

## ‘Cabin fever’ boosts VPP ticket sales

Heather Wright  
The Independent

It appears people who love the theatre have ‘cabin fever.’

At least that’s the opinion of Petrolia Councillor Grant Purdy after hearing ticket sales for Victoria Playhouse Petrolia are just one per cent off from the 2019 season.

The playhouse began selling tickets to the 2022 summer season in March after two years without a performance. The industry around the world was wondering if the crowds stay away, still worried about COVID-19. But when the VPP compared sales from April 2019 to this year’s, they found demand was just as strong.

In all, 18,729 tickets valued at \$816,486 tickets were sold from November to April 18, 2019. Officials said in the last month and a half, 17,445 tickets have been sold valued at \$798,693. That’s a one per cent decrease since the season before the pandemic.

The only area which has shown a steep decline is group sales, where ticket sales are down about half to 1,284. Laurissa Ellsworth, director of marketing, arts and communications, said “until very recently group tour operators were not fully operating and were facing capacity limits on buses.”

The season opens May 10.

### Integrity report May 25

The Independent

Politicians in Petrolia will get more details about the Integrity Commissioner’s investigation into Mayor Brad Loosley at the end of May.

Loosley conduct in releasing information about the fire chief’s involvement in an incident with Councillor Marty Souch is under investigation.

Council reviewed a report from the Integrity Commissioner on Loosley’s comments to *The Independent* in private Monday. That information was not released with council reporting only that more information would be available May 25.

## RETURNED HOME



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Linn Eves, founder of the Bluewater Centre for Raptor Rehabilitation opens the crate to allow a bald eagle to return to a woodlot near Dresden. A family called Eves after the majestic bird sat in the snowy field for a couple of days this winter. He was released Saturday. Eves was glad to rehabilitate the bird saying the centre has received a large number of eagles this year, and three have died of Avian flu. Read more on the story on pg 6.

## Petrolia street rebuild comes in 59 per cent over budget

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Petrolia officials say pandemic related delays, inflation and underestimating the work to be done has led to a 59 per cent increase in the cost of reconstructing Third/Kentail and Mutual Streets.

The town had estimated this major repair would cost about \$1,073,855. But when the tenders came in, the lowest bid from Henry Heyink Construction was \$1,704,239.80 - \$630,385 more than expected.

“Part of the increased cost is due to the necessary servicing specifically for the anticipated south-east quadrant for residential development lands,” writes Chief Administrative Officer, Rick Charlebois in a report to council. “Currently staff are

working with the parties for these lands to develop a service connection agreement.” That Charlebois says could bring in about \$216,000 meaning the municipality will have a \$414,000 shortfall.

“When we put our 2022 Budget together, we did not have the detailed engineering (and) MIG cost estimates and underestimated the costs,” Charlebois tells The Independent. “Plus we did not know how much extra work was required to provide the extra capacities need for the developments to the south.”

And he says supply and labour shortages due to the pandemic and increasing supply costs because of inflation also played a roll in the 59 per cent cost increase.

The road tender is in sharp contrast with the bid by COPE Construction for a 150

meter section of Valentina St. It came 40 per cent under budget.

Charlebois says in that case, engineers expected water, sewer and storm sewers would need to be replaced. The water system won’t be replaced and only a small amount of sewer and waste water work needs to be done.

Council accepted the Henry Heyink bid saying the extra cash will come from the working reserve fund. Construction will begin in June.

Work on Valentina Street begins next week.

Residents there heard a small cul-de-sac would be installed at the entrance to the new townhouses and the street running through the development will be signed as a private road, hoping to reduce the amount of thru traffic in the area.

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# Warwick’s new building may spur development

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Frank Callipari never planned to invest in Watford. But now, his first investment into Warwick is open and he’s looking to the future. Callipari of Castell Homes wanted to buy some land in Lambeth. The owner was playing hardball. “He basically said to us, ‘well, if you want Lambeth, and you got to take this, too.’” Callipari and his brother agreed purchasing the property site-unseen. When they did go to investigate, they were a little concerned with what they found. The historic building had not been well cared for, windows were boarded up and there were tenants in the building who simply were not keeping care of it. A file from the owner showed there had been “six or seven” fires

in the historic hotel which visitors first saw coming into Watford from Alvinston. “I said, ‘Okay, well, we need to sell this building right away.’” The only prospective buyer would take it off their hands, but only wanted to resell it. That, Callipari said, would meant the old building would remain in a state of disrepair. So the builders started thinking and they eventually met with Warwick Township council proposing to remove an entire block of dilapidated buildings. “How can we figure out something to clean this corner so I made a proposal to them to all buy all the buildings” he said Monday. The key would be the municipality becoming an anchor tenant to the grouping of new buildings Callipari envisioned. “Anything that is a strong tenant brings people through, would help

bring in the rest.” And the deal was struck. Monday, Callipari was in the crowd when the new municipal office officially opened. Just down the street, Libro Financial’s new building was busy with customers. Callipari says a dentist and a national food chain will be tenants in two of the remaining four units. Callipari will use one of the others as an office for his planned subdivision, Heritage Creek. Mayor Jackie Rombouts says aside from having a great new building for the municipality, the development has “changed the gateway into our community on so many levels and just brightened up the whole community.” Rombouts is glad Warwick council chose to be the anchor tenant which “gave him the incentive to be able to do the rest of the developments and to really invest



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Deputy Mayor Jerry Westgate heads back into the new municipal building looking for a pair of scissors for the ribbon cutting.

in our community. And as Callipari builds more houses in Watford, he hopes others will spruce up their buildings, too. “What I hope happens here is that other businesses start investing into their buildings that they already own, or landlords start investing, or turning over whatever needs to happen.”

# Sawmill townhouses cause concern

Drainage and developer’s ID questioned  
Heather Wright  
The Independent

There is anger and confusion about a proposed 80-unit townhouse development at Sawmill Creek in Camlachie. An Ontario numbered company, represented by Golfvest Communities, wants to build the development in two phases where the golf course parking lot now sits on a plot of land that is just under 10 acres. During a public meeting Monday, neighbours were concerned not only about the size of the development, but about who was actually behind it and how it could be considered when the owner of Sawmill Creek told neighbours he wasn’t behind the plan. Neighbour Randy Dayman wanted to know who was behind the development - a question which was never directly answered by Brendan Graham, the owner’s representative. He did assure the people at the virtual public meeting that the current owner was not behind the proposal, however he was supportive of the plan. “Tonight, the plans are still part of the golf course property. They have not been severed from the golf course lands. This is one piece of property...it is our intention to eventually separate this development parcel from the greater golf course property,” said Graham. “But in conversation with staff it was determined that an application for drafting a condominium should proceed first to demonstrate the feasibility of developing these lands before they be permitted to be separate off from the rest of the golf course.” That confused John Nauta, who farms land near the golf course. “How can an applicant or anybody in Ontario or Canada make an application for a building project on property that they do not own,” he asked adding the owner told him directly he doesn’t want to sever the land. “We couldn’t have made this application without the approval or the support of the owner,” Campbell said. Melissa and Chris Kelly were concerned about the size of the development and the number of children it would bring to the growing neighbourhood around Errol Village School. “My kids can’t head to the park without

