

WHAT IF WE STAY HERE



Ethel (Karen Grassle) and Norman (Walter Borden) Thayer contemplate life and death and staying at the lake during Victoria Playhouse Petrolia’s On Golden Pond. The production played to a full house Tuesday, halfway through its 15 day run. On Golden Pond also features Corunna teen Noah Leonard. Read more about him on page 7.

HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Lambton politicians question rising OPP costs

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Lambton municipalities are facing extra policing costs after the OPP ran a deficit of over \$86,000 in 2021.

And another \$126,000 deficit is expected in 2022.

And it has some politicians balking. Over the past few months, the Lambton Group Police Services Board has been talking about the shortfalls it faces – first the cost of renting the St. Clair office for the OPP and later for COVID-19 cleaning expenses.

Two municipalities forwarded COVID-19 funding provided by the federal and provincial government to help with the costs. But municipalities are now receiving a second letter from the police board saying the cash didn’t eliminate the deficit and they’ll be on the hook for more money.

Murray Jackson, the chair of the local police board, in a letter to municipalities, says over the years, the board has found ways to fund not only the Corunna detachment through grants but has been able to buy extra equipment. “Historically, we have, when possible, provided surplus back to our member municipalities.”

Jackson says between 2017 and 2021 municipalities shared between \$32,000 and \$45,000 which was returned to them from the OPP.

But he says there are fewer grants available to pay for the added office space and revenue sources – like police checks for people working with vulnerable people - also slowed to a crawl during the pandemic cutting revenue from about \$70,000 to about \$12,000 in 2021.

Jackson says the Corunna office is important for the OPPs operations.

SEE OPP PG 2

Petrolia says townhouses okay, development moves forward

Heather Wright  
The Independent

A townhouse development in Petrolia is one step closer to reality, despite the concerns of the neighbours. And there will be more housing units than originally planned.

Peter Bakker of Bakker Design and Build based in Watford originally asked for 66 large townhouses on a 10-acre plot in a field in the area of Third, Fourth and Kentail Streets. But neighbours in the single family neighbourhood voiced concerns about the poor drainage in the area and a “wall of townhouses” in their backyard. Council turned down the original proposal in June. Bakker, who has owned the property

for three-and-half years, understands the neighbours concerns. He has been working with the town as it tries to deal with the water problems in the area. The town has begun the process of improving the streets in the area this summer after a consultant created a stormwater management plan. “We’ve helped out with that design process, to try to incorporate everything.”

July 7, the town held a zoning hearing where residents were surprised by a statement from the mayor and clerk instructing them they were not able to talk about drainage issues during the hearing, but could ask questions about the new plan on the table.

It includes 17 townhouses with 76 units, eight semi-detached dwellings and two

single family homes.

Allison Mevis – one of the residents concerned about the development – voiced concern they weren’t able to speak about the concerns about water in the area, since that is one of the main issues. Mevis also pointed out that while the community is considered low density now, with the revised plan the development would be considered medium density.

Mevis pleaded with council to delay the decision. “I know this is going to pass...we just want information first,” she said.

Resident Cristie Archibald was also concerned councillors didn’t want to talk about the historic drainage issues in the area.

SEE TOWNHOUSES PG 2



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SCAN FOR MENU





# OPP costs questioned

CON'T FROM PG 1

The Corunna detachment office, Jackson says, ensures people in all parts of the county get service within 20 minutes and helps ease pressure on the Petrolia detachment. Seventeen officers work out of the Corunna office; Jackson says if the board closed the office, there would be no room for them in Petrolia.

Jackson issued an invitation to the municipalities to talk about the issues in the hopes of putting together a joint pitch to try to find extra funding with the help of Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey – who is now the parliamentary assistant to the Solicitor General.

Warwick Township councillors want more information before they sit down to talk. And Councillor Wayne Morris isn’t ready to open the municipal coffers either.

“I don’t think we should pay anymore - first of all, there are only two townships that paid (the initial request for COVID-19 funding); I’d like to see other townships get theirs in before we give any more money. And I want some justification.”

Warwick Treasurer Trevor Jarrett agreed saying the letter comes “without proper justification, other than here it (the deficit) is. Supporting documentation would be appreciated, at least from my standpoint.”

Warwick is asking the OPP for more information about where the deficit comes from before the meeting.

Petrolia councillors won’t join the meeting at all, even though Mayor Brad Loosley acknowledged “I think there’s some good discussions that need to take place with police service...as we have a contract already. And yes, we’re going to end up picking up that cost, whether we contribute (voluntarily) or not.”

The municipality is expected to pay \$15,238 more because of the policing deficit.

“They basically are asking for more money again,” said Councillor Ross O’Hara. “Is it just going to increase, increase, increase? I have a problem with it.”

Councillor Grant Purdy questioned whether the OPP could apply for grants. Jackson, in his letter, said the OPP was not eligible for the pandemic grants municipalities received.

Councillor Marty Souch said the town has to set and follow a budget and so should the OPP. Souch says the funding request the town received from the OPP “is what we based our budget on and that’s what we go on.”

However, as Jackson pointed out, provincial legislation says without any additional provincial funding, municipalities will be forced to pay the bill.

It’s not clear when the meeting will be held and if other Central Lambton municipalities will agree to attend.

**HERE’S WHAT MUNICIPALITIES WILL PAY**

- Petrolia \$15,238
- Plympton-Wyoming \$16,044
- St. Clair \$17,515
- Enniskillen \$5797
- Brooke-Alvinston \$5,457
- Dawn-Euphemia \$4,751
- Warwick Township \$3532
- Oil Springs \$1,298

and government bodies like the Ministry of the Environment and the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority have to be satisfied there was a plan to deal with the water on the site.

Councillors, before approving the zoning which will move the development ahead, assured residents they “had been heard.”

Clerk Mandi Pearson added there will be another public meeting in the future after the developer submits a plan of subdivision.

