Victoria Hall, 411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia.

**IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY** that files an appeal of a decision of the Town of Petrolia in respect of the proposed Official Plan Amendment and/or Zoning By-law Amendment, does not make oral submissions at the Public Meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Petrolia before the proposed Official Plan Amendment is adopted and the Zoning By-law Amendment is passed, the Ontario Land Tribunal may dismiss all or part of the appeal.

**IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY** that files a notice of appeal of a decision of the Approval Authority, the County of Lambton, in respect of the proposed Official Plan Amendment does not make oral submissions at the Public Meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Petrolia before the proposed Official Plan Amendment is adopted, the Ontario Land Tribunal may dismiss all or part of the appeal.


If you wish to be notified of the adoption of the proposed Official Plan Amendment and/or the passing of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment, you must make a written request to the Town of Petrolia, by contacting the undersigned during regular business hours.


**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** relating to the proposed Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment is available for inspection at the Clerk’s office (Attn: Mandi Pearson) located at 411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia, ON or at the County of Lambton Department of Planning and Development (Attn: Rob Nesbitt) located at 789 Broadway St. Wyoming, ON.

Dated at the Town of Petrolia this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2022.

Mandi Pearson  
Clerk-Operations Clerk

Town of Petrolia  
411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia N0N 1R0  
[mpearson@petrolia.ca](mailto:mpearson@petrolia.ca)









Meghan Hunter, her wife, Jill McPhee, and their niece and nephew, Millar and Maddox, during the induction ceremony at the Greenwood Recreation Centre Friday.

# Hunter’s home on Petrolia Wall of Fame

Heather Wright  
The Independent

When Meghan Hunter was eight, you could find her at the Greenwood Recreation Centre long after her time on the ice with the Petrolia Oilers was done.

“When I first started, I would stay later so if a team needed another player ... They would say ‘Oh I think Ronny’s little daughter, she was out first, I think she’ll play again.’ I sure would, you bet. I’ll go again,” Hunter said smiling broadly Friday as she returned to the arena she spent so much time in as a child.

Hunter says the foundation for her career in hockey was laid here. Friday, she returned as the Town of Petrolia placed her photo along side the NHL players she looked up to her entire life including her uncles, Dale and Mark Hunter.

Speaker after speaker talked about the inner drive Meghan Hunter channelled even as a young girl shooting pucks up against her parent’s garage for hours on end.

That drive made her a Nicol Scholar at LCCVI, took her to university on a hockey scholarship in the US, helped her to be named Rookie of the Year in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association and to a national scoring title. It landed her a spot on Hockey Canada’s U22 team and a gold medal in the European championship.

Over the years Hunter coached, worked in the OHL and was a scout and the manager of hockey personnel with Hockey Canada where she was part of the team when Canada’s women’s won gold at the 2014 Olympics.

It took her all the way to the NHL where Hunter landed the job as Stan Bowman’s assistant with the Chicago Blackhawks.

Now, she is director of hockey administration and the first female amateur scout in Chicago Blackhawks history.

In 2022, Hunter was recognized by Hockey News as one of 20 women with credentials to hold a future NHL GM role.

Her career now also puts her among the greats on the Wall of Fame in the rink it all started – the Greenwood Recreation Centre.

“I had no idea at the ripe old age of eight I’d have my picture on the wall ... I looked to everyone on that wall and a lot of them played a large part in my career.

“I’m just totally humbled and in awe of how many people are here today,” said Hunter after listening as former teachers, coaches and coworkers talked about her drive, talent and character.

“I’m just a small town girl from Oil Springs. I just like to come home, have some of my mom’s cooking and play some hockey ... I’m very proud of my roots ... I love coming home anytime I can,” she added.

“I wouldn’t be where I am today without the foundation of the community and the support,” she says.

Hunter told the crowd gathered to watch her induction she’s excited to see how Petrolia supports girls hockey. When she played, she was one of three girls in organized hockey. There wasn’t a girls’ change room. Hunter recalls changing in closets and behind shower curtains strung up by her mother. Now, the Lambton Attack has teams at every age level.

Marcia Stinson, the head of that league, says people like Hunter paved the way for the league and girls’s hockey to thrive. Stinson added there are still “big things to come” in Hunter’s career adding she expects someday she will become the NHL’s first general manager.

During Friday’s ceremony, young hockey players from the Attack sat on the floor, just inches from Hunter soaking it all in. Hunter is aware she’s a role model for some of these young women.