supervision because this road is so dangerous,” said Kelly. “Has there been any consideration given to how all these families are going to access the hamlet and amenities? They’re like the ball diamond in the park in the library? Are you prepared to install a lighted crosswalk or other safety features?” There were also big concerns about the plan because of where the housing would sit. Several members of the public said the area was part of a “natural waterway” before the owner “illegally rerouted” it,” said the Kelly’s in a letter to council. During heavy rain, the drain is full; there is no room for stormwater and standing water is a health concern, the couple added. The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority also has some concerns about the property. It submitted a list of tasks which would have to be completed should the development move ahead including removing and replacing bridges on the property to “ensure no backwater flooding issues” in the future. The authority also wants a sediment control and erosion plan, a revised flood hazard assessment report “with a clear description of the erosion hazard” and a detailed stormwater management plan. The town is also looking for more information, asking for a traffic impact study to be completed. It also wants a bridge to be constructed to the third phase under the drainage act. The town added the development would have to hook into the town’s water system and each unit would need its own water meter instead of a private water system. Members of council also expressed their concerns about the project. Councillor Mike Vasey pointed out the original housing development at the course is not yet complete with some housing lots still available. “We had an agreement in place that wasn’t followed and now we’re being expected to do another agreement?” said Vasey Public Works Director Adam Sobanski says the former development has been sold and council will soon be reviewing a new proposal for 20 units in the original development. Lambton County officials will be reviewing the plan for the next 14 days. They’ll send out their answer within a month.

# PW officially in charge of Highland Glen

The Independent  
Plympton-Wyoming is now officially in charge of the day-to-day operations at Highland Glen Conservation Area. The municipality and the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority have both approved an operating agreement for the park on the shores of Lake Huron. Plympton-Wyoming officials were eager to begin work in the park, wanting to

restore the boat launch which has been out of commission since 2019. Wednesday, town council is expected to approve a contract to repair the launch with hopes of boaters being able to use it this summer. Plympton-Wyoming will be taking over the park officially, however the move has to be approved by the province and that transfer could take more than a year to complete.



FORM 6  
SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER  
*Municipal Act, 2001*  
Ontario Regulation 181/03, Municipal Tax Sale Rules

**SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER**

**THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTHWEST MIDDLESEX**

**Take Notice** that tenders are invited for the purchase of the lands described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on May 12, 2022, at the Southwest Middlesex Municipal Office, 153 McKellar Street, Glencoe.

The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day as soon as possible after 3:00 p.m. at the Southwest Middlesex Municipal Office, 153 McKellar Street, Glencoe.

**Description of Lands:**

1. Roll No. 39 06 000 040 02000 0000; 6401 Longwoods Rd., Melbourne; PIN 08553-0023(LT); PT OF LT 2, RANGE 1 SLR AS IN MW114306; EKFRID; File No. 19-01  
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is \$1,116,000  
**Minimum tender amount: \$29,811.93**

2. Roll No. 39 06 001 020 00500 0000; 1150 Limerick Rd., Newbury; PIN 08568-0011 (LT); PT LTS 19 & 20, CON 4, PART 1, 34R611 & PART 1, 34R1432; MOSA; File No. 19-05  
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is \$98,000  
**Minimum tender amount: \$15,860.53**

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit of at least 20 per cent of the tender amount, which deposit shall be made by way of a certified cheque/bank draft/ money order payable to the municipality.

**Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to or any other matters relating to the lands to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers. The assessed value, according to the last returned assessment roll, may or may not be representative of the current market value of the property.**

Transfers of properties that contain at least one and not more than six single family residences and are transferred to non-residents of Canada or foreign entities, are subject to the Province's Non-Resident Speculation Tax (NRST).

This sale is governed by the *Municipal Act, 2001* and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and any taxes that may be applicable, such as a land transfer tax and HST.

The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser.

A copy of the prescribed form of tender is available on the website of the Government of Ontario Central Forms Repository under the listing for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

For further information regarding this sale and a copy of the prescribed form of tender, visit:  
[www.OntarioTaxSales.ca](http://www.OntarioTaxSales.ca)  
or if no internet access available, contact:

Kristen McGill, H.B.Com, CPA, CGA  
Treasurer  
The Corporation of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex  
153 McKellar Street  
Glencoe ON N0L 1M0  
(519) 287-2015 Ext. 108  
kmcgill@southwestmiddlesex.ca



## SCOUTING THE EARTH



LORETTA MCROBERT PHOTO

Henry Stenton and Logan Kornack were among the members of the 1st Petrolia Scouts helping clean up the environment on Earth Day. The Scouts went to Victoria Park to pick up any garbage they could find.

## OPP say man shot at Marthaville

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Lambton OPP are hoping for witnesses to come forward with information about the murder at the Marthaville Habitat Management Area.

And officials now say the Sarnia man who died was shot.

April 14, police were called to the popular walking trail when someone found the body of man in the parking lot. OPP said Andrew Chute, 45, of Sarnia had been shot. It was a targeted attack.

Police cars lined Marthaville Road and officers could be seen walking the ditches looking for clues that day.

Small orange markers – often used to identify evidence – dotted the asphalt. Police were on the scene three days. The habitat was closed to the public until April 20 when County of Lambton crews repaired the parking lot.

Police are now looking for the public’s help. Officers are looking to talk to people who may have been in the Marthaville, Lasalle Line or Churchill Line between 4 am and 7 am that day. They’re also looking for dash cam footage from drivers in the area.

Police have set up a special dedicated OPP Tip Line at 1-844-677-9408 or you can email your Tips to OPP. CHUTE.Homicide@opp.ca. If you want to remain anonymous, you can call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.



The Marthaville Habitat Management Area

## Dawn-Euphemia fire plan raises concerns

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Dawn-Euphemia wants a fee for fire service agreement with Brooke Fire Service - a move that could save the rural municipality a fair chunk of change.

And Brooke-Alvinston politicians are wary of the move.

For 60 years, Dawn-Euphemia has contracted fire services from Brooke-Alvinston and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent for areas its own department does not cover.