Bakker hoped to move the project forward this summer. The original plan was valued at about \$33 million.

# Petrolia man faces dozens of charges

The Independent

A Petrolia man is facing over 30 charges after an incident in March.

Lambton OPP are just releasing information about an incident in St Clair Township which was the subject of an investigation by the Special Investigations Unit. Once the SIU invokes its mandate, details of what happened cannot be released until the investigation is complete. Four officers involved in the arrest, where the suspect’s nose was broken, were cleared by the SIU which said they’d use reasonable force to try to arrest the man trying as he tried to drive off.

OPP said on March 1 around 8:10 am, the OPP found a stolen vehicle and trailer on Courtright Line in St. Clair Township. Someone was seen near the pickup and tried to flee when officers arrived. The man was taken into custody after resisting arrest.

OPP investigated multiple thefts and break-and-enters throughout Lambton and were able to link them together. The value of property that has been recovered and returned to the owners is more than \$500,000.

Cody Price, 32, of Petrolia, is facing 31 charges including 13 counts of possession of stolen property obtained by crime, six counts of break and enter, flight from a peace officer and resisting arrest.

Persons may be nominated as candidates in the Municipal Election for the positions set out below by filing a nomination paper in the prescribed form along with a **\$100 filing fee** payable by cash, certified cheque or money order. Identification of the candidate must be produced at the time the nomination paper is submitted. A **\$200.00 filing fee** is required for the Head of Council of a Municipality.

Nomination papers may be filed anytime during normal office hours from **May 2, 2022, to Thursday, August 18th, 2022. On Nomination Day, Friday, August 19th, 2022**, nomination papers may be filed anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.


Nomination papers shall be filed at the office of the Clerk of the Municipality in which a person intends to run for office, or in the case of School Board, the office of the Clerk designated to receive nominations for that particular office. Nomination forms and full particulars of the nomination process can be obtained from the office of the Clerk in which nomination papers must be filed.

Where more certified candidates are nominated for an office than the number required to fill the office, an election will be held.

If, by 2:00 p.m. on Friday, August 19th, 2022, the number of certified candidates nominated for an office does not exceed the number of vacancies, those nominated will be acclaimed to office. Additional nominations for any remaining vacancies will be accepted on Wednesday, August 24th, 2022, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

### 2022 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS NOMINATIONS

Notice to the municipal electors of the



#### MUNICIPAL POSITIONS TO BE ELECTED:

<b>Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston</b> MAYOR 1 COUNCIL MEMBERS 4 <i>Janet Denkers, Clerk</i> Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston	<b>Township of Dawn-Euphemia</b> MAYOR 1 COUNCIL MEMBERS 4 <i>Donna Clermont, Clerk</i> Township of Dawn-Euphemia
<b>Township of Enniskillen</b> MAYOR 1 COUNCIL MEMBERS 4 <i>Duncan McTavish, Clerk</i> Township of Enniskillen	<b>Village of Oil Springs</b> MAYOR 1 COUNCIL MEMBERS 4 <i>Martha Gawley, Clerk</i> Village of Oil Springs
<b>Town of Petrolia</b> MAYOR 1 COUNCIL MEMBERS 6 <i>Mandi Pearson, Clerk</i> Town of Petrolia	<b>Town of Plympton-Wyoming</b> MAYOR 1 DEPUTY MAYOR 1 COUNCIL MEMBERS 5 <i>Erin Kwarciak, Clerk</i> Town of Plympton-Wyoming
<b>Township of St. Clair</b> MAYOR 1 DEPUTY MAYOR 1 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Ward 1 3 Ward 2 2 <i>Jeff Baranek, Clerk, Township of St. Clair</i>	<b>Township of Warwick</b> MAYOR 1 COUNCIL MEMBERS 4 <i>Amanda Gubbels, Clerk</i> Township of Warwick

#### BOARDS OF EDUCATION:

<b>ENGLISH LANGUAGE LAMBTON KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL</b> <b>NORTH LAMBTON:</b> Lambton Shores, Plympton-Wyoming, Warwick. <i>Nomination paper filed with:</i> Clerk, Municipality of Lambton Shores, Forest, On	<b>(1) TRUSTEE</b>
<b>CENTRAL LAMBTON:</b> St. Clair, Brooke-Alvinston, Oil Springs, Petrolia, Enniskillen. <i>Nomination paper filed with:</i> Clerk, St. Clair Twp., Mooretown, On	<b>(1) TRUSTEE</b>
<b>SOUTH LAMBTON/NORTH KENT:</b> Dawn-Euphemia, Chatham-Kent. <i>Nomination paper filed with:</i> Clerk, Municipality of Chatham-Kent, Chatham, On	<b>(1) TRUSTEE</b>
<b>ENGLISH LANGUAGE ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT</b> <b>NORTH &amp; CENTRAL LAMBTON:</b> Brooke-Alvinston, Enniskillen, Petrolia, Oil Springs, Plympton-Wyoming, Lambton Shores, Warwick. <i>Nomination paper filed with:</i> Clerk, Municipality of Lambton Shores, Forest, On	<b>(1) TRUSTEE</b>
<b>SOUTH LAMBTON/EAST KENT:</b> Dawn-Euphemia, St. Clair, East Kent. <i>Nomination paper filed with:</i> Clerk, St. Clair Twp. Mooretown, On	<b>(1) TRUSTEE</b>
<b>FRENCH LANGUAGE PUBLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD</b> <b>Conseil Scholaire Viamonde – Area 8</b> geographic area 8 comprised of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, and Counties of Elgin, Haldimand, Lambton, Norfolk, and Oxford <i>Nomination paper filed with:</i> Clerk, City of Sarnia, On	<b>(1) TRUSTEE</b>
<b>FRENCH LANGUAGE SEPARATE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD</b> <b>Conseil Scholaire Catholique Providence – Area 1</b> geographic area 1 comprised of the Counties of Bruce, Grey, Huron, Lambton, and Perth <i>Nomination paper filed with:</i> Clerk, City of Sarnia, On	<b>(1) TRUSTEE</b>



A concept drawing from Bakker Design and Build from the original plan to build townhouses in Petrolia.