And Hunter knows that if she breaks the glass ceiling the GM’s office in the NHL, it will be good for young women.

“I really believe now, there is a lot of truth behind, if you see it you can believe it. When I was coming out of university basically there was only females coaching ... there were no females in the NHL hockey administration, so I had a hard time figuring out what I was going to do with my career because there wasn’t any females in those roles,” Hunter says.

“I don’t really think of myself as a trailblazer, I’m just working my way up,” she tells *The Independent*. “I don’t take it lightly ... I have a little niece who is four years old now who plays for the Lambton Attack and that’s the coolest thing ... I just want to be a role model for her.”

Hunter urges her niece and the girls she plays with to “keep chasing your dream and working hard, you never know what’s going to happen,” she says. It might even lead to your hometown honouring you by putting your photo on the Wall of Fame, like Hunter.

“I was just overwhelmed, shocked, humbled proud ... I’m just a small town girl from Oil Springs, I just can’t believe I’d be up on the wall,” she says adding when she was young she “would walk in here and you idolize those people on the wall.”

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### TOWN OF PETROLIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING A PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Petrolia will hold a **Public Meeting on Monday, May 9, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.** to consider a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment under Section 36 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended.

**THE PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT** would amend the Town’s Zoning By-law 63 of 2017 as it applies to part of a property described as West Part Lot 15, Concession 10. The subject property is generally located east of Fourth Street and south of Third Street. The intent of the proposed amendment is to rezone the part of the property shown in the following Key Map from "Residential - 1 with a holding provision (R1-h)" to "Residential - 3 (R3)". The proposed amendment would allow the use of the property for townhouse dwellings.

**ANY PERSON** may attend the public hearing and/or make written or oral representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment. If you wish to submit a written or make an oral presentation at the public hearing, please contact the Town of Petrolia **no later than 4:30 p.m. on Monday, May 9, 2022.** The public hearing will be held in person at Victoria Hall, 411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia.

**WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS** in respect of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment can be made to Mandi Pearson, Clerk, Town of Petrolia.

**IF A PERSON** or public body does not make oral submissions at the public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Petrolia before the By-law Amendment is passed the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Petrolia to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

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

**IF YOU WISH** to be notified of the passing of the proposed Amendment, you must make a written request to the Town of Petrolia at the address below.

**THE KEY MAP** shows more particularly the lands affected.

**DATED at the TOWN OF PETROLIA this 1st DAY of April, 2022.**

Mandi Pearson  
Clerk-Operations Clerk

Town of Petrolia  
411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia N0N 1R0  
[mpearson@petrolia.ca](mailto:mpearson@petrolia.ca)



# Sports

## Flyers advance to Tier Two finals

Barry Wright  
The Independent

It will be the Petrolia Flyers and Blenheim Blades in the PJHL’s Stobbs Division tier two finals.

The Blades advanced with a 3-2 win in overtime against Dresden last night to finish in second place in the round robin series to determine the finalists.

Petrolia advanced with a 5-3 win over the Junior Kings in Dresden Friday night. Dresden native Michael Vanek led the Flyers with a hat trick while Evan Morningstar and Noah Harse added the others.

Tyler Richardson made 28 stops in the Petrolia cage.

Sarnia’s Ty Golden took the loss for Dresden making 43 saves.

The first game of the series is Saturday in Petrolia starting at 7:30. The series moves to Blenheim Sunday for a 7 pm start.



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

The Petrolia Flyers storm the net during the Friday night win over the Kings in Dresden. The Flyers open the Tier Two final Saturday night in Petrolia.

## Squires bow out of Senior A championship

The Independent

The curtain came down on the Petrolia Squires’ season last Sunday afternoon with a 4-1 loss to the Shallow Lake Crushers.

With the victory, the Owen Sound-area team won the best-of-seven Western Ontario Athletic

Association senior A championship series in six games.

Petrolia had staved off elimination with a 3-2 home ice victory the night before.

Seaforth won the “AA” trophy last weekend with a 2-1 win over Clinton to win that series in five games.

## U13 Flags win OMHA title, U15 Oilers reach quarterfinals

Barry Wright  
The Independent

The Mooretown U13 Flags reached the 50-win plateau by winning six straight games last weekend and capturing the tier one OMHA championship in Barrie.

The Flags defeated Napanee, Greater Fort Erie and Aurora in the preliminary round and reached the final with quarterfinal and semi-final triumphs over Tecumseh and Kincardine. Mooretown completed a perfect weekend with a 3-1 win over Penetang in

the championship contest. The Flags outscored their opposition, 34-4 over the course of the three-day event.

