

Nursing home owner facing criminal charges

Heather Wright
The Independent

A Petrolia nursing home owner is facing nine criminal charges.

Monday, a paralegal representing Michael Fiddick's lawyer appeared in Sarnia court on Fiddick's behalf.

The owner and administrator of Fiddick's Nursing and Retirement Home was charged by Lambton OPP May 22 with three charges of assault, sexual assault, overcoming resistance by attempting to choke or strangle, and mischief.

The most serious of the charges - sexual assault - can carry a prison term of up to 10 years.

Sources tell *The Independent* the charges stem from alleged incidents over a decade ago.

A publication ban has been placed on any information which might identify the victim.

Also in court Monday, Fiddick's lawyers answered to three charges of transferring a prohibited or restricted weapon without following the Firearms Act.

Those charges can carry a sentence of up to five years.

He will appear in court on all nine charges again Sept. 19.

Fiddick, according to the nursing home's newsletter posted online, is not at work due to recent surgery and a "lengthy" recovery period.

Instead he is working remotely and placed the head of human resources in charge at the home.



Michael Fiddick

PHOTOGRAPHING THE INVASION



LARRY TOWELL PHOTO

Larry Towell, an internationally acclaimed photographer from Dawn-Euphemia travelled to Ukraine just after Russia invaded the country in February. Towell has been working on a book about the country since 2014 when Russia invaded Crimea. The invasion of Ukraine in February is the latest in violent conflicts which have stretched over decades. One of the most brutal and personal attacks this time was in Bucha, Kyiv region where Ukraine has launched war crime investigations. Here, a resident of Bucha stands next to a mass grave. You can see more of Towell's work of the horrors in Ukraine on page 6.

Petrolia looks at a fix for Tank and Garden Cres.

Heather Wright
The Independent

Some of Petrolia's worst streets could be on the road to recovery next year.

Town council recently approved \$77,000 to be spent to have engineers look at what it would cost to fix portions of Tank Street and Garden Crescent.

Mike Thompson, director of operations, says he's been getting complaints about the two roads since he became the director in 2015.

"We spend a lot of time out there, whether it's (doing) cold patch or filling the potholes," he says.

Thompson says engineers will look at solutions for about 700 meters of Tank Street from Discovery Line to Petrolia Storage and Warehouse. The rest of Tank to Petrolia Line has newer pavement which dates back to the construction of the Oil Heritage Community Centre.

MIG Engineering will look at the drainage in the area, and the road itself.

The businesses on Tank Street have their own septic systems and Thompson says there is some suggestion that sanitary sewers may be needed, boosting the cost of construction even higher.

"There's drainage issues on the east side of

the road as well, the water is not getting to the west side, that ditch, so that needs to be addressed.

Garden Crescent is Petrolia's only concrete road and it is starting to break apart. Thompson says there is only a small amount of gravel beneath the concrete so any rain doesn't drain properly. That has loosened the concrete over the years.

"We had to replace a piece of concrete, it's breaking so much now that some of those little pieces are starting to kick up when people drive over it and it's become almost a safety hazard," he says.

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MAJOR STORM



STACEY CHARLTON PHOTO

As *The Independent* was going to press, Wyoming was hit with 60 mm of rain according to Environment Canada as a line of heavy thunderstorms moved through the area. You can see more details of the storm on our webpage.

Grandmother shares scam scare to save others

Heather Wright
The Independent

A Petrolia grandmother is praising the staff at RBC after coming very close to falling victim to a phone scam.

The long time resident of the community, who asked not to be identified, says early in July, she and her husband came very close to losing \$10,500.

It all started when she picked up the phone and someone claiming to be an RCMP officer said he was calling for her grandson who was in jail. The “officer” put the woman’s grandson on the phone.

“The grandson came on the line and I said, ‘Adam?’ He said, ‘Grandma?’ So I gave them his name. And I said, ‘You don’t sound good.’”

The grandmother says there was “a little doubt” in her mind about whether this was her grandson, but brushed it off after he said he had a cold. The grandson claimed to be in jail because his friend was found with drugs in the car.

The scammers said the couple needed to send \$10,500 in cash for the grandson’s bail and they told them “the judges put a gag order on this and you cannot talk to anyone about.”

The “officer” told her how to avoid detection from the bank tellers, saying she was doing renovations if asked questions about the cash.

The Petrolia woman and her husband were panicked but there was a voice in the back of her head questioning what was going on.

“I thought this is weird. But hey, he’s

got my grandson in jail, I’m gonna do whatever I can.”

At one point she called the number back, checking to see if her suspicions were justified, but the scammers answered the phone saying RCMP.

“I thought, no, I better go and do what I was told to do. Because I’m so scared. Like, I’m shaking inside now just thinking about it,” she said as she talked to *The Independent*.

When she arrived at the RBC and asked for the money, the teller asked what she was planning to do with all that money, the grandmother did as she was instructed and said renovations. But she didn’t anticipate the next question. “She said; ‘Oh, and where are you going to start?’”