# Editorial

## The OPP will get their cash

You can't really blame Lambton County politicians for their frustration of being asked for more cash from the OPP. No one wants to pay more after being given a price for a product.

But the discussion over budgets at the OPP is either a bit of political theater or shows a lack of knowledge about police funding. Or maybe it is both.

Over the past few months, the OPP's board - the Lambton Group Police Services Board - has been grappling with a deficit - about \$86,000 in 2021 and another \$126,000 expected for this year.

The money problems first came to light when there was a dispute about who should pay the cost of the Corunna OPP office. Until this year, the OPP was able to find grants to pay for the additional space. Those grants dried up. Municipalities were asked to contribute to the rent. Most said no.

Then the OPP came to the municipalities asking for money to help cover pandemic costs. It seems the provincial government didn't think the first responders - who were on the front lines of the pandemic - didn't need extra cash for things like cleaning. Each Lambton municipality was asked to send along \$5,000 from their pandemic cash - only two did.

That left the OPP with a big deficit, one they expect the municipalities to pay off.

Both Warwick and Petrolia councillors expressed concern about the prospect of paying more. Warwick wanted to see the actual numbers and reasons for the deficit before giving a reply. Petrolia won't even meet with the OPP saying they should be following their budget, just as the town does. That's not exactly the way things work with the OPP.

In this province, municipalities cannot refuse funding to the OPP or any police department.

Other municipalities have tried to force departments to trim budgets - fought them on increasing budgets to the highest level - only to have a provincial arbitrator tell them to shell out the cash.

Lambton is fighting a losing battle. The OPP will get their cash, whether they protest or not.

Maybe their best bet to at least reduce the amount we will all have to pay is to work with the OPP to find cost-cutting solutions.

## 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



HERITAGE ST. CLAIR PHOTO

This photo from Heritage St. Clair shows the busy streetscape of downtown Brigiden during the age of the horse and buggy.

## Ron Plain made a profound impression on me

I can't recall how I met Ron Plain and I'm not sure I could recount any of our conversations either. But I know he made a profound impression on me.

Plain was a force of nature, a man determined to make sure his community stood up to the colonial powers which had relegated his people to the lands we now call the Aamjiwnaang First Nation.

Plain and his environmental buddy, Ada Lockridge, worked with Eco-Justice, suing Suncor in to get the Ontario government to recognize the mix of emissions coming from the plants along the St. Clair River were having disastrous health effects on his community. Eventually, the province listened and changed the regulations.

Plain was also one of the drivers

behind the Idle No More movement in Sarnia, organizing the blockade of products coming out of the chemical plants and bringing national attention to a bill which would weakening Indigenous sovereignty. For many people, Idle No More awakened them to the injustices our neighbours endured.

Ron Plain did that for me. We would occasionally meet for coffee and I'd listen and ask questions in an effort to understand what his community's history. He was angry about the way the lands along the St. Clair were taken from his people. He was angry about the epidemic of cancer in his community caused by emissions.

And of course he had a right to be angry.

But as angry as these things made him, he was still willing to sit down and explain what my history classes never even touched on. His words helped me understand the depth of our Canadian tragedy. And it made he made me want to do better as a Canadian, to help right the wrongs of our history.

Rest in peace Ron. I'll keep trying to be better.



Heather Wright

### CORRECTIONS

In the article "CEEH renovations on track" in the June 30th edition, the President of Bluewater Health, Mike Lapaine was incorrectly identified. In the same article, the foundation was credited with purchasing televisions for patients, it was in fact the CEEH Auxiliary who purchased the TVs.

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# Opinion

## Please respect your farming neighbour

**EDITOR:**  
I would like to take a moment to address an ongoing and, in recent months, increased activity of non permitted dumping of organic and non organic materials in ditches and on private farm lands in Enniskillen.

Do residents know that it is illegal to dispose of material in non-designated, publicly-owned areas such as public roads and ditches, public property and in rural areas?

We are sure that the many residents who bring their lawn clippings, branches, garden waste and other

compostables out to our rural area and dump these items in our ditches and many cases directly on our farm fields believe that they are providing nutrients for the land, but please stop. This is not helpful for anyone and ends up being discarded, we do not want to deal your compostables.

This also applies to non organic materials - your garbage. We have seen everything dumped in the ditches alongside the farms from mattresses, animal waste, household garbage and so much more.

Please stop dumping these items, if you live in town use your curbside collection.

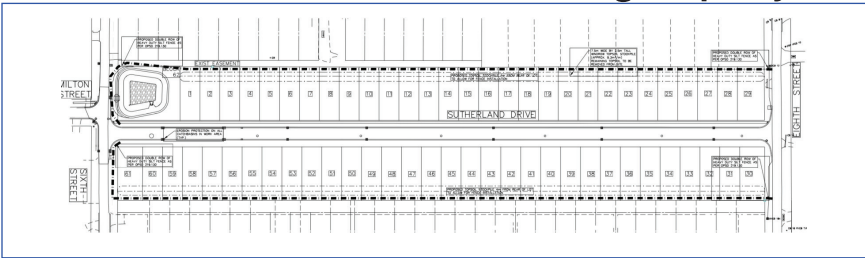
If you are from the township take them to the Enniskillen waste depot. If you are not sure when those hours are, check the township website or call them directly.

Please respect your farming neighbours, the farmland and the ditches we maintain. We do not have time to clean up after your waste and garbage, and we more importantly should not have to.

**Ann Pearson  
Enniskillen, ON**

## Southside moves ahead on 61 home Courtright project

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent



Courtright is about to experience a building boom.