Earlier this season, Mooretown also captured the Huronia Tournament in Collingwood, the Beaverloch Farms event in Thorold and the regional Silver Stick in Watford.

The Flags finished the season with a record of 50-2-3.

Meantime, the Petrolia Oilers U15 squad won its group at its OMHA tournament with wins over Niagara-on-the-Lake and Prince Edward County and a tie

with LaSalle before bowing out 2-1 at the hands of Greater Fort Erie in the quarterfinals.

Several more local teams will take part in both OMHA tournaments and the Ontario Women’s Hockey Association provincials this weekend.

Meantime, the U18 Oilers head to Windsor this weekend for their shot at the Red Hats. They are in pool play with Caledonia, South Grey and BCH - Bayfield, Clinton and Hensall Minor Hockey.

The Oilers first game is Friday at 8:15 am against Caledonia.

## Wyoming’s McGrail scores first GOJHL goal

Jace McGrail notched his first career GOJHL goal last Thursday for the Sarnia Legionnaires in a loss to LaSalle on Fan Appreciation night.

The LCCVI student from Wyoming had a goal and

three assists in 14 games as an affiliated player with the Legionnaires this season. He also had seven goals and 20 assists in 35 regular season and playoff games with the Lambton Jr. Sting U18 club.

McGrail was selected by the Peterborough Petes in the OHL Priority Selection draft last year and hopes to earn spot on the Petes roster for the 2022-23 campaign.

## PROVINCIAL GOLD



JOHN WRIGHT PHOTO

Emily VanGorp of the Watford Figure Skating Club, seen here at Saturday’s annual carnival, won two gold medals at the recent provincial championships. She competed and won both the Star 9 and Gold Starskate. Warwick Mayor Jackie Rombouts congratulated VanGorp at a council meeting saying it was “an amazing accomplishment.”

## DuChene sets Canadian running record

Krista DuChene continues to rewrite the record book.

The LCCVI and Brooke Central grad set a new Canadian record for 45-49 females at the recent Around the

Bay 30K race in Hamilton. Her time, the fourth best among overall female competitors of any age, was 1:57.40.

Duchene also holds the female 35-39 event record set in 2012.

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Preview April 14, 10 AM – 4 PM  
For more information call Larry Munday at 519-339-6832

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# HOCKEY CHAMPIONS

## LCCVI beats North Lambton for LK title

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

The LCCVI Lancers are high school hockey champions after the Boys team defeated North Lambton 3-1 March 30.

Craig Richardson had a goal and an assist in the second.

In fact, all of the Lancer goals were in the second.

The Eagles struck first as Evan Vangord scored with just 27 seconds left in the first.

The Lancers answered back at 9:19 in the second, with Richardson getting an assist from Pheonix Timmington on the goal.

Roen Douglas hit the mark at 7:00 minutes for the Lancers. Jeff Power got the assist.

And with just 3:20 Miller Mailleux score with Richardson assisting on the play.

This was the third matchup between the Lancers and Eagles this year and the Lancers first win.



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS

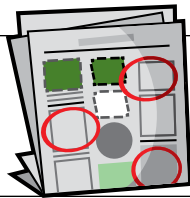
LCCVI claimed the LK hockey title in a 3-1 victory over North Lambton March 30. The team posed for a team picture after the game. Left, the players get a few tips from Coach Edgar mid-play. Miller Mailleux reacts after scoring in the second as the fans cheer behind him. (right). And at the end of the game, the team swarms goalie Hayden Duncan to celebrate the win.





**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**

## Real Estate



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## Coming Events



### WYOMING LIONS

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# BREAKFAST

**Good Friday**  
**April 15**  
**8 am - 12 noon**  
at the  
**Wyoming Lions Hall**  
**Adults \$10; Kids 10 & under \$5**



## Notices

## Antiques, Fine Furniture and Collectibles

**Every Sunday 9am to 4pm**

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## Wanted to Buy

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

## 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.*

## Help Wanted



### ALVINSTON BALL BOOTH

We are looking for people interested in running the ball booth in Alvinston for the 2022 Season.