“I said, ‘the bathroom.’ I don’t know where that came from but I said the bathroom. And she said, ‘You know what, you look a little upset... if someone’s threatening you or anything....’ She brushed the teller’s concerns off saying “Just give me the money. They told me not to tell.”

The teller led her to another office where another staff member helped her call her actual grandson. As she told *The Independent* about him answering the phone, she cried. “She said; ‘We’re going to do this until he answers. I just know he’s going to answer. And the third time, he answered,’” she said through tears.

“It’s a terrible, terrible thing that people innocent people, you know, have to put up with this kind of stuff like me.”

The grandmother praised the bank

staff, she even made them one of her trademark coffee cakes. She’s telling everyone she knows her story hoping to save them from falling victim. If you have been the target of a scam contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501.

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Tank and Garden Cres. to be studied

CON’T FROM PG 1

The engineers will examine what it will take to replace the road from Kingswell Glen Golf Course to First Ave.

Thompson says the work on both streets would have to be done in two phases.

He adds if council agrees to move ahead with the work during the 2023 budget deliberations, the two projects would be in addition to work on the Derby and Holland work which is being done to ease flooding problems on the east end. Thompson says ordinary paving projects would likely be suspended for year.

Normally, the municipality decides on when roads are reconstructed by using a roads study. One was completed for the town in 2021, however, the roads were not evaluated by a consultant at the time at the town’s request.”

We can’t put it in our long term plan, because it would throw everything out of whack,” said Thompson.

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Coast guard backs Highland Glen fix

Heather Wright
The Independent

The reconstruction of the boat ramp at Highland Glen is getting some high profile support.

This is the third summer the boat ramp has been out of commission after high water and high winds damaged the groyne around it. At the time, the park was managed by the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority. It did a study about the work required in the park and expected the cost to fix the ramp and the shoreline would

hit over \$3 million.

But recently, the town and the conservation authority struck an agreement to transfer ownership of the park to Plympton-Wyoming. It's still in the process of being approved by the province. The town is now managing the property and has moved forward to get the ramp fixed. Gordon's Shoreline and Marine is waiting in the wings to repair the ramp for \$104,830.

Construction could begin as early as this month, however, Plympton-Wyoming CAO, Carolyn Tripp, says the federal

Department of Fisheries and Oceans hasn't approved the work yet.

The project did get some high profile support from Coast Guard Canada. It's written a letter stressing the need for an access point for Coast Guard to get out on the lake for rescues in Lambton. Highland Glen is the only boat ramp along Lake Huron between Sarnia and Grand Bend.

"It is such a distance in between those two points," says Tripp. "The safety component needs to be addressed."

Brooke-Alvinston turns down OPP cash request

Heather Wright
The Independent

Brooke-Alvinston says it won't pay Lambton OPP for extra costs until 2023.

Lambton County municipalities, with the exception of Sarnia which has its own police department, divide the cost of policing the county according to population. It's a figure the OPP provides local government's each year during the budget process.

The figure is an estimate. Sometimes, municipalities receive cash back because the police didn't need the full investment; other times – particularly if there have been detailed investigations like murders – municipalities may be billed for more.

But in 2022, the local police services board has taken the

unusual step of asking the municipalities it serves to pony up more cash mid-year; first to help pay for the Corunna detachment office in St. Clair and then for added costs for cleaning done in the pandemic.

But when the issue of providing \$5,000 for pandemic cleaning costs came up at Brooke-Alvinston council, there was no appetite to write a cheque.

"I'm very against this," said Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek. "It's not our fault they screwed up," suggesting the OPP should have done a better job of budgeting.

Councillor Jamie Armstrong suggested the local board was looking for money now instead of next year – as is the normal practice – because they're worried about the rising costs in 2023.

"The 2023 budget is probably going to be in the neighbourhood of eight, nine, 10 per cent or more next year because of the rate of inflation," he says adding the extra for cleaning would bump that up to about 12 per cent. "They'll have to ask for 12 per cent and then ... everybody is up in arms. I think that's what they're trying to do is actually make it so that their budget year next year doesn't look quite as bad."

Mayor Dave Ferguson is also frustrated by the added costs. "I don't like this thing, but somewhere they're going to get their money," he says.

Council passed a motion deferring the added costs to 2023.

The local police board has suggested municipalities need to find ways to get more provincial dollars for the local detachment.

Development fee study up for discussion in Sept.

Heather Wright
The Independent

It will be September before Petrolia decides whether to move ahead with a study on development fees for home builders.

Councillor Don Welten wants the study to move ahead.

He was expected to ask council July 11 to consider approving a \$27,500 study which would help the town implement legislation which would see development pay for the costs of the effects of development in town.

Petrolia, unlike the majority of municipalities in Ontario, does

not charge development fees. Council in the past decided against the move as a way to bring developers to build in Petrolia.

But with the latest housing boom, there have been calls to rethink the past strategy.

Development charges are a set fee based on the type of housing being built. Developers pay the fee to pay for new infrastructure which will be needed in the future because of the development.