Southside Construction's is ready to turn the sod on Courtright Landing. It is a plan to build 61 homes on vacant land bounded by Sixth, Main, and Eighth Streets and Emily Ave.

Originally, Southside Construction hoped to build the homes and include granny suites on the property. The company billed it as a way to provide more affordable housing.

In October 2021, township council disagreed saying standalone secondary housing is not legal in St. Clair Township.

The company resubmitted plans for 61 homes, this time without the granny suites. Township council approved

the plan with little comment Monday and will sign a plan of subdivision agreement.

It's expected the infrastructure work - building roads, stormwater systems, sewers and street lighting - will cost Southside about \$1.8 million. It also faces \$105,349 in municipal fees - including for planning and engineering services - to be paid to the township.

As building permits are issued, Southside will also pay \$6,583 in development charges per home - a total of \$401,563 for the project.

Southside has also agreed to build a 1.8 meter fence along shared property lines of homes around the development on Emily Ave and Main Street.

Dozens of neighbours submitted letters of complaint about the development when Southside proposed the granny suite.

## KICK'N UP THEIR HEELS



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

The guys from Crop Tour were kicking up their heels at the annual Petrolia Barn Dance. The band was warming up the large crowd for Scott Manery and the Barnburners who headlined the event at the Petrolia Farmers' Market Saturday.

- **Emery Huszka**  
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- **Julie Maw**  
Dealer - Courtright ON,  
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- **Dave Foulon**  
Dealer - Tupperville ON,  
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# Art returns to the Park

BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM PHOTOS AND SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Victoria Park was a hive of activity as 50 artists showcased their talents from painting to woodworking, fabric art, pottery and photography at Art in the Park Saturday in Petrolia. Only a select number of artists are chosen to take part each year. The event returned after two years of the pandemic. It's also the first time in several years the event didn't end early because of rain.





# Corunna teen ‘star-struck’ at VPP

Blake Ellis  
Local Journalism Initiative

At 16, Noah Leonard is already used to being in the spotlight.

Now the 16 year-old St. Patrick’s High School student is in the limelight closer to home as part of Victoria Playhouse Petrolia’s version of On Golden Pond.

Leonard plays Billy Ray Jr., the outspoken grandson of the main characters. It was one of the roles where the VPP looked for a local actor. Leonard only learned about the opportunity at the last minute and submitted his resume. He has been working almost every day since June 14 getting ready for opening day.

The Corunna teen has had several roles at the Imperial Theatre in Sarnia and in high school productions, but this has been his biggest role so far.

He played Charlie in Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, Bruce in Matilda and has also had bit roles in Jesus Christ Superstar.

Leonard always had a passion for singing growing up. He started by singing the national anthem at local hockey games at the age of nine.

In recent years, he has played gigs at Haywood’s Tap and Grill, Black Gold Brewery, Ups N’ Downs, and Two Water Brewing Company where he performs mostly covers but there are a few of his originals tucked away in his sets.

It is from this love of singing he took to the stage with musical theatre his first step into acting.

He won a gold medal in the Music Theatre category at the Ontario Music Festivals Association’s provincial competition in 2019.

Leonard will be heading into Grade 12 next



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO  
Noah Leonard in the middle of rehearsals for On Golden Pond at the VPP.

September. He wants to go to in Sheridan College’s musical theatre program, which he hopes will be a jumping off point to starring in theatre, film or television in the future.

Right now, however, he’s enjoying the experience of being on stage with seasoned veterans like Karen Grassle of Little House on the Prairie fame.

“Everyone has been amazing,” Leonard said. “I am just star struck working with all of this talent.”

On Golden Pond will be playing at the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia from July 5 to July 24.

- THE INDEPENDENT

## Ranade Acting MOH for now

Lambton’s former medical officer of health has agreed to stay on as the acting MOH for a while.

Dr Sudit Ranade began his new role as Yukon’s Chief Medical Officer of Health July 4. He’s working remotely for the summer before moving north.

During an in-camera session, Lambton County councillors agreed to have Ranade continue as the acting MOH – a requirement of provincial regulations - while council begins the search for his replacement.

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Town of PETROLIA

## PETROLIA SINGS



Petrolia teens put their vocal skills to the test at Art in the Park in Petrolia. It was the 10th annual Petrolia Sings. The contest - formerly known as Youth Idol - has drawn up to 14 performers, but organizers said the two-year hiatus because of the pandemic meant not as many kids were involved in singing lessons. The four contestants, including Ruby Smalls, were evaluated after performing two songs. Anna Hatch of Camlachie received a gold medal in the five to nine years of age division. Layla Doxtator of Brights Grove was the gold medal winner in the 10 to 14 year division with 13 year-old Ruby Smalls, formerly of Petrolia and now of London taking a silver medal. Isabella Graham of Petrolia was the gold medal winner in the 15 to 19 years division.

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

**TAKE NOTICE**, that the Council of the Town of Petrolia passed By-law No. 36 of 2022 on the 11th day of July, 2022

**THE PURPOSE AND EFFECT** of this By-law is to amend 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 larger part of the property shown in the following Key Map from “Residential - 1 with a holding provision (R1-h)” to a site-specific “Residential - 3 (R3)” zone with a holding provision. The proposed amendment would allow most of the property to be rezoned to be used for townhouse dwellings. Four (4) semi-detached dwellings are also proposed.

The amendment would also rezone the smaller part of the property shown in the following Key Map from “Residential - 1 with a holding provision (R1-h)” to “Residential – 1(4) (R1-4)”. The proposed amendment would allow two lots in a proposed plan of subdivision to have a minimum frontage of 12 metres.

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

**APPEALS** to the Ontario Land Tribunal in respect of the By-law may be made by filing with the Clerk of the Town of Petrolia a written notice of appeal, **not later than the 2nd day of August, 2022**, setting out the reasons for the appeal and accompanied by the Ontario Land Tribunal fee made payable to the Minister of Finance.