**Please contact David Tait**  
**at [dtait@brktel.on.ca](mailto:dtait@brktel.on.ca)**  
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## Notices



### OPEN DARTS

**Tuesday @ 7pm**  
**Haywood Tap & Grill**  
For more info, 519-882-0300  
**Come check it out!**

**ADVERTISING POLICY** - The publisher of this newspaper, *The Independent of Petrolia and Central Lambton*, reserves the right to clarify or refuse any advertisement based on its sole discretion. The publisher reserves the right to reject, discontinue or omit any advertisement without notice or penalty to either party. Liability for errors or non-insertion is limited to the amount paid for the cost of space occupied by the error. Claims of errors must be made prior to the next publication date.



# PETROLIA TOWN-WIDE Garage Sale

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# Calendar

**PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

*of events*

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](mailto: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	
Apr 7-9, 14-15	12-3pm	Petrolia	IODE Maragaret Stokes Chapter <b>Famous Butter Tarts</b> available for pickup..		
Apr 9	3:30pm	Forest	Forest Legion <b>Special Easter Meat Raffle</b> - Double Ham and Turkey.		
Apr 9	1pm	Alvinston	<b>Easter Egg Hunt</b> at the Alvinston Arena. Entry is free, Ages 0-10.		
Apr 9	9am	Forest	Branch 176 hosts the Ladies Auxiliary <b>Craft Show</b> .		
Apr 10	7pm	Thamesville	Thamesville United Church is hosting a <b>Free Music of Easter Concert</b> . All are welcome!		
Apr 12	7:30pm	Point Edward	<b>April General Meeting</b> hosted by the Bluewater Anglers @ the Point Edward Arena & Community Centre.		
Apr 14	7pm	Zoom	Lambton County Branch of Ontario hosting <b>British Columbia Genealogical Society</b> with Special Guest President Eunice Robinson. Email <a href="mailto:lambton@ogs.on.ca">lambton@ogs.on.ca</a> for the link.		
Apr 15	12-2pm	Petrolia	Petrolia & District Lions <b>Easter Eggstravaganza</b> at the the Lions Pavillion. Contact Gail Tanner at 519-882-0765 for further information.		
Apr 15	8am-12pm	Wyoming	<b>Wyoming Lions Breakfast</b> at the Wyoming Lions Hall. Adults - \$10, Kids 10 and under - \$5		

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

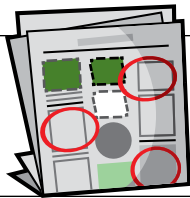
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_  
Event Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # / website: \_\_\_\_\_

You can drop this off at our office or email the information to us at [office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)

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

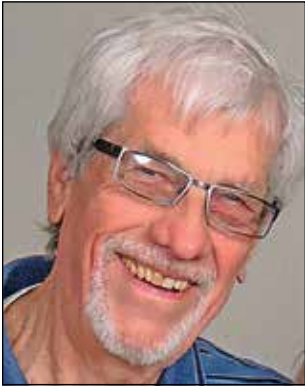


Classified Deadline:  
Monday @ 12 noon



# Classifieds

## Obituaries / Death Notices



### PARR Sherman

**Sherman Parr (78 yrs.)** with family at his side graduated into the presence of our Lord on **April 2, 2022**. Sherman was the son of the late Sherman Parr (1964) and Stella (nee Wilson 1978). He is survived by the love of his life Carolyn (nee Bradley) devoted in marriage for over 56 years. Cherished father to Jason Parr (wife Iris), Brent Parr (wife Angela), and Lauren Van Ewyk (husband Ken). Much loved grandfather to Olivia Parr and our precious predeceased grandson, Mikail Dylan (2015), Adia, Naomi and Josephine Parr, Josiah Van Ewyk (wife Hope), Emily Tunstill (husband Brent), and Micah Van Ewyk. Special Papa to Tiffany, Chris and Carson. Radiant great grandfather to baby Aria Grace Tunstill. Sherman was also predeceased by sisters, Gloria Marshall and Mary Lee Apps and niece Jennifer Busch. Sherman was an employee of Esso Research, Sarnia location and in latter years travelled and presented at ASTM conferences across the USA. He also believed strongly in the value of education and served as a trustee with the Lambton County Board of Education (currently LKDSB). Sherman served in church leadership over the years, encouraged his family in setting priorities and for the past 22 years was deeply blessed by our loving church family at Colonial Woods Missionary Church, Port Huron MI. As a member of the Antique and Classic Car Club of Canada, Chemical Valley Region, he valued the many friendships of fellow classic car enthusiasts. He too was grateful for the agricultural heritage passed on through the Parr lineage and managed a cow/calf operation just north of Sombra. Truly our family saw him as a bold leader, and with intent, sought justice, loved mercy and walked in obedience to his calling. His legacy we value. The family is grateful for the wonderful end of life care through St. Joseph's Hospice, Dr. Kim. Dr. Maddison and the loving care of the nurses, PSWs and volunteer staff. Your diligent attention and provision was amazing to us. **Family and friends will be received at STEADMAN BROTHERS FUNERAL CHAPELS, Brigidon on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 from 2-4 and 7-9pm. A funeral service will take place on Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 1:00pm from the funeral home. Private family interment to follow at Bear Creek Cemetery.** Sympathy may be expressed through donations to St. Joseph's Hospice, Teen Challenge ([www.tclondon.ca](http://www.tclondon.ca)) or Samaritans Purse ([www.samaritanspurse.ca](http://www.samaritanspurse.ca)). Memories and condolences may be sent online at [www.steadmanbrothers.ca](http://www.steadmanbrothers.ca). **Steadman Brothers 519-864-1193.**