For example, a new 61 lot development in Courtright will produce over \$400,000 in development fees above and beyond the cost of putting in

the services like water, sewers and roads.

In November, council heard from consultant BM Ross and Associates about how the system worked and the formula to come up with fees. But councillors were not ready to spend cash to have the work complete.

Welten said in June he wanted council to approve the study at the July 11 meeting. But when it came up for discussion, the vote was deferred until the next council meeting in September.

Welten tells *The Independent* he was "just getting more information" before council makes a decision.

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Editorial

Staring down evil in Ukraine

We have to admit it was difficult to put together our feature on Larry Towell's work in Ukraine.

The Dawn-Euphemia photographer, who has been documenting Russian aggression in Ukraine since 2014, went back to Europe when Vladimir Putin did the unthinkable and walked his troops into Ukraine only to meet fierce resistance from the army and ordinary citizens determined not to let the Russians take even more of their soil.

While we watched the war unfold on television, Towell stood in the middle of protests and bombings, he saw the shells of Russian tanks on the side of the road and listened to the wails of the people of Bucha - the place where Ukraine says Russian soldiers committed war crimes against innocent civilians.

And he saw the bodies. So many men and women living ordinary lives whose time on earth ended viciously at the hands of the Russians. So many people left outside because family couldn't retrieve them for fear of being hit themselves or because there was no electricity at the morgue to keep the corpses cool.

Towell sent those photos along and they stopped us in our tracks. They're awful. They're brutal. They are reality and we cannot look away.

We're sure as some of you sat reading the paper, you were horrified and wondered why in the world your local newspaper would publish them.

The answer is simple; we all should be constantly horrified about what is happening in Ukraine. But, like most news stories, after a while we forget that people can't live their normal lives without fear of being killed by a bomb.

We need photographers like Larry Towell to open our eyes to the evil unfolding in Ukraine. It reminds us of this tragedy and that in turn should compel us to do something to help.

So, if you are angry *The Independent* printed photos of those who lost their lives, turn that anger into action. Call your local MP or write the Prime Minister asking for more to be done. And then, open your wallet and find a Ukrainian charity which can help in the country's time of need.

Letters to the Editor

The Independent welcomes Letters to the Editor.

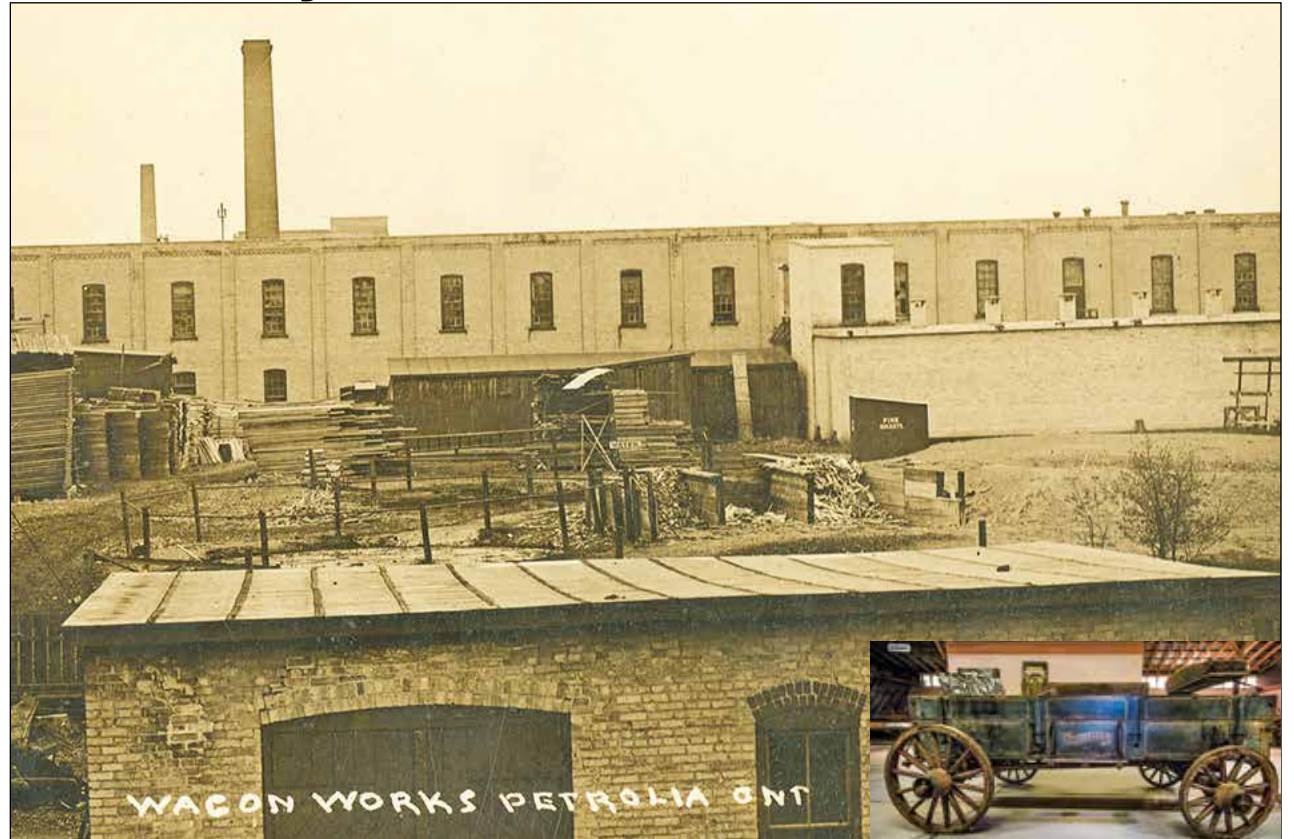
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You can also deliver letters to *The Independent* at 4156 Petrolia Line, Petrolia or drop them in the mail at *The Independent*, Petrolia, ON, N0N 1R0.