In Brooke-Alvinston, the arrangement calls for Dawn-Euphemia to pay 11 per cent of the operating costs based on a formula that calculates the value of the property in the region Brooke Fire covers. This year, that could be about \$27,450. The municipality also pays a portion of the equipment costs. This year, the township has set aside about \$75,000 for equipment costs in Brooke-Alvinston.

But Dawn-Euphemia’s deal with Chatham-Kent for coverage in the Bothwell area works on a fee for service basis. CK puts a value on what it costs to run a pumper or a tanker per hour and charges Dawn-Euphem-

ia when they’re called to their community. According to budget documents, Dawn-Euphemia has not had calls in that area and therefore hasn’t incurred any costs since 2019.

Recently, Mayor Al Broad went to Brooke-Alvinston council asking for the same fee for service arrangement. “This would simplify things. It is so easy. There would be no assessments to have to go through, there would be no budgets, there would be no back and forth, trying to request information and finding things out,” he says.

But Brooke-Alvinston Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek was concerned.

“We have to supply a bunch of trucks, we have to train all the firemen. We have to have a fire hall and we’re only going to get money if there is a fire in your district.”

Mayor Dave Ferguson pointed out CK is a much larger municipality and the cost of firefighting is spread out over the entire community.

And he says Dawn-Euphemia’s share of the cost recently dropped from 18 per cent to 11 per cent.

Brooke-Alvinston staff are expected to have an analysis of the idea Thursday.

## Lambton’s most crowded school gets addition

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Lambton’s most crowded school – Errol Village in Camlachie – is getting a \$3.8 million addition.

Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey announced the province would fund the addition which creates 46 more student spaces and 49 licensed child care spaces in three rooms.

The Lambton-Kent District School Board chair, Randy Campbell, said he was pleased with the funding in an news release by the MPP.

“The additional student spaces will greatly benefit the community and enhance access to available child care for families which will further support home to school connections.” Construction may start as

soon as this fall.

The Erroll Village Public School is in one of the highest growth areas in the county with hundreds of new homes in the area in the last five years. Ironically, on the same day the new addition was announced, the municipality was hosting a public open house for another new subdivision phase in the area.

According to the board’s 2021-2022 pupil accommodation report, Errol Village school was built to house 190 students but had 244 pupils enrolled in September. That means even after the addition is complete, the school will still slightly over built capacity by about eight students.

Before the announcement of the addition, the board projected the school, which is now at 128 per cent capacity will grow to 149 per cent capacity by 2024.

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## Candidate Information Session

## Monday May 2 2pm & 6pm

Sessions will take place electronically via zoom with two opportunities to receive information and participate in a question session.

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

## Revisit development fees

Two road construction projects set to go in Petrolia this summer calls illustrate the need for councillors to seriously consider development fees.

Construction on a 150 meter stretch of Valentina begins next week. The project was expected to include all the basics, new water, new sewers and new stormwater equipment as well as curbs, catch basins, sidewalks and asphalt.

The project was expected to cost \$475,000 but came in under \$290,000 after the town figured out the water mains didn't need to be replaced, according to the town's CAO.

The problems plaguing most contractors because of rising costs and supply chain problems didn't seem to be a problem for COPE Construction which won the bid 40 per cent less than expected.

But on a larger project on Third/Kentail and Mutual Streets, inflation and supply chair problems as well as an under estimate of the work that needed to be done led to a 59 per cent increase in estimated \$1.1 million cost. Henry Heyink Construction will be paid over \$1.7 million for the work.

There is something similar with the projects; both were made necessary by development near by.

While Valentina's road was abysmal, the town didn't have it on the schedule for replacement until a developer offered to put 50 or so townhouses on a small piece of land between the northern Valentina and the southern portion of the road.

The development will connect the two roads, however town staff now says the road into the complex will be posted as private, hoping to keep people from using it as a short cut.

The Third/Kentail and Mutual project costs also rose the underground services being put in will need to be bigger to support expected development in the area.

While the developers will pay to hook into water and sewer services, it is the taxpayer who will foot the bill for these street improvements.

Yes, there are existing taxpayers who will benefit here, but its clear the costs would not be as significant without new development.

And those costs, in our opinion, should be paid by the developers.

## 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



LAMBTON ARCHIVE PHOTO

This is Taylor House, which stood at the northeast corner of Nauvoo Road and Front Street at the turn of the century. It's one of the many historic photos which now grace the new Warwick Township office on Nauvoo Road in Watford.

## I'll watch with wonder to see Emily survived our parenting

The first memory I have of Emily is not a pleasant one. I know that's horrible to say about your first child but it is true.

After those euphoric first minutes after the birth of our first child, Emily, things went downhill fast. Mostly because I barfed on the poor little thing.

To be fair, it was not anything I could control. A nurse had given me some ginger ale to stay hydrated while giving birth then started taking me on a quick ride to my room. That doesn't sit well with a woman who gets motion sick as a passenger on any car ride.

I think my guilt of throwing up on Emily is the reason that moment sticks with me.

I was thinking about it the other day as a friend talked about a new grandchild; I was about to relate a story from Emily's birth and I realized, suddenly, how long ago that really was. That fact is smacking me in the face this week as that beautiful child

with the giant eyes walks down the isle to be married.

How the heck did we get from barf to bride so quickly?

Of course, there has been a lot in between. Our Emily has always been treasured by Barry and I and fawned over by Nanny and Oma and Opa. That's natural of course, but Emily was also a bright, energetic, willful and wonderful kid. Even as a toddler she loved deeply and laughed loudly. She certainly has kept us in stitches.

Once, when Em was still sitting in a high chair, she dropped some food on the floor. It was intentional. The dish wasn't to her liking.

I asked her to pick it up. Emily, who had been learning verses of the Bible through songs on a tape that seemed to play on an endless loop those days, said with a dramatic sigh; "I can do all things in Christ who strengthens me."

I had to turn away so she wouldn't see me laughing. It still cracks me up as I think of it.

It's also a fitting story to tell because that verse is very Emily.

Like everyone, Emily has experienced her ups and downs and struggled, and yet, she continues on, in Christ who strengthens her.

While I can claim little credit for the faith in her life, it is one of the things I'm happiest to see as she starts her new life with Joseph - a couple who will do all things in Christ who strengthens them.

And as she walks down the isle Saturday, I'll no doubt remember that moment in the delivery room with wonder and a bit of pride to see how Emily has survived our parenting - from barf to bride.



Heather Wright

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Publications Mail Registration No. 42663514

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# Timmins woman’s quest to get traveling trunk back home to Petrolia

Heather Wright  
The Independent

When Trienda Hillier picked up two pieces of luggage at a yard sale in her hometown of Timmins, she thought “Cool. Vintage.”