**IF A PERSON** or public body did not make oral or written submissions to the Town of Petrolia before the by-law was passed; the person or public body is **not entitled to appeal** the By-law to the Ontario Land Tribunal. **Only individuals**, corporations and public bodies may appeal a by-law to the Ontario Land Tribunal. A notice of appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a notice of appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or the group on its behalf.

**No person** or public body shall be added as a party to the hearing of the appeal unless, before the by-law was passed, the person or public body made oral submissions at a public meeting or written submissions to Town of Petrolia Council or, in the opinion of the Ontario Land Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

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

THE KEY MAP shows more particularly the lands affected.

**Dated at the Town of Petrolia, this 12th day of July 2022**

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







# Sports

## Petrolia native makes his mark in MMA

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Petrolia native Cody Chovancek has always loved fighting. As a kid, he and his friends would rough house for fun. At LCCVI, he was on the wrestling team. But he’s taken that love of fighting to a whole new level as a professional Mixed Martial Arts athlete. Chovancek - a featherweight - was in Sarnia over the weekend in the BTC Challenger series and won his third pro match. Chovancek got involved in MMA after high school competing as an amateur. “I was working full time and then I would go straight from work to the gym.” He’d be there for three or four hours honing his sport. But then the Ontario government banned amateur fights and Chovancek had to make a decision, if he wanted to fight, he would have to turn pro.

“I was here actually working for a company in Petrolia, doing steel framing, and I just went did late training at a gym just while I was in St. Catharines for work. And I just never left,” he says. “That week, when I went back to Petrolia, I told my parents ‘I’m moving out here to pursue fighting full time,’ and they were super supportive.” He began training full time, first in St. Catharines and now with Niagara Top Team Gym - one of the best in the country for MMA fighters. Chovancek is now 3-0 in his pro career and loves every minute of the sport which often leaves competitors bruised and bloodied. “A lot of sports are brutal. A lot of people don’t know that, like hockey’s pretty brutal. A lot of people get concussions and you’re hitting, you’re skating at each other full force and smashing into each other,” he says. “To me, MMA the purest form of



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Petrolia native Cody Chovancek in the ring during the BTC Challenger series in Sarnia

competition. It’s just you one on one in the ring competing. I’m not relying on other people.” Chovancek says it was great competing in Sarnia. He’s expecting to be on another card before the end of the year.

## Verbeek makes top ten pick at NHL draft

Barry Wright  
The Independent

Pat Verbeek’s first ever NHL draft selection as general manager of the Anaheim Ducks is a name familiar to OHL fans. The Reece’s Corners executive chose rearguard Pavel Mintykov with the tenth overall choice at the draft last week. The 18-year-old Russian had 17 goals and 45 assists for 62 points in 67 games last season with the Saginaw Spirit. “He’s been on our radar all season,” said Verbeek

in speaking with the media after the selection. What I love about the play is he’s very creative. We’re very excited to get him.” There was also an arm’s length Petrolia connection in the draft as Hunter Haight of the Barrie Colts was taken in the second round by the Minnesota Wild. Haight’s father, Steve, is from Camlachie and played two seasons with the Petrolia Jets in the early 1990’s. The younger Haight had 22 goals and 41 points with the Colts last season.

Meantime, no members of the Sting were chosen in the draft, but forwards Max Namestnikov and Theo Hill were invited to development camps this week for the Vancouver Canucks and the St. Louis Blues, respectively. Three members of the Dale Hunter’s London Knights were chosen: Isaiah George to the Islanders, Jackson Edward to Boston and Landon Sim to the Blues. Sim’s father, Jon, a former Sarnia Sting, is an amateur scout with St. Louis.

## Raiders 5-5

The Independent

The Petrolia Raiders are now 5-5 in Western Counties Senior baseball after a busy week. They split four games, beating Corunna and Courtright but then dropping a doubleheader to Dresden Sunday. Brendan Hecimovich hit a two-run homer for Petrolia in the win over Courtright. Other games last week saw Corunna beat Port Lambton’s second team, 9-3 with Garrett Miller collecting four hits and scoring three runs and Port Lambton’s top team beat its number two squad, 5-2. The Raiders next game is at Wyoming on Friday night at 7:30 before returning home to take on Dresden on Saturday at 1 at Morrison Field. Corunna is at Port Lambton on Saturday at 2.



Brendan Hecimovich

## WRANGLER WIN



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Wyoming Wranglers Girls' U17 fastball squad won the UTM event in Princeton and Drumbo, near Woodstock on the weekend. They defeated Tavistock 5-3 to capture the tier two title. Wyoming had beaten Kitchener, 16-0 in the semi-final earlier in the day. Wyoming won three games and tied the other in the preliminary round.

## Jackson and Gray lead Brigade to tourney win

Core Jackson poked a two-run homer and Kaden Gray drove in a pair of runs to lead the Sarnia Brigade to a 6-4 win over the host Kincardine Cubs in the final of the Mike McClelland Classic last weekend. Greg Ross threw five scoreless

innings and struck out nine in relief of Derek Masse. Sarnia is back in action in league play on Wednesday (July 13) against Lakeside Tigers at Errol Russell Park at 7:30. The Brigade sits atop the standings with a 13-2 record.

Petrolia Ladies Auxiliary  
Legion - Branch 216

## WEDNESDAY JAMBOREE

July 20, 2022 ~ 12 noon - 4pm

Lunch Served 12noon-1pm - Cost \$7  
Music from 1-4pm - Donation at the door

## HAVE YOU HEARD?

At **Lambton Audiology Associates**, we believe that providing exceptional audiological care should be the rule, not the exception. That’s why we work extra hard to provide the highest level of patient care and customer support in our community. After all, **We’re here to help YOU hear better!®**

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	4		9				2	8
5			4		8			1
6		3			1			
	3	8		5			7	4
		6	7			5		9
4						8		
3	6			9				
		4	5			6	9	3
						1		2

Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Level: Beginner

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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

**437 Ontario Street  
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Gorgeous brick ranch tastefully renovated throughout in 2018.  
  