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 COUNTY ARCHIVE PHOTO

While Petrolia is renowned for its oil exploration, another significant business was the wagon works in town. Here's a Pesho photo of the building and a photo of the beautiful work they did.

Local journalism is at a crossroads; here's how to help

You may have heard that two locally owned community newspapers in Lambton County are on hiatus.

Our friends at *The Sarnia Journal* made the difficult decision and we are worried for them and frankly, worried for us.

The Journal is not alone in their struggles. Newspapers across Ontario are barely keeping afloat. In fact, the same week *The Sarnia Journal* announced its hiatus, another paper, the *Algoma News*, closed.

National ad revenue has tanked. Large retailers are choosing to spend all their money on platforms like Facebook and Instagram. That's fine you might think - I read all my news on Facebook anyway. But while Facebook is raking in the big advertising bucks - they pay nothing for the content generated by newspapers.

The problem is bigger than that. Local retailers squeezed by the pandemic (and also trained and encouraged by governments during

the pandemic to do business online) migrated to social media mostly because it's free. And many local governments are also increasingly turning to the digital world. It is a scary time for the industry and for democracy.

The last thing we need in an age of disinformation is fewer newspapers digging up the truth. We've seen over the years in Petrolia how important it is to hold local government accountable.

While 'thoughts and prayers' are nice, here are some tangible things that you can do to make sure local journalism continues. ...First, the federal government is working on a law that will allow newspapers to work together to negotiate a deal with Facebook and Google - that could be a game changer giving newsrooms the cash they need to run. Call your MP and let them know you support small local newspapers and they need to be included in this deal. Right now, any newspaper with less than

three journalists won't qualify for the funding - if it ever comes.

Second, talk to your local politicians - they're all up for re-election this year - tell them you expect local government to use hometown media to talk to citizens. Tell them you want them to spend your tax dollars that way.

And third, do you have a friend in business? Tell them you read your local paper and rely on it for buying decisions - then, when a local media salesperson walks through the door, they'll remember that people read newspapers and will be more receptive. Lastly, if you support local journalism and know local news is important - pay for it.



Heather Wright

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Canada

Thirty lot subdivision moves forward

Heather Wright
The Independent

The building boom continues in Plympton-Wyoming. Recently, town council gave the final go-ahead for a 30 lot subdivision on the shores of Lake Huron called Blue Coast Horizon.

The subdivision along Queen Street north of Camlachie has been in the works for some time. The developer

had all the approvals in place by Feb. 2020. However at the July 12 meeting, council removed the final obstacle removing a Hold Symbol on the land. It's put in place to make sure the natural heritage features of the property is maintained.

The developer worked with the town and the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and has met the recommendations to protect the area.



Blue Coast Horizon will be built off Queen Street in Plympton-Wyoming.

Sidewalk in the works for busy Lakeshore in Camlachie

Heather Wright
The Independent

People in Camlachie will be able to walk in circles. Plympton-Wyoming has been installing sidewalks in the community in the past year. Most of the main roads in the village now have a safe walking area. But perhaps the most dangerous portion of roads in Camlachie - Lakeshore Road

between Egremont and the Camlachie Community Centre – doesn't have a sidewalk. Town council is hoping that will change next year.

Council has agreed to apply for a Trillium grant of \$150,000 to complete the Camlachie Walking Improvement project. It would see a new concrete sidewalk along Lakeshore from Egremont to the community centre and a gravel trail along Lakeshore from Egremont to the existing Bluewater

Trail.

The total cost of the project would be about \$167,000. If the grant is approved, the town would take \$17,000 from reserves to complete the project. CAO Carolyn Tripp says if the town gets the grant, construction is likely to start next year.

She adds it will allow people to walk or bike around the entire village and also head to Bright's Grove without being on the road.

Fair board looks at upgrades in Brooke-Alvinston

Heather Wright
The Independent

The Brooke-Alvinston Agriculture Society is hoping to upgrade the fairgrounds including providing free Wifi on the grounds.

The society hosts a number of events at the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre each year including the fair, the Alvinston Rodeo and a tractor pull.