But she never stopped to figure out how “vintage” they were until recently. Now the yardsaler turned amateur researcher wants to make sure the trunk and suitcase - which were used as an end table in her home - are returned to the family of the original owner, an International Driller from Petrolia named John T. Blackwell.

“I bought them probably about 2016 and I never really thought anything of them,” Hillier tells *The Independent*. “They had some cool stickers and they were older. The lady was just like ‘Take them, I don’t want them.’” Hillier eventually convinced her to take \$40 for the pair - a large steamer trunk and a suitcase with stickers all over them.

“When I first brought them home, we use them as a side table. I had them both laying flat, the smaller one on top of the other one. And then I had a lamp on it with like a Kleenex box, just next to our couch.”

The suitcases moved with them a couple of times and Hillier “hates to admit” their last use was for her dogs. “Together they were a perfect height under my front window, so that my dogs could sit on them to look outside.”

The trunk and suitcase had been in storage and Hillier was about to sell them. “I was taking pictures of them to sell them ... and I was just like, ‘wait a minute’ something caught my eye and I saw Ontario.”

Hillier started examining the stickers on the trunk and found the names John T. Blackwell, Petrolia and the SS Minnedosa; enough to begin an internet search to see what she could find.

After finding the ship which sailed from 1913 to approximately 1930, she found immigration records from the Canadian government and tracked Blackwell from there.

She found passenger declarations which reveal some details of the foreign driller’s travels. He’d been to Egypt, the docket says, and he was heading back to Petrolia. One of the papers says he was going home to his

A Timmins woman who owns a trunk from a Petrolia International Driller is hoping to find family to return the historic items. Hillier has been able to use immigration records to find some information about John T. Blackwell, but has yet to track down any of his family members.



wife. Another showed he wouldn’t be staying in Petrolia. All said he was in good health.

Hillier says “it took forever” to find the information” but she was determined.

And after finding the information, Hillier wanted to return the items to the driller’s family.

So, she posted the information on a Petrolia social media site where people alerted her to the life of International Drillers.

*The Independent* contacted the Oil Museum of Canada about Hillier’s find. Erin Dee-Richards, the museum supervisor, confirms John T. Blackwell is one of five members of the Blackwell family listed in the museum’s records as a foreign driller.

“I was surprised there was so many of them,” she says.

Dee-Richards says the museum does have a number of trunks, but because of the ties to a known international driller and the unique stickers on the trunk showing his travels, she would like to take a look at the items, if and

TRIENDA HILLIER PHOTOS



when they make their way back to the Oil Heritage District.

Hillier says there has already been offers to purchase the bags and bring them back to Petrolia for historic purposes. But she’s not interested in the money for them.

“I’d rather get it home if it has sentimental value to a family or anything cool like that.”

Hillier says it has been an eye opening experience researching where the luggage came from. Her mother is from Sarnia and knew about Petrolia, but Hillier wasn’t aware of the rich oil history of the region.

And she’s open to donating the items to a local museum if members of the family can’t be found.

Anyone who knows family related to John T. Blackwell can contact Hillier at treehscraftroom@outlook.com.

And now that Hillier knows the trunk’s history, she’s likely to apologize to the family, should she find them.

“I kind of feel bad for like letting the dog sit on it.”

- **Emery Huszka**  
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- **Julie Maw**  
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An eagle flies into a bush near Dresden after being released by the Bluewater Centre for Raptor Rehabilitation. He is one of the few eagles being admitted without Avian flu, according to the centre's founder.

# Eagles dying from Avian flu

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

When Linn Eves of the Bluewater Centre for Raptor Rehabilitation released an eagle in a field off Greenvally Line near Dresden, it was a welcome relief.

Eves and her volunteers have been dealing with a lot of injured eagles of late because of the Avian flu.

On Feb. 1, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency found the highly contagious virus in birds. Since then there have been 18 Ontario flocks found with the virus, including one in Chatham-Kent. Raptors, like eagles in the wild, are highly susceptible to Avian flu and Saturday, while waiting to release the eagle in Dresden, Eves told *The Independent* she and her volunteers have picked up five eagles this spring. Usually, the centre will deal with just one this early in the year.

Three have already been confirmed to have Avian flu.

There is nothing that can be done to save the majestic birds.

## Plank Road fix \$265K, five years after upgrade

**Heather Brouwer**  
The Independent

St. Clair Township will spend \$265,000 to fix part of Plank Road which was paved just five years ago.

The municipality considered returning it to gravel because of the problems but instead, it will continue to be patched, with areas requiring excavation, new granular and new hot mix asphalt to be completed this spring.

The four-kilometre stretch of road in St. Clair Township, which runs diagonally between Petrolia Line and Mandaumin Road, is rapidly deteriorating, despite being surfaced just five years ago.

"If staff cannot keep up with patching, the road will need to be closed to all through traffic," wrote Coordinator of Operations David Neely in a report to council.

Multiple areas have broken apart and created 'blowouts,' and costs to patch the section of road have been between \$50,000 and \$70,000 annually since it was upgraded from gravel to surface-treated road in 2017.

Neely said a lack of subdrainage, a lack of proper granular base, too much traffic, including trucks is causing the issues.

"Traffic volumes of greater than 1,000 vehicles per day is just too much for a surface treated road," he wrote.

Since the road was surface treated, there are 2.6 times as many vehicles using it,

Eves says the Bluewater Centre is one of just a handful accepting the birds now. It has set up two special quarantine areas at volunteer's homes to make sure the virus doesn't spread before the animals die.

Eves adds there is little anyone can do to stop the Avian Flu from making the rounds in the wild.

So when the eagle, found months ago by Rick and Sue Piacsek, was ready to be released back into the bush on Greenvalley Line, it was a moment of joy in a difficult time. The Piacsek's had seen the bird sitting the field in the winter. Eves and her team nursed the bird back to health.

Eves believes the eagle had a collision which temporarily blinded it.

When the massive bird emerged from its crate, flapping its wings slowly as it reached the tree tops, members of Piacek family watched with pleasure to see a happy ending for the bird dubbed Karl.

And for Eves, it was bittersweet - a reminder of the eagles felled by the Avian flu who would not take flight again.

Neely added.

In an attempt to slow the deterioration, the speed limit was lowered, and the road was designated a no-truck route.

"The problems with this road are now hitting a 'decision point,' and something drastic must be done soon," he wrote.

At a cost of \$30,000, he suggested the road surface could be returned to gravel until a more suitable plan – including the allocation of capital funds – could be developed.

"Although this option will not be popular with residents, it seems to be the only reasonable and affordable option for the township at this time," Neely said.

"I didn't want to turn it to a hard surface," said Deputy Mayor Steve Miller. "But now that we have, I think it's very difficult to go back to gravel. I think it's going to cause a lot of grief."