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The living room is great for family entertainment with a back-to-back fireplace. The master bdrm has a beautiful ensuite bath. Separate main flr laundry, 2 more bdrms. The magnificent open concept white kitchen w/huge island/breakfast bar adjoins the dining room with a patio door leading to the spacious wood fenced yard for privacy. Enjoy the recently built enormous wood deck partially covered for shade plus the oversized above-ground pool. There is even a bunkie in the yard for the children to play and have sleepovers in! 1-1/2 car garage, double concrete driveway for plenty of parking, so many extras! Too many to mention, don't miss this beauty!

Open House  
Sunday  
July 17  
2-4pm

  
MLS#22015347  
New Model Home built by Henderson Builders Limited. The "Northview IV" is a beautiful bungalow plan with 2+1 bdrms, 3 bathrms & dbl car garage (approx 21x20). Located in the quiet Village of Oil Springs. Open concept main floor, spacious kitchen w/quartz counters, cathedral ceiling in living room, master bdrm has a cheater ensuite and walk-in closet. Large lower level w/852 sq ft of finished spacing including spacious rec room, finished 3rd bdrm & 3 pc bath. Plenty of room for storage or a 4th bdrm. Large back deck, fully sodded front & back yard. Hot water tank is owned "On Demand" system. HRV system upgraded to ERV. Property tax & assessment not set.  
Host: Jeremy Guerette  
519-312-1488  
**\$520,000** Price includes HST with any rebate back to the builder on closing.  
 or Jane Baker  
519-384-0919  
519-542-9999

**Lambton College** | Community Employment Services

**JOB FAIR**  
Corunna Legion  
Thursday, July 14  
9:30 am - 12 pm  
  
**Meet with employers!**  
Learn More:  
lambtoncollege.ca/CESevents

Auction Sale

**LIVE AUCTION**  
Sat., July 23 2022  
at **GARY'S Gallery**  
29569 St George St N, Dresden  
Viewing starts @ 8 am  
Auction starts @ 9 am  
**Antiques, Collectables, Household Items and Much, Much More.**  
Refreshments Available  
Call 519-401-7322 for details.  
Method of Payment  
CASH or CHEQUE ONLY  
accompanied by ID




**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.

**For Sale**  
PERENNIAL PLANT SALE - Hostas, Rose of Sharon Bushes, Ferns @ 458 Ignatiefna St, Petrolia. We recycle old pots.

**For Rent**  
COUNTRY 3 BEDROOM HOUSE FOR RENT - Non-smokers, No pets. Call 519-864-1970.

**Help Wanted**  
Personal Support Worker - PSW to care for our Mother in our home. 8-10 hours per week. Please call 226-402-3310.

Notice

Answers to this week's  
**Sudoku**  
Brought to you by:  
519.882.1290  
4146 Petrolia Line  
Petrolia  
  
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1	4	7	9	6	5	3	2	8
5	9	2	4	3	8	7	6	1
6	8	3	2	7	1	9	4	5
9	3	8	1	5	6	2	7	4
2	1	6	7	8	4	5	3	9
4	7	5	3	2	9	8	1	6
3	6	1	8	9	2	4	5	7
8	2	4	5	1	7	6	9	3
7	5	9	6	4	3	1	8	2

**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 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	7pm	Petrolia	Petrolia Toastmasters @ Petrolia Lion's Hall	519-381-4910
Wed	7:30p	Alvinston	LA Cards @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Wed	7p	Forest	Darts @ Forest Legion	519-786-5357
3rd Wed	7pm	Sarnia	Monthly Meeting @ Horticultural Society	519-332-5837
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
July & Aug.	Sat. & Sun.	Wyoming	<b>New Exhibits</b> @ The Plympton-Wyoming Museum including Military, Early Settlers, Great Strom 1913 & Post WW2 Immigration, Canada's Raid on Dieppe - Aug. 1942-80th Anniversary & Canada's Role in the 5 year battle of the Atlantic. <b>Saturday: 10am-2:30pm &amp; Sunday: 1-3pm.</b>
July 22	Evening	Brigden	<b>Spaghetti Dinner</b> @ Brigden Legion. Tickets are \$15 and are available until July 16. Takeout also available. Contact 519-381-1211 for more info.
July 25	2-3:30p	Zoom	<b>Zoom Webinar - Your Lambton Family Genealogy</b> with special guest Nicole Aszalos (Lambton County Archives). Email lambton@ogs.on.ca for the link.
Aug 2	1-4pm	Wyoming	<b>Dance the afternoon away with Larry Hart</b> @ Wyoming Legion. Admission is \$7 per person.
Aug 3	5-7pm	Brooke Alvinston	<b>Lambton Cattlemen's Beef Barbecue</b> @ the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Arena. Advance Tickets only. Tickets \$25. Contact 519-318-0897 or lambtoncattlemen@hotmail.com for tickets.
Aug 5	6pm	Sarnia	The Lawrence House presents " <b>Seen in Lambton County</b> ". A photo exhibit by Pierre Houle & Jale Fancey, "Beautiful Ontario," will also be on display. Admission is free. Contact 519-337-0507 for more info.
Aug 6	10-5pm	Sarnia	<b>First Friday and Weekend Walkabout - Local Market and Art Week.</b> Car Show & live music pop-up from 10-4pm the Sunday after.

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.