Burt McKinley, the president of the

AG society, went to council July 14, saying the group wants to improve the livestock buildings by upgrading hydro services and running water to the barns.

"We're also looking at enhancing or having Wi Fi over the entire grounds. We're finding our debit machines weren't working properly inside the livestock building. We also have thought that maybe we could do some live streaming of some or events," he said in a letter to council.

"We're not asking for money from the township, we're going to do this through fundraising and from the profits we made from our different events," McKinley says adding the board was hoping for the municipality's support and help from staff to write any grant applications.

Council agreed adding the board should work with the public works manager to make sure any upgrades were "conducive to everybody and free for all users."

Learning the ropes

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

The Petrolia/North Enniskillen fire department was putting some new recruits through their paces. But these firefighters won't be ready for action for a few years.

The department hosted the first of two Junior Firefighter Summer Camps last week.



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM PHOTO

Kids in the Junior Firefighter Program were having a blast Thursday at the Fire Training Centre in Petrolia, outfitted in their gear as they learned first hand about vehicle extraction and search and rescue. It was the first of two summer camps offered by the Petrolia/North Enniskillen Fire Department.

Dylan Terpstra liked learning about First Aid and being introduced to CPR training the best. McGregor agreed, adding they learned how to bandage a cut.

This is the fourth year for the Junior

Firefighter program. There have been about 10 kids per week in previous years, but the program has since doubled its capacity, said Fire Chief Jay Arns.

- THE INDEPENDENT



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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!

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A Witness to War



LARRY TOWELL PHOTOS

Dawn-Euphemia Photographer Larry Towell travelled to Ukraine when Russia invaded in February. As the war rages on, Towell is showing the world his photos of the destruction, including the deaths of thousands of civilians. Above is a cemetery at Bucha, where Ukraine is investigating war crimes, middle left is the funeral of three soldiers, middle right, a man struck down on a highway near Kiev and below a panoramic shot of the buildings destroyed by Russian artillery in Kharkiv.

Heather Wright The Independent

Award-winning Dawn-Euphemia photographer Larry Towell has witnessed some of the worst conflicts in the world, but he says the war in Ukraine is much different and much more dangerous.

Towell, who spent time documenting life in Palestine, El Salvador, Mexico and on his own front

porch, first travelled to Ukraine in 2014 when Russian President Vladimir Putin sent his troops into Crimea. He planned a book on the conflict which has spanned generations which was due to be published in 2023.

As he was working, Putin put hundreds of thousands of soldiers right on Ukraine's border and the world watched in horror. Towell says no one - including Ukrainians

- expected the full out war we're now seeing. Towell went back in the early days of the war, witnessing the death and destruction that continues today.

Towell says this war is "a different than any other." The Russians use satellites to trace photos of Ukrainian troop movements from social media. In 10 minutes, they can find the target and strike.

"This war is different," he told a

group in Port Lambton Thursday night, "It's a different place than I've ever been. It's more dangerous than anyplace I have ever been because if there's danger - if there is violence - it's sudden, it's quick and you can be trapped.

"Mostly in any kind of military situations, you know this side is here and this side is there and it's pretty easy to figure it out; but this place is crazy."

Towell was asked how long the war would last - it was an answer he didn't have.

While Ukrainian's fight on, they are still mismatched. "For every rocket that Ukrainians shoot, Russia was sending 10 to 20. And in Ukraine, 150 soldiers are dying every day...Nobody can stop Russia right now...It's very demoralizing but when I was there the Ukrainian spirits were very high."



Tractors thunder in Alvinston



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS

The sound of tractors could be heard all around Alvinston Friday night as the Brooke-Alvinston Agricultural Society hosted its annual Tractor Pull. Some of the biggest tractors were on hand to thrill the crowd with power, smoke and sound. Below, Mackenzie Kilmer, seven months, of Thamesville already knew ear protection is a good thing at a tractor pull.



Oil Springs developing new website

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

Oil Springs will be creating a new website. But work needed to be completed to compete for further government grants will not.

The Oil Springs Council did not get the \$54,918 asset management grant it had budgeted for, so the work it planned to do with its asset management plan will be put off for at least one year.

“The fact that we are as small as we are, that is why we are not getting any money,” said Mayor Ian Veen at the Council meeting July 12. One grant the village did receive was \$34,835 from the province’s municipal modernization grant.

Work has been underway on a new

website, while Clerk/Treasurer Martha Gawley gave council members a glimpse of what the various pages would look like. She anticipates the new website will be going live during the first part of October. The village’s engagement with the community will also involve Instagram and Facebook.

Council is also organizing a photography contest. Some of the entries will be used on the website and will give different perspectives about Oil Springs. Councillor Connie McFadden has put forth \$50 for prize money with Mayor Veen matching her contribution.

One of the features of the website will have the contents read to them for those who are visually impaired.

- THE INDEPENDENT

PACKING YOUR LUGGAGE



In the flurry of packing for a vacation or business trip, it’s easy to get carried away and pack everything but the kitchen sink into your suitcase and carry-on. But over-packed luggage is a common cause of injury to the back, neck and shoulders.