### KUCHTA Tarrance

**Terry Kuchta, 66 years**, passed away suddenly at his home in Wyoming on **Thursday, March 31, 2022**. Terry was the son the late Andrew (1993) and Joan (nee Minnice)(2011) Kuchta. He is survived by his brother David Kuchta, his sister Jackie Pearson and Jason Sterling, his niece Courtney, and his great niece Peyton. He is also survived his aunts, uncles and cousins. He is predeceased by his nephew Josh Pearson (2020). Terry was a member of Sheet Metal Workers' International Association Local Union 235. **Cremation has taken place and a private memorial service will be held. As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to Diabetes Canada ([www.diabetes.ca](http://www.diabetes.ca)). Arrangements by Needham-Jay Funeral Home [www.needhamjay.com](http://www.needhamjay.com).**



### O'BRIEN Shirley Eva

At home, in the loving and devoted arms of her husband, Tom, **Shirley Eva O'Brien (n. Atkinson)** passed peacefully on **April 1, 2022**, in her **89th year**. Our hearts ache with sadness, but our spirits overflow with a lifetime of precious memories. She will be sadly missed by her dear husband, Thomas David O'Brien. Shirley is the cherished mother of Kim (Dorothy) O'Brien, Stacy (Kevin) McFadden, Dale (Monica) O'Brien, Erin (Gary) Pauline, and Shaughn (Jamie) Morton; adored Grandmother of Erick (Karen), Marten (Kim), Evan (Leeanne), Brenna (Soren), Haylee, Katie (François), Whitney, Abbey, Emily, Maura, Kale, Brynn, Nieve and Jan; treasured Great-Grandmother of Michaela, Maeve, Karah, Landry, Marcus, Skylar, Patrick and her latest addition, Addison. Shirley's great love was family. Her commitment to sharing in holiday celebrations, vacations and milestone events with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, in person or with cards and gifts, blessed us with countless memories. Grandma connected with all of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, near and far, with steady love and genuine caring and interest. She had an important and lasting impact that will live on in each one. Shirley is survived by her brothers and sisters, Tom (Joanne) Atkinson, Bev (Ron) Clark, Sheldon (Julie) Green, Joan O'Brien and Jane Graham, and predeceased by siblings, Dorothy, Don, Harvey, Peggy, Norman (Pete), Hazel, Betty, Blanche and Jean. Shirley will be fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews and their families. **A private family service will be held at a later date.** Thoughts and prayers are gratefully welcomed by Tom and family. **As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to Bluewater Health Foundation, Oncology. Arrangements by Needham-Jay Funeral Home [www.needhamjay.com](http://www.needhamjay.com).**

## In Memory

### FARR

In loving memory of  
**Kenneth John Farr**  
who passed away  
**April 5th, 2015**  
*The face I loved is now laid low,  
His loving voice is still,  
The hand so often clasped in mine  
Lies now in death's cold chill.  
I often sit and think of him  
When I am all alone;  
For memory is the only thing  
That grief can call its own.  
Until we meet again, Audrey*  
*He had a nature you could not  
help loving,  
And a heart that was purer  
than gold.  
And to those who knew him  
and loved him,  
His memory will never grow cold.*  
**Forever missed by  
Allan, Kathy, Tracy, Brian,  
Kim and Lisa**

In Memory of  
**Barry Dudley**  
Dec 6, 1949 – April 10, 2012



*You are missed along life's way,  
And quietly remembered  
every day.  
No longer in our lives to share,  
But in our hearts  
you are always there.*  
**Love always,  
Lola, Stephanie & Jackie**




## Holy Week 2022

Service Times  
**Christ Anglican Church**  
Petrolia • 519-882-1430  
Please feel free to join us! All are welcome!!!