**Church DIRECTORY**

**Christ Anglican Church**  
414 Oil Street, Petrolia  
Join us for  
**In-Person Services**  
**Sundays**  
**@ 10:00am**  
Everyone Welcome  
Rev. Dave Hewett  
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

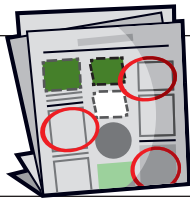


**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**  
416 Queen Street, Petrolia  
(Behind the Post Office)  
In-Person Service  
**Sundays**  
**@ 10:00 am**  
Services also available online:  
www.standrews-petrolia.ca  
Pastor Katherine Hawley





**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



### CORE

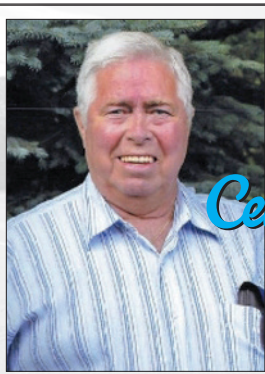
**Walter Alexander Duncan**

It is with heavy hearts the family of **Walter Core** announce his peaceful passing with his loving family by his side at C.E.E. Hospital, Petrolia on **July 09, 2022**. Beloved husband and best friend of Catherine (nee Tomlinson) for 64 years. Loving father of Michael (Allison), the late David (Sandra), Mark (Pam), Marilyn (Larry) Virgin, Robert (Chris) and Ronald (Allison). Devoted Grampa of Jenna (Dale), Mitch (Baylie), Jake (Paige), Donny (Amanda), Jessie (Dennis), Adam (Shauna), Mandy (Craig), Bruce (Katie), the late Jason Virgin, Brittany (Evan), Tyler (Meghan), Duncan and Ally. Proud Great Grampa of 18 Great Grandchildren. Dear brother of Raymond (Bonnie), Ruby (Maurice) Rankin and Shirley (Donald) Hope. Predeceased by his parents Archie and Margarita Core, siblings John (Ruth), Augusta, Kathleen and brother in law Ralph Prince. Survived by many nieces and nephews. Walter will be missed by all who knew him. Walter was born, raised and farmed all his life on Shiloh Line. His Greatest joy was to spend time with his family, they were the light of his life. Walter was a family man who adored his Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren. **A private celebration of life will take place.** A special thank you to Dr Butler, Dr Lam and the first floor nurses for taking extraordinary care of Walter during his stay. Sympathy may be expressed through donations to C.E.E Hospital Foundation <https://ceehf.ca>. Memories and condolences may be sent online at [www.steadmanbrothers.ca](http://www.steadmanbrothers.ca). Arrangements entrusted to STEADMAN BROTHERS FUNERAL CHAPELS, Brigden 519-864-1193.

## Notice

The Plympton-Wyoming Museum: **ANNOUNCES THE OPENING OF THE 2022 MUSEUM EXHIBITS - CANADA'S RAID ON DIEPPE- AUG. 1942- 80th ANNIVERSARY** - learn the Dieppe connection to James Bond and CANADA'S ROLE IN THE 5 YEAR BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC - stories of local people, model ships, convoys & submarines. Exhibits feature military, early settlers, Great Storm 1913 & post WW2 Immigration. Museum open Saturdays in July and August from 10am-2:30pm and Sundays from 1-3pm located at 6745 Camlachie Road, Camlachie.

## Celebration of Life



THE FAMILY OF THE LATE  
**Bob Dunlop**  
would like to invite all to a  
*Celebration of Life*  
**Sat., July 16** from 2-4pm  
at the **Warwick Fire Dept Community Centre**  
*Please come & share a memory of Bob.*

## In Memory

*In loving memory of*

### William “Bill” Alexander

who passed away July 19, 2019



As we loved you, so we miss you;  
In our memory you are near.  
Loved, remembered, longed for always,  
Bringing many a silent tear.

*Forever remembered by:*

Melba, Jim & Mary Ann,  
John, David and Greg

### In loving memory of a Wonderful Husband, Father, and Grandfather JOHN F. HULL

who passed away on July 12, 2018



Love & Miss You,  
Myrtle, Kathy, Paul, and family.

*I think you must know  
from the Heavens above,  
how much you are missed  
and how much you are loved,  
As each hour of the day goes by,  
as each night turns to day,  
it was only four years ago  
the Lord took you away.  
Your laughter we miss and that  
smile so dear.  
to think of it helps us to know  
you are near.*



**World Listening Day 2022 - July 18**



# Death Notices

**July 4 thru  
July 11, 2022**

TUESDAY, JULY 5

**GRASSO, Emilia**  
(n Schiavone)  
Age 80, Formerly of Italy  
Mckenzie & Blundy Funeral Home  
**IACOZZA, Giuseppina “Josie”**  
Age 71  
Smith Funeral Home  
**VINCENT, Cindy Lou**  
(n Willer)  
Age 65, of Sarnia  
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6

**BIGRAS, Elesabeth Susane “Suzie”**  
Age 67  
D.J. Robb Funeral Home  
**GEORGE, Tina Renee**  
Age 63, of Kettle Point  
Dennings of Forest  
**LOCKREY, Brian James**  
Age 55, of Kettle Point  
Dennings of Forest

THURSDAY, JULY 7

**SISSON, Vernon Leigh**  
Age 94  
Smith Funeral Home  
**FO, Robert Delane**  
Age 71, of Sarnia  
D.J. Robb Funeral Home  
**NETHERCOTT, Brenda**  
(n Casler)  
Age 70  
VanHeck Funeral Home  
**FRIDAY, JULY 8**  
**ANDRIASH, Ellen Jane**  
Age 68,  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home  
**CLARK, Donald Clayton**  
Age 95  
Dennings of Forest  
**PERKINS, Dorothy Elizabeth**  
(Johnson, Bryce)  
Age 86  
Dennings of Forest  
**TOFFELMIRE, Maxine Etta**  
Age 89  
Dennings of Watford