"I know it's costly to maintain it ... so hopefully we can get through to the end of this year and look at it next year and see what we can do with it."

In a recorded vote, Councillors Tracy Kingston, Jim DeGurse, and Rose Atkins voted in favour of the recommendation to return the road to gravel, but Councillors Pat Brown and Bill Myers, Mayor Steve Arnold, and Miller were opposed.

Instead, council has directed staff to use funds from the operational reserve to cover the costs of patching the road this year.



**MAY 2022**

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# New medical centre going up in Corunna

Heather Brouwer  
The Independent

A former Corunna school which once housed a medical marijuana operation is about to become a medical centre.

A decision to rezone the former school property on the corner of Hill and Murray Streets is paving the way for the centre.

The applicant and owner of the property, St. Clair Medical Centre Inc., plans to develop a one-storey medical office building.

St. Clair Township council agreed to amendments allowing the development in its official plan and zoning bylaws at its regular meeting on April 19.

“The medical centre is going to include... as many as five general practitioners. There will be radiology, physiology, a pharmacy, a dentist,” said Senior Planner Ian MacDougall.

Neighbours had a chance to speak to the proposal as part of the public meeting held within the council meeting, and concerns

were raised about traffic and privacy, but input was generally positive.

“We are in favour of the existing building being torn down and ecstatic that it will become a legal and well-maintained medical facility that will benefit the community,” said resident John Flesher.

In 2014, neighbours voiced concerns about smell after a federally approved medical marijuana operation set up shop in the school. The move prompted the municipality to change its rules to only allow grow operations in industrial areas.

The building was abandoned by the medical marijuana operation after St. Clair went to court to make sure the operation wouldn’t set up in the residential area again. It has been vacant since 2014.

The school building will be demolished as part of the plan, but no timeline has been determined.

“I think the residents will be happy with the end result,” said Councillor Pat Brown.

Now, the applicant will enter into a site plan agreement with the township.

# Guilty plea after hospital gun incident

Blake Ellis  
Local Journalism Initiative

There was a glimpse of the terror in Bluewater Health’s emergency room when a man came in waving a gun around, after the man arrested plead guilty.

“I want my bike. Do you want to die?” the 22 year-old Sarnia man screamed while waving what appeared to be a handgun at three security guards and a nurse just outside the waiting room of the emergency department at Bluewater Health in Sarnia.

Bradley Kelly had entered the waiting room of the emergency department just minutes earlier, shortly after midnight on Jan. 17. He was under the influence of drugs, was highly agitated and talking gibberish. He argued with hospital staff and security was alerted.

When Kelly saw three security guards enter the waiting room, he ran out the exit with security following him.

Once outside, he stopped, unzipped his coat and pulled out what looked like a handgun, said Acting Crown Attorney Nila Mulpuru, as she read from an agreed statement of facts.

It was later found to be an unloaded BB gun.

Kelly lunged forward at the three security

guards and a nurse who ran back into the hospital to take cover.

He caused a mass panic among staff when he barged back into the waiting room with many retreating into adjoining rooms or getting on the floor behind partitions.

He grabbed his bike and rode off, while he continued to yell at hospital staff with his gun in hand.

Police found him on Durant Street and at that point he had put the gun on the ground. Police pointed their tasers at him to make sure he didn’t pick up the gun. He flopped on his back, putting his hands over his chest and begged police not to taser him.

He pled guilty to carrying a weapon dangerous to the public peace, assault, making death threats, breaching his probation and possessing crystal meth for the purposes of trafficking in a Sarnia court on April 22.

Thirty-seven grams of crystal meth was found on him when he was searched and arrested. He continued to talk non-coherently about lasers in space, the end of the world and the large amount of crystal meth he had been cooking.

A pre-sentence report was ordered to be ready for his next court appearance on May 18 in preparation for his sentencing.

- LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

# Four new projects will green Petrolia

Four Petrolia groups are getting money to help the environment.

The Town of Petrolia and Waste Management announced their recipients of the Green Leader awards on Earth Day.

École Hillcrest Parent council receives \$5,000 to build five garden boxes, create a composting station in the school yard, and the necessary tools to tend and maintain the gardens. The school community also plans to develop a food waste program to help reduce the amount of food waste going into a landfill.

The Rotary Club of Petrolia receives \$5,000 to build a storage shed for its

community garden on Centre Street. The club is also going to provide composting at the site with the grant.

The Petrolia Heritage Advisory Committee will use a \$2,500 grant to place native trees along the original roadway at the North Street Heritage Cemetery.

And the Margaret Stokes Chapter of the IODE will used \$2,500 to enhance the natural area of Bridgeview Park by adding a nature trail, signage and planting trees in the area. The trail would be dedicated to the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. It would include benches and a boardwalk and signage where necessary.

# Kettle and Stony Point man dies in canoe accident

One person has died after a canoe overturned in Lake Huron near Ipperwash Beach.

Around 11 am April 21, the Kettle and Stony Point and the Lambton Shores fire departments, Lambton paramedics and the


OPP were called to the water when a green canoe capsized in rough waters. The two people inside were pulled to shore. Michael Shawnoo, 36, of the Kettle and Stony Point First Nation died in the accident. Another person was treated in hospital and released.

# SEARCH FOR A SHEEN



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

A Shell Canada crew in a boat returns to the dock just north of Corunna after looking for an oil sheen on the St. Clair River. Monday around 11 am, the company notified the Ontario Spills Action Centre that a sheen of oil had been spotted on the waters near the Shell dock where the Algosea of St. Catharines was docked. Booms were set up around the freighter to stop the release of any oil and crews searched the river by boat and with drones to find any trace of a spill. By 3 pm, the company said there was no sign of downriver impact and no sheen was visible.



## This Month In Lambton

April 2022

f t



Warden Kevin Marriott  
@LambtonWarden

### Take Your Shot Teen Photo Contest

Are you between the ages of 13 and 18 with a passion for photography? Enter **Take Your Shot**, Lambton County Library’s teen photo contest!

Lambton County Library, in partnership with the Judith and Norman Alix Art Gallery, is asking teens across Lambton County to submit photos that encapsulate the feeling of home. Photos can be submitted into three categories: People / Pets, Places, and Things at [lclibrary.ca/teenphotocontest](http://lclibrary.ca/teenphotocontest).

A winner will be chosen from each category, plus one grand prize winner. Winners will have their work professionally mounted and displayed at the Judith and Norman Alix Art Gallery in August as part of a photography exhibit, and will also receive their professionally mounted photo and choice of \$100 to Mainframe in Sarnia, \$100 to Carmen’s Foto Source or a virtual one hour one-on-one session with award winning photographer, Peter Power.

The contest will run from May 1 to July 10.