Palm Sunday <b>April 10</b> 11:15 am	Good Friday <b>April 15</b> 2:00 pm	Easter Sunday <b>April 17</b> 11:15 am
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*Don't forget to wear your Easter Bonnet!!!*



## Death Notices

March 28 - April 4, 2022

**MONDAY, MARCH 28**  
**HOLUBOWICZ, Edward Adam**  
Age 68  
Smith Funeral Home  
**LUCAN, Robert Emile**  
Age 72  
Smith Funeral Home  
**ROBERTS, Marc Harris**  
Age 58  
Smith Funeral Home

**TUESDAY, MARCH 29**  
**ARNOLD, Keith George**  
Age 90, of Sarnia  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home  
**BENSTEAD, Mabel Lillian**  
Age 92, of Alvinston  
VanHeck Funeral Home

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30**  
**CUSDEN, Brian Raymond**  
Age 78  
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home  
**DELINE, Barbara Ann**  
Age 83  
Denning's of Forest

**THURSDAY, MARCH 31**  
**ANSELL, Arlene**  
(n Inch)  
Age 91  
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home  
**BURNS, Ronald Kimberly "Kim"**  
Age 64  
Denning's of Watford  
**DEMACEO, Maria Sofia**  
Age 87  
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home  
**KUCHTA, Terry**  
Age 66, of Wyoming  
Needham Jay Funeral Home

**FRIDAY, APRIL 1**  
**BARTLEY, Franklin "Frank" Chester**  
Age 49  
Smith Funeral Home

**CULLIGAN, Edna Mary**  
(n Shannon)  
Age 96  
Smith Funeral Home  
**O'BRIEN, Shirley Eva**  
(n Atkinson)  
Age 88, of Wyoming  
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

**SATURDAY, APRIL 2**  
**BURTON, Ronald Arthur**  
Age 87  
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home  
**CORNELL, Margaret Ann**  
(n Peters)  
Age 93  
Smith Funeral Home  
**PARR, Sherman**  
Age 78  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

**SUNDAY, APRIL 3**  
**BAYNE, Catherine "Cathy"**  
(n Knight)  
Age 66  
Smith Funeral Home  
**LATAWIEC, Janina**  
(n Szpak)  
Age 97, of Sarnia  
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home  
**MUSSIO, Peter Joseph**  
Age 92  
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home  
**POTTER, Joyce (RN)**  
(n Wilkinson)  
Age 88, of Town  
Smith Funeral Home  
**VENNETTILLI, Clara Maria**  
(n Petrilli)  
Age 89  
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

**MONDAY, APRIL 4**  
**SHIRLEY, John David**  
Age 76, of Watford  
Denning's of Watford

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



# 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](mailto: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](http://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  
[fbcpetrolia@gmail.com](mailto:fbcpetrolia@gmail.com)  
[www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca](http://www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca)

Find us on Facebook!  
[www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia](https://www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia)

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

*In-Person Services  
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](http://www.standrews-petrolia.ca)  
Pastor Katherine Hawley





# Watford goes viral

JOHN WRIGHT PHOTOS

Members of the Watford Skating Club “went viral” during the club’s annual skating carnival Saturday. The club paid tribute to all kinds of viral moments including honouring health care workers during the pandemic. The skaters also got quite a treat as Canadian Olympic Ice Dancers Michael Marniario from Point Edward and his partner Kirsten Moore-Towers, performed for the packed crowd during the two shows. The pair are fresh off their Olympic experience where they placed 10th in their event. They were also part of the Canadian team which placed fourth overall in the team event. The organizers of the show say it was a hit adding “the smiles on the faces of the kids said it all.”



# Brooke-Alvinston’s Enchanted Forest

HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS

After two years of waiting, the Alvinston Figure Skating Club performed its show The Enchanted Forest Sunday in front of two packed arenas. Parents, friends and community members were on hand for the event delayed by COVID-19. There were fairies, lady bugs, dancing mushrooms, wizards, unicorns and even Sleeping Beauty performing their routines. There was also a bittersweet moment as Jacoba Bos remembered Iwan Smolders who was killed by a motorist while cycling near Strathroy in Oct. 2021. Smolders, his wife Sonia and their daughter Katrina, were always at the arena. Smolders was often seen bringing Katrina to Canskate and Synchro practice, and helping his wife with board duties. “He would volunteer for anything you would ask him to do,” said Bos. “He will be missed deeply.”