SATURDAY, JULY 9

**CORE, Walter Alexander Duncan**  
Age 86  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home  
**ROBINSON, Viola “Mary”**  
Age 94  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

SUNDAY, JULY 10

**GRAHAM, Gary Thomas David**  
Age 83, of Glencoe  
VanHeck Funeral Home  
**MCKELLAR, Ronald Jack**  
Age 77  
Dennings of Forest  
**RUTTEN, Cornelia Petronella “Corrie”**  
Age 92  
Dennings of Forest

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

**THE CHURCHES OF PETROLIA**

**INVITE YOU TO**

**CHURCH**

*in the*

**PARK**

**SUNDAYS AT 7:00PM**

**VPP BANDSHELL**

**\*BRING A LAWNCHAIR, INVITE A FRIEND**





Vicki Kyle with one of her furry friends.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

# Dog-Gone

Long-time dog catcher retires after 30 years

Blake Ellis  
Local Journalism Initiative

It began 30 years ago and it comes to an end today. Vicki Kyle, a woman who has provided animal control for a number of jurisdictions, is calling it a career.

Kyle started helping her father with his animal control contracts he held with various municipalities decades ago. She took on this work permanently when he passed away.

She’s been the person on call for animal control for 10 different municipalities, including Enniskillen, Warwick and Petrolia and parts of Chatham-Kent, Elgin and Middlesex counties.

“It was a wonderful job,” Kyle said, saying it wasn’t necessarily difficult but it did take a lot of her time since she was always on call.

“I think I spoiled them,” she said of the municipalities who came to rely on her services.

While many people would know Kyle from her work catching loose dogs or enforcing local bylaws, she also re-homes dogs through the Glencoe Animal Shelter.

The animal shelter in Glencoe is currently up for sale. Kyle plans to travel while also “do nothing for

awhile.”

She has a daughter living in the United States who she looks forward to visiting.

Kyle doesn’t believe she will be idle for long, calling the next stage in her life “retirement for now.”

“It is going to be fun,” Kyle said.

Meantime, Lambton municipalities are working together to find a new animal control officer. Enniskillen will use a local dog kennel and its staff to provide animal control for six months until a permanent solution can be found.

Jeff Dewhirst was appointed as the animal control officer at the July 4 meeting, while the Sarnia Humane Society will provide shelter services. Dewhirst already runs an animal control business in Bridgen.

The municipalities in Lambton are now waiting for Adelaide-Metcalf to strike a deal for animal control services. In the past, they’ve simply arranged their own contract with the dog catcher.

Enniskillen will have until November to have discussions with anyone who shows interest in the request for proposals.

The township expects it will cost about \$1,000 this year.

If there are any violations of the animal control bylaws, McTavish says Lambton County bylaw enforcement officers handle them. However that rarely happens.

## Mobile home on the move

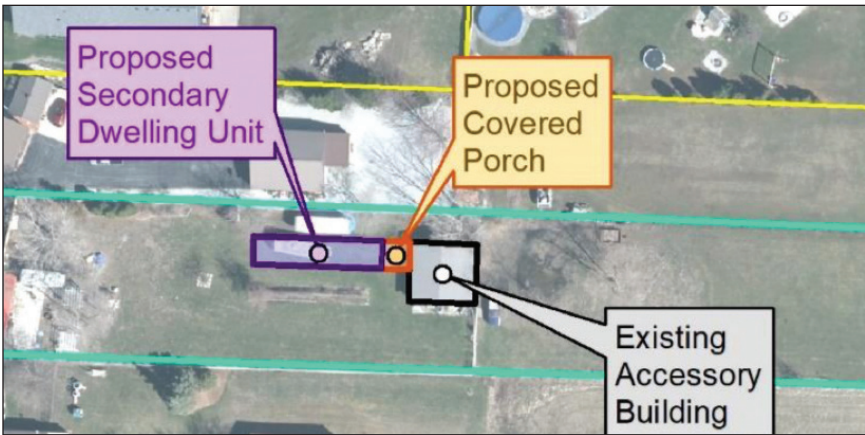
Heather Wright  
The Independent

A St. Clair Township man has until August to remove a mobile home from his property.

Brian Beaudoin wanted to attach the mobile home to a garage on the St. Clair Parkway property south of Courtright Line and make it a legal second dwelling. Monday, he came to council to ask for permission to keep the mobile home and attach it to the garage with a carport.

Beaudoin had been working with planning staff for six months. But just 10 days before the delivery of the mobile home, staff told him it didn’t meet the township’s standards. Any secondary dwellings have to be either in a basement, garage or as an addition to an existing home, says Planner Ian MacDougall.

Despite the ruling, Beaudoin’s trailer



SUBMITTED PHOTO

St. Clair Township has ordered a mobile home on the parkway removed.

was delivered to his home since he’d already paid the \$10,000 for transport.

Neighbours were surprised by the move. Deborah Brander says she and her husband, Ron, watched as the unit was placed near the garage May 12. They filed a complaint with the township six days later.

Brander opposed the idea asking council to “enforce the bylaw instead of reinforcing a single homeowner

who chose to privilege their own desires over everyone else and put their own rules in place.”

Councillors unanimously backed up MacDougall’s original decision denying the request. Councillor Tracy Kingston said the mobile home “just does not fit” the township’s guidelines for second dwellings.

Beaudoin has until Aug. 1 to remove the unit.



**2.5km, 5km, 10km**

**Bike, walk, stroller, wagon, run, rollerblade**

Register a team of family and friends, co-workers, sports teams, minor hockey team building, community event, school team, etc.

**Register on-line at [www.terryfox.org](http://www.terryfox.org)**

BBQ hotdogs, wagon ride, merchandise sales, and small silent auction



**Petrolia Terry Fox Run**

**Sun, Sept 18 2022**

Petrolia Lions Hall Pavillion  
Registration: 8 - 9 am

**Rolling Start**, anytime from **9:15-11:30am**