The good news is many of these injuries can be easily prevented. The following tips can help take the pain out of your vacation:

PACKING YOUR LUGGAGE

Over-packing is an easy pitfall, but consider that the larger and heavier the luggage, the more susceptible a traveller is to neck, back and shoulder injuries. Try to only pack what you absolutely need.

When possible, place items in a few smaller bags, instead of one large luggage piece.

Ensure your carry-on luggage does not weigh more than 10 to 15 per cent of your body weight.

Keep the contents of any carry-on luggage to a minimum, pack heavy items at the bottom of the bag and make efficient use of the bag’s pockets.



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Fri.-Sat., Aug. 5-6

Gates open at 8 am - both days

AUTOMOTIVE FLEA MARKET

Both Days

MEGA CAR SHOW

Saturday ONLY

ADMISSION: Friday and Saturday

Adults \$6.00 • Children under 12

with adult FREE both days

INFO 1-800-461-3457

info@oldautos.ca

Enniskillen councillors up for re-election

Heather Wright
The Independent

All of Enniskillen’s current councillors have now filed their papers to run in the Oct. 24 municipal election. Chad Burke, Judy Krall, Mary Lynne McCallum and Wally Van Dun have now submitted the paperwork for the election. So far, there are no candidates for mayor.

In Petrolia, incumbent Wade Deighton has filed his papers to run as councillor for a second term. He joins incumbents Ross O’Hara, Joel Field, Don Welten and Marty Souch on the ballot. Former councillor Liz Welsh has also declared her intention to run again. Two people are vying for the mayor’s position; incumbent Brad Loosley and former administrator Richard Poore.

In Warwick, there are finally candidates for the councillor positions. Incumbents Colin Mitchell and Wayne Morris have filed to run for council. There is also a new face in the crowd - Bill Davies.

In Plympton-Wyoming, a former school trustee, Randy Dayman, has joined the run for council. Also hoping to become councillors in the Oct. 24 election are Mike Vasey, Bob Woolvett, and Mike Thompson. Gary Atkinson and Murial Wright are running for the mayor’s position and so far Netty McEwen is unopposed for the deputy mayor’s position.

In Dawn-Euphemia, incumbent Ann Gray has filed her papers for a second term of office. She first came to council after Paul LeBoeuf moved and could no longer serve. Ironically, LeBoeuf is now the only other person who has filed papers to run in Dawn-Euphemia.

In the past week, there have been no new candidates in the races in St. Clair Township and Brooke-Alvinston.

Would-be politicians have until Aug. 17th to register for the municipal election.

HONOURING ENNISKILLEN STUDENTS



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Enniskillen Township Mayor Kevin Marriott and Councillor Judy Krall presented scholarships to two township students. Tecla Gerrits (left) is heading to Brock University for nursing while Haley Wilkins will be attending St. Clair College in Windsor for the medical lab technician course. The LCCVI graduates are both freshmen. The municipality awards the \$1,500 scholarship each year based on the essays about life in Enniskillen by students. In her essay, Gerrits said “living in rural Ontario has shown me why it is important to be a helpful neighbour.” Essays for the 2023 scholarships are due at the end of January.

Charges laid after stolen trailers found

The Independent

An Enniskillen man is facing six charges after Lambton OPP searched a farm near Petrolia.

Court documents show police went to a horse farm on Durham Creek Line April 5 and found five trailers and an ATV which had been stolen.

Police laid six charges the next day.

Zackary Thomas Fiddick has been charged with two counts of possession of stolen property valued at over \$5,000 and four counts of possession of stolen property valued under \$5,000.

He returns to court July 25.

COVID-19 booster shots available now in Lambton

The Independent

Lambton Public Health says you can now get your fourth COVID-19 shot.

Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer of Health announced last week the second booster shot would be available to anyone over 18 starting July 14. It’s in preparation for what is expected to be another round of the virus which has swept around the world leading to shutdowns

over the past two years. Officials recommend the shot for those at high risk.

Appointments can be booked online through Lambton Public Health at GetTheVaccine.ca.

Those requiring assistance with booking can call 226-254-8222, Monday to Friday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Lambton call centre and vaccination clinic capacity has been increased in anticipation of high demand.

38th Annual Lambton Cattlemen’s

BEEF BARBEQUE

Wednesday August 3rd, 2022

Brooke-Alvinston- Inwood Arena

5:00 - 7:00 pm

Rain or Shine!

Lambton County Beef, Salad, Baked Potato, Roll, Baked Beans, Pie & Ice Cream

Tickets \$25.00

ADVANCED TICKETS ONLY

For Tickets contact
Hanneke Mills
519-318-0897
lambtoncattlemens@hotmail.ca
or Lambton Cattlemen’s Directors




TODD CASE

FOR

MAYOR

Township of Warwick

EXPERIENCE You Can TRUST!