### Emergency Preparedness Week

Do you know what to do when disaster strikes? Making sure your household is prepared to be self-sufficient can help alleviate demands on first responders, government agencies, and community partners in an emergency.

You can help by:


- Knowing the risks in your community
- Making a plan for your household
- Assembling a 72-hour home preparedness kit
- Signing up to receive free emergency alerts through MyCNN

As Emergency Preparedness Week approaches (May 1-7, 2022), consider how you can be prepared for the onset of an emergency and what to do next.

### Looking Ahead

**9:30 a.m., May 4, 2022** - Council Meeting  
**9 a.m. & 11 a.m., May 18, 2022** - Committee A.M. & P.M. Meetings

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



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# More training coming for pipefitters

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

Pipefitters, steamfitters and welders will have more access to training in Lambton.

Ontario’s Minister of Labour, Monte McNaughton, was in Sarnia Friday announcing a new training partnership with the Ontario Pipe Trades Council which would provide \$10.5 million in advanced training to about 1,000 apprentices and journeymen.

“So one in three journey persons today in Ontario is over the age of 55, so we have this looming crisis in the province where we’re short 100,000 construction trades people over the next 10 years,” says McNaughton. “That’s why, you know, we’re really pushing the skilled

trades as a first career choice.”

Ross Tius, business manager for UA Local 663 says the program will help upgrade skills of people already in the union “adding more technology to it, making it more available to open other doors in the trades.

“The more training that an apprentice gets the more able to do his or her job that they become more valued to their employer.”

Tius says the training is needed. The petrochemical industry is experiencing a building boom, keeping the UA’s 1,200 members and about 650 ‘travelers’ busy.

Tius says the petrochemical companies are spending about a half billion dollars a year on maintenance work. “That’s a huge commitment. So we



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

**Labour Minister Monte McNaughton at the Pipefitters’ Hall.**

have to maintain that eligible workforce and keep it under certification ... because this is a dangerous concern, running refineries and chemical plants - you have to know what you’re doing.”

# Alcohol plays role in Corunna stalking

**Blake Ellis**  
Local Journalism Initiative

A 25 year-old Kettle and Stony Point man will spend eight months under house arrest after being found in his ex-girlfriend’s home in Corunna.

Aaron Wakefield was sentenced April 21 in Sarnia court after pleading guilty in January to being unlawfully in a dwelling, assault and making threats.

Wakefield had threatened

to smash in his ex-girlfriend’s head and slammed her hand in a door during an argument on Aug. 5.

Wakefield was arrested and released the next day.

Then, on Aug. 10, the woman came home to find the doors of her Moore Street home open with her dogs outside.

She called Wakefield on his cell phone and admitted he was inside the home at the time, even though there was a court order that he have no contact

with her.

Wakefield says he has no recollection of these incidents because he was drunk. He recognizes alcohol is an issue for him.

He has been sober since being arrested on Aug. 10, said Defence Lawyer Autumn Johnson.

His house arrest will be followed by probation of one year. He is also not possess weapons for 10 years.

- THE INDEPENDENT

# Suspended sentence for Petrolia assault, theft

**Blake Ellis**  
Local Journalism Initiative

A 37 year-old Petrolia woman has been given suspended jail sentence and two years of probation after she showed up several times at her ex-husband’s home - once tossing a flip flop at his girlfriend.

Jennifer Ducharme pled guilty to assault, theft, entering a dwelling with the intent to commit a crime and two breaches of court orders in Sarnia court on April 19.

Ducharme showed up unannounced on Sept. 11 at the Petrolia home to see her daughter, said Assistant Crown Attorney Ryan Iaquina, reading from the agreed statement of facts. Ducharme became

angry with her ex-husband’s girlfriend.

She took off the flip-flop she was wearing and threw it at the woman hitting her in the throat and upper chest.

She pushed the girlfriend before going outside. Ducharme was standing at the end of the driveway yelling at the couple when police arrived. She was arrested and released with one of the conditions being to not go to her ex’s house.

But Ducharme broke the conditions when she tried to force her way into the home on Sept. 21, while picking up her daughter. Police found Ducharme sitting on the porch, screaming, when they arrived.

Ducharme returned to the home on Oct. 24 and was seen

on the security cameras. The girlfriend had left minutes before she arrived and her ex-husband was asleep in the home. She knocked on the front door and went to the garage when no one answered. She admitted later to taking her ex-husband’s lunch pail which had been sitting on the step. It contained his cell phone and charger. Two sets of keys for two vehicles were also taken as well as seven packs of cigarettes and several pieces of mail.

Ducharme, who represented herself in court, said she was not in a good state of mental health at the time. She still thought of it as her house.

- THE INDEPENDENT

# PARK UNDER CONSTRUCTION



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Construction is underway for a new accessible playground at Greenwood Park. Parents for Parks was behind the fundraising drive for the playground, estimated to cost about \$300,000, The Town of Petrolia is providing \$75,000 for the park while the Petrolia Lions are major sponsors and the Petrolia/Enniskillen Agricultural Society provided the land for the playground. It’s expected to be complete this summer.

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# Sports

## Flyers soar into championship weekend

Barry Wright  
The Independent

There'll be an atmospheric feel to the PJHL tier two championship weekend next month in Guelph.

In addition to the Petrolia Flyers who qualified with a five-game Stobbs Division consolation series win over Blenheim last week, the Midland Flyers, Walkerton Hawks and Hagersville Hawks have all qualified too.

The four-team event will take place from May 13-15.

Andrew Jaques' first of two goals late in the second period was the eventual game winner against the Blades in the series-clinching contest last Thursday at Greenwood.

Clay Dolbear also scored twice for the Flyers with the second into an empty net late in the third period.

Tyler Richardson made 34 saves for the goaltending victory. He finished the tier two portion of the postseason with seven wins, a 2.64 goals-against average and a save percentage of .925.

The seven playoff wins by the Flyers eclipsed the six victories they had during the regular season.

Meantime, Lakeshore is within a win of



Daniel Gibson celebrates a goal late in the third during the April 21st game.

capturing the Western conference league title after three close victories over North Middlesex (Parkhill) last weekend. The Canadiens can clinch the title with a victory on home ice Friday.



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

As the final seconds count down, the Petrolia Flyers celebrate their victory over the Blenheim Blades in the Tier Two championship in Petrolia.

## Local players head to national championship

The Independent

Sarnia-Lambton will be well represented at the National Aboriginal Hockey Championships next month in Nova Scotia.

Along with Mooretown Flags' rearguard Bo Doxtator on the Team Ontario roster, Sarnia's Brandon Biggers has been named head coach of the provincial squad while Kettle and Stony

Point's Bob Bressette will be the trainer. Bressette is the trainer for the Petrolia Flyers.