Sports

SAFE AT FIRST



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

The tag came too late for this play in the second inning as the Petrolia Raiders lost 10-0 to the Cattlebarons in Wyoming Friday. Petrolia rebounded for an 8-1 win over Dresden Saturday afternoon. Steve Gray scattered eight hits for the pitching win and Tim Martin cracked a two-run double, part of his four RBI game.

Jeffrey signs with German squad

Barry Wright
The Independent

Dustin Jeffrey has found a new home.

The Mooretown minor hockey product has signed the Wolfsburg Grizzlies of the top German league after six seasons in Switzerland.

The former Pittsburgh Penguin,

Dallas Star and Arizona Coyote had four goals and eight assists in 23 games last season with Bern.

Over his time in Switzerland, the former Spengler Cup player averaged nearly a point per game with 239 points in 264 games.

The Grizzlies finished third in league standings last season losing out in the semi-finals.



Dustin Jeffrey

Fulcher cut loose by Detroit Red Wings

Barry Wright
The Independent

The Detroit Red Wings no longer have Kaden Fulcher on their roster.

The team did not offer the Brigden native a contract last week making the 23 year-old a free agent.

Fulcher won 10 games last season with Toledo of the ECHL with a goals-against average of 2.46, a .912 save percentage and two shutouts.

He also appeared in four games with the Grand Rapids Griffins of the American Hockey League.

He went 1-3 with a 4.42 goals-against average. A

After signing an entry-level contract with Detroit in 2017, Fulcher backstopped the Hamilton Bulldogs to an OHL championship and an appearance in the 2018 Memorial Cup where he was named the best goalie of the tournament.

Lambton teen drafted to MLB

The Independent

Dylan O'Rae is the first Canadian taken in the 2022 Major League Baseball draft.

The Northern Collegiate grad was selected in the third round, 102nd overall, by the Milwaukee Brewers Tuesday.

O'Rae, a middle infielder is a member of the Dorchester-based

Great Lake Canadians organization and is part of Canada's national junior baseball squad.

He is committed to attending the University of Illinois on a baseball scholarship in September.

O'Rae was recently chosen as Canada's Player of the Year in 2022 by Prep Baseball Report.



Dylan O'Rae

Christmas FOR EVERYONE
A CARING COMMUNITY PROJECT

presents *Christmas* in July!

GIFT CARDS ARE A GREAT OPTION!

Drop off Mon to Fri,
10am to 4:30pm until July 29th
at The Independent Newspaper
4156 Petrolia Line

Thank you!

Rising costs means it will be more difficult to provide gifts this year. Help us jump start raising funds now so everyone has a Merry Christmas!

For information or to make a donation, contact us at 226-349-8660
Easy E-transfer! Send to: ChristmasForEveryonePetrolia@gmail.com with your contact info.

2.5km, 5km, 10km

Bike, walk, stroller, wagon, run, rollerblade

Petrolia Terry Fox Run

Sun, Sept 18 2022

Petrolia Lions Hall Pavillion
Registration: 8 - 9 am

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

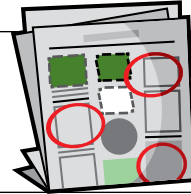
Register a team of family and friends, co-workers, sports teams, minor hockey team building, community event, school team, etc.

Register on-line at
www.terryfox.org

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

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

For Sale

1984 CCM Supra Hockey Gloves Red, White, and Blue - Like new \$50; Senior Elbow Pads - \$20; Electric Fireplace - \$100; Old 2 Man Buck Saw - \$30; Stainless Steel Mailbox - \$30. Call Rick at 519-220-4823.

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

Real Estate

SHANAHAN REALTY INC. BROKERAGE 6746 London Road Warwick

You'll feel like you are on vacation or camping year round with the great scenery surrounding you on this property! The park-like setting with a new bridge across the creek, numerous mature white pine and mixed hardwood trees will give you total privacy. All situated on 1 acre on London Line close to 402 interchange, halfway between London and Samia. This well-maintained 4-bedroom home has many updates, 1 1/2 baths, energy-efficient forced air gas furnace, electrical, plumbing, great room has fancy new wood stove for those cold winter nights, municipal water, high speed unlimited internet installed to work from home. Unfinished basement for future development and storage, partially unfinished second floor for an additional potential bedroom and storage. This private oasis is waiting for you to add your finishing touches. Access to snowmobile trails close by, year-round enjoyment, family fun and more.

\$499,900

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

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 Rent

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

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

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.

Upcoming Events

Artful FRIDAY mornings
July 8th until August 19th
10am until Noon

THE ART SHOP
5305 Nauvoo Rd | Watford | 519-619-5464

Royal Canadian Legion Ladies Auxiliary Petrolia Branch 216

"PEPPER"

Already know how to play this interesting card game? Great!
Don't know how - or don't know what it is? Come out to learn.

4129 Glenview, Petrolia

Starting July 26
TUESDAY AFTERNOON FROM 1 - 4 PM

Questions? Call Willi Cavan at 1-647-627-3464

Calendar of events

PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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

UPCOMING EVENTS			
DATE	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
July & Aug.	Sat. & Sun.	Wyoming	New Exhibits @ 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. Saturday: 10am-2:30pm & Sunday: 1-3pm.
July 22	Evening	Brigden	Spaghetti Dinner @ Brigden Legion. Tickets are \$15 and are available until July 16. Takeout also available. 519-381-1211
July 25	2-3:30p	Zoom	Zoom Webinar - Your Lambton Family Genealogy with special guest Nicole Aszalos (Lambton County Archives). Email lambton@ogs.on.ca for the link.
Aug 2	1-4pm	Wyoming	Dance the afternoon away with Larry Hart @ Wyoming Legion. Admission is \$7 per person.
Aug 2	9-4pm	Sarnia	Zine Machine with Lauren Davidson @ The Judith & Norman Alix Art Gallery. Create a self-published booklet, learn the history of zines and experiment with techniques and materials. Contact 519-336-8127 ext. 3226 for more details.
Aug 3	5-7pm	Brooke Alvinston	Lambton Cattlemen's Beef Barbeque @ the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Arena. Advance Tickets only. Tickets \$25. Contact 519-318-0897 or lambtoncattlemens@hotmail.com for tickets.
Aug 3	9-4pm	Sarnia	Fiber Selfies with Patricia Cook @ The Judith & Norman Alix Art Gallery. Use wool felting to create a fiber art selfie and learn the dry felting technique and experiment with fiber blending. Contact 519-336-8127 ext. 3226 for more details.
Aug 4	9-4pm	Sarnia	Part of the Big Picture with Daisy Fresh @ The Judith & Norman Alix Art Gallery. Participants how to experiment with paints and modeling wax and use the inherent geometry of organic forms. Contact 519-336-8127 ext. 3226 for more details.
Aug 5	9-4pm	Sarnia	Photography Fun with Sierra Rei Hart @ The Judith & Norman Alix Art Gallery. Learn how photos are created. Participants will be crafting and playing a myriad of games, bringing together the art of photography and fun for all. Contact 519-336-8127 ext. 3226
Aug 5	6pm	Sarnia	The Lawrence House presents "Seen in Lambton County" . A photo exhibit by Pierre Houle & Jale Fancey, "Beautiful Ontario," will also be on display. Admission is free. Contact 519-337-0507
Aug 6	10-5pm	Sarnia	First Friday & Weekend Walkabout - Local Market and Art Week. Car Show & live music pop-up 10-4pm the Sunday after.

Answers to this week's **Sudoku**

Brought to you by: the co-operators

Give yourself peace of mind with the right coverage for you.

Call us today!

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

the co-operators
A Better Place For You®
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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
Thurs	7p	Alvinston	Pool League @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Sat	6p	Alvinston	Catch The Ace @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Sat	3:30p	Forest	Meat Raffles @ Forest Legion	519-786-5357

HEAT EXHAUSTION OR HEAT STROKE

Faint or dizzy	Throbbing headache
Excessive sweating	No sweating
Cool, clammy skin	Red, hot, dry skin
Nausea or vomiting	Nausea or vomiting
Rapid, weak pulse	Rapid, strong pulse
Muscle cramps	May lose consciousness

Get to a cool shaded area or air-conditioned place
Drink water if fully conscious
Take a cool shower or use cold compresses

Call 9-1-1
Take immediate action to cool the victim by any means and help preserve the life, limb, etc.

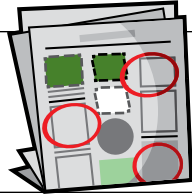
To have your event included in the above Calendar of Events the following information is required:

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

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

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

**Classified Deadline:
Monday @ 12 noon**



Classifieds


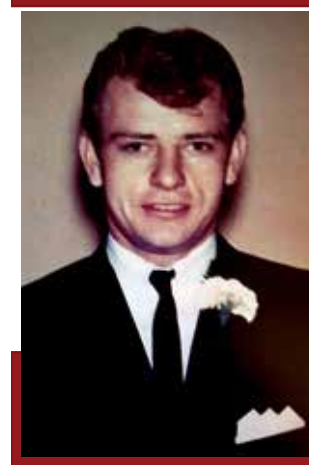
Celebrations

Celebrate
**Carol Currah's
80TH BIRTHDAY**
July 31, 2022
Open House 12:00 - 5:00 pm
Stone Pickers (Forest Road)
*No gifts please.
If you wish, a donation could be
made to:
St. Joseph's Hospice*



In Memory

In memory of a
Cherished Mom, Grandma & Wife
Elaine Willis
who passed away July 22, 2017
*Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard, but always near,
so loved, so missed, so very dear.* Jim
Lisa & Glenn (Aiden, Reid & Clarke)
Kristin & Jim (Cohen & Leo)
Alisha & Patrick (Niamh, Fiona, Lucy & Cormac)

In Memory of
dear brother and
devoted uncle
**Gary
BRIDEKIRK**



Lovingly remembered
by Sandi, Marie and
Nieces & Nephews

Celebration of Life

Celebration of Life
**Margaret