Meantime, the provincial women's team roster includes Taryn Jacobs of Walpole Island. She had the lone goal for Wallaceburg in a 1-0 win over LCCVI in the Lambton Kent girls' high school hockey final earlier this season.

The tournament runs from May 7-14.

## Lambton Jr. Sting on OHL draft watch

The Independent

A handful of Lambton Junior Sting "AAA" players from our catchment area are eligible for the Ontario Hockey League Priority Selection this weekend online.

Watford's Evan Van Gorp and Logan Crummy of Oil Springs are among those who could be taken at forward and defenceman respectively with East Lambton trained goalies Hayden Duncan and Sean Shanahan also eligible. At

least one minor hockey website rates Duncan as the third best goalie in the draft behind two goaltenders from the GTHL.

The Sting will choose fifth on day one Friday while the Hunter-led London Knights have the 15th pick. The Saginaw Spirit won the draft lottery for teams who missed the playoffs and will select first overall.

Meantime, Van Gorp was chosen the MVP for the Lambton Jr. Sting U16 squad at Lambton's awards banquet last week.

## Lancers bow to Irish in Senior Girls soccer opener

It was a soggy start to the season Monday as LCCVI bowed 5-2 to St. Pat's at the Petrolia field to open the LKSSAA senior girls' soccer campaign.

LCCVI travels to Norm Perry Park in Sarnia on

Wednesday - April 27 - for a game against Great Lakes.

And the Lancers girls' rugby opens the new season on Thursday at LCCVI at 4:30 vs. Chatham-Ursuline.

## Wyoming's Jackson helps Huskers to Big Ten triumph

### Banner game includes highlight reel catch

Freshman Core Jackson had an interesting stat line in Nebraska's 19-7 win over Indiana in Big Ten baseball on Sunday

The LCCVI grad from Wyoming equaled his career high with two hits, scored a career high three runs, walked, was hit by a pitch on three separate occasions and stole a base.

He has now started 24 of 38 games for the

Huskers this season with five doubles, a triple, and a home run.

He has scored 11 runs and driven in 13. His stat line is .220/.294/.342

The Wyoming Wrangler and Great Lake Canadians product was also recently lauded for a headlong catch near the foul line in short left field from his shortstop position in a non-conference game against Brigham Young.

Nebraska has a 5-7 conference record this season and 15-23 overall. They close out Big Ten play against Michigan State on May 21.

## McGrail leads LCCVI at CK Relays

Barry Wright  
The Independent

Tyler McGrail was a two-time winner at the CK Relays at the Chatham-Kent Community Athletic Complex last weekend leading LCCVI athletes to seven first place finishes.

He won both the boys' junior high jump and triple jump.

Hunter Campbell had a throw of 34.31 metres and won the senior boys' discus event by nearly ten metres while the Novice girls' 800 metre medley team nosed out Northern for first place in that event.

Elsewhere, Sarah Douglas captured the Novice girls' 1500 metre run, Emma Pullman took top spot in

the Novice girls' javelin and Jalyn Jackson captured the Senior girls' high jump.

Lancer athletes also had a strong showing at an all-comers meet in Chatham last week with Campbell, Sophie Reidhead, Michael McKellar, Brayden Kominek, Rayah Bressette, Darius Landon, and Ava Podolinsky all registering victories.

Track and field athletes from across Lambton-Kent were expected at LCCVI Wednesday but the meet was preemptively cancelled due to a forecast of snow and cold temperatures for meet day. The next event is May 4 at Chatham-Kent Secondary School ahead of the May 10-11 LKSSA meet.

## MAINTAINING YOUR MOBILITY

Being active doesn't mean you have to be a gym addict.

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Lost

LOST GLASSES - Women's prescription black-framed glasses with pink neck cord attached. In Petrolia downtown area on Thursday, April 21. If found please call 519-331-6210.

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: 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.

Wanted to Buy

Wanted to buy: OLD STUFF, ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, etc. Phone Chad at (519) 639-9102.

tax time!

Loeffler Income TAX

e-file and paper returns

\$40 Personal Return • \$85 Self-Employed (plus tax)

Certified Tax Writers • Over 20 years experience

You can drop off your return and pick up the next day or call to schedule an appointment

No Extra Charge for Appointments

3194 Nauvoo Road • Alvinston

519-898-4383 or 668-7784

For Sale

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE - 2021 21.5 HP 46" CU7 Cub Cadet 7 Lawn Mower - \$2800, 5'x 8' Trailer - \$800, Echo Weed Eater - \$100. Call 519-882-3693 for more information.

NEW DISPLAY FRAMES RIKER CASES FOR COLLECTORS - Cases are ideal for badges, medals, insignia, pins, coins, buttons, arrowheads, lighters and more. Made in USA. High quality. Various sizes available. Also buying local militaria. Contact: Robert & Maria 519-872-3560 or sbdisplaycases@hotmail.com

Classified Deadline: is Monday at 12 noon

Celebrating

150 years

of

Faith and Fellowship

Sunday, May 1 @ 10:30 am

First Baptist Church, Petrolia



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](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)

## Obituary / Death Notices

MARRIOTT

Shirley

**Shirley Marriott (nee Tobias), of Petrolia**, passed away peacefully with her daughter by her side on **Friday, April 22, 2022**, in her **91st year**. Shirley was predeceased by her husband Walter (2014) and her son Brian (2018) and her son-in-law Bob Bugler (2013). She will be missed by her daughter Brenda Bugler and Joe Natyshak, her grandchildren Mandy Sandkuhler, Michelle and Jeff Facchina, Melissa Marriott, Meggan and Jay Brown, Mike and Sherida Marriott, Robert Bugler and Rosiland McGregor, and Danielle Bugler, and hers great grandchildren, Dawson Ritchie, Daidan O'Neil, Connor Sandkuhler, Aidan Sandkuhler, Ethan Facchina, Ronan Facchina, Cayden Facchina, Rhys Marriott, Renly Marriott, Robbie Buglar, Zane Osman, Asher Brown, and Parker Brown. Shirley was the daughter of the late Lorne and Helen Tobias and was the sister of the late Anne and Bloss Tanner. **A private graveside service will be held at Hillsdale Cemetery.** As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to the C.E.E. Hospital Foundation (ceehf.ca). **Arrangements by Needham-Jay Funeral Home [www.needhamjay.com](http://www.needhamjay.com).**





## Death Notices

April 18 - April 25, 2022

MONDAY, APRIL 18

**BRENNAN, Robert "Bob"**  
Age 86  
Smith Funeral Home

**DAWSON, Garnet**  
Age 95  
Smith Funeral Home

**McGREGOR, Robert Roy**  
Age 63, of Sarnia  
Gilpin Funeral Home

**PAWSON, Adrian**  
Age 61  
Smith Funeral Home

**PHILLIPS, Kerrie**  
(n Hay)  
Age 32  
Smith Funeral Home

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

**DeKORT, Jacklyn Marie**  
(n Name)  
Age 42  
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

**ELLIOTT, David Allen**  
Age 80  
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

**GEORGE, Lewis Eldon**  
Age 68  
Denning's of Forest

**WARREN, Henry "Harry" Hickman**  
Age 95  
Smith Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

**BARTLEY, Sandra Ruth**  
(n Sharpe)  
Age 76  
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

**SHAWNOO, Michael David**  
Age 36  
Denning's of Forest

**VAN GRINSVEN, Peter Gerard**  
Age 77, of Forest  
Denning's of Forest

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

**LAIRD, Bradley Scott**  
Age 62  
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

**NEIL, Lillian Ruby**  
Age 96  
Denning's of Forest

**SAUVE, Maureen**  
(n Braet)  
Age 65, of Petrolia  
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

**MARRIOTT, Shirley**  
(n Tobias)  
Age 90, of Petrolia  
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

**DONKERS, William "Bill" Henry**  
Age 88  
Smith Funeral Home

**EDWARDS, Brian Lee**  
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

**INGLES, Beverly Ann**  
(n Brown)  
Age 84, of Courtright  
Knight Funeral Home

**SPARLING, Ronald Reece**  
Age 71  
Smith Funeral Home

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

**COUGHLAN, Jeremiah Aloysius "Jerry"**  
Age 93  
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

**WINKLER, Ronald Brian**  
Age 68  
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

MONDAY, APRIL 25

**PRETTY, Reginald Richard**  
Age 77  
Smith Funeral Home

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

# 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](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca) Subject: **FREE EVENT LISTING**.

### CLUBS AND REGULAR EVENTS

DAY	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
Mon	1:30p	Alvinston	Seniors Cards @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Tues	1p	Wyoming	Wyoming Fair Bd - Euchre + coffee & cookies	519-312-0578
Wed	7p	Forest	Darts @ Forest Legion	519-786-5357
Wed	7:30p	Alvinston	LA Cards @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Thurs	7p	Alvinston	Pool League @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Fri	1:30p	Forest	Shuffleboard @ Forest Legion	519-786-5357
Fri	7p	Petrolia	Card Party @ St Philip Church Hall	519-882-4840
Fri	7:30p	Alvinston	Dart League @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Sat	3:30p	Forest	Meat Raffles @ Forest Legion	519-786-5357
Sat	6p	Alvinston	Catch The Ace @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
3rd Wed	7p	Sarnia	Monthly Meeting @ Horticultural Society	519-332-5837
3rd Thurs	7p	Oil Springs	Optimist Meat Bingo @ The Youth Centre	519-834-2152

### UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
Apr29	7p	Petrolia	Card Party @ St Philip Church Hall	Apr29-May27 519-882-4840
Apr30	4p	Oil Springs	Oil Springs Legion Meat Raffle & 50/50 Draw, everyone welcome to attend	519-834-2537
April		Sarnia	The Lawrence House hosts Local Artist Jack Keefe's and The Sarnia Photographic Club's works.	519-337-0507
May7	2p	Petrolia	Sisters of Choice Concert and Takeout Dinner @ St. Paul's United Church. Call 519-383-9085 or 519-882-1390 for tickets.	
May7	9a	Wyoming	Vendor Craft Show @ the Wyoming Legion. Lunch is available.	
May10	12p	Pt Edward	All-Candidates Luncheon and Q&A @ Sarnia Golf and Curling Club for information email <a href="mailto:info@slchamber.ca">info@slchamber.ca</a>	
May14	4p	Oil Springs	Oil Springs Legion Meat Raffle & 50/50 Draw, everyone welcome to attend	519-834-2537
May21	10a	Petrolia	RC Legion Br#216 presents a Car Show with Sarnia Street Cruisers @ 4129 Glenview Dr.	
May27		Sarnia	ARLANXEO Retiree Annual Dinner cancelled until 2023, to be added to database email <a href="mailto:mikenagle00@hotmail.com">mikenagle00@hotmail.com</a>	
May28	10:30a	Sarnia	Sexual Assault Survivors' Centre - Inspire 2022 tickets available via Eventbrite	
Jun11	8a	Oil Springs	Bottle Drive fundraiser @ Oil Springs Legion	519-834-2537
Jun18	12p	Petrolia	St. Paul's United Church Time & Talent Auction, call 519-882-1390 or <a href="https://stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net">https://stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net</a>	

Thank You



2 cols x 2"  
\$22.40  
+ HST = \$25.31

1 col x 3-1/2"  
\$19.60  
+ HST = \$22.15

Classified Deadline  
**Monday @ 12 noon**

Happy Retirement

2 cols x 2-1/2"  
\$28.00  
+ HST = \$31.64



1 cols x 3"  
\$16.80  
+ HST = \$18.98



2 cols x 3-1/2"  
\$39.20  
+ HST = \$44.30

IN MEMORIAM

1 col x 2-1/2"  
\$14.00  
+ HST = \$15.82



1 col x 4"  
\$22.40  
+ HST = \$25.31



1 col = 1.5833"  
2 cols = 3.3333"  
3 cols = 5.0833"  
4 cols = 6.8333"  
5 cols = 8.5833"  
6 cols = 10.3333"  
  
@ 40¢ per line  
  
1 col x 5"  
\$28.00  
+ HST = \$31.64

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Birth Announcements, Engagements, Graduations, Retirement Wishes, Open Houses, Events, Cards of Thanks and In Memoriams, etc.

Stop by the office  
4156 Petrolia Line  
  
phone  
226-738-0728  
  
or email

2 cols x 1"  
\$11.20  
+ HST = \$12.66





2 cols x 3"  
\$33.60  
+ HST = \$37.97

CONGRATULATIONS  


3 cols x 2"  
\$33.60  
+ HST = \$37.97



## The Independent

Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton

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Email your text and photos to [office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)





**Petrolia Town-Wide**  
**Garage Sales**  
**Friday and Saturday**  
**April 29 & 30**  
**2022**

 **425**  
**Chestnut St**  
**Saturday ONLY**  
**8 am - 1 pm**  
**MULTI-FAMILY**  
**YARD SALE**  
Toys, tools, LPs,  
collectibles & more!

**399**  
**Eureka St**  
Behind H&R Block  
**Apr 30**  
Saturday – 7am-12noon  
**FREE E-WASTE  
DROP OFF**  
Home Pick-up after 1:00 pm  
Call Lion Cheryl 519-330-1621  
**PETROLIA LIONS CLUB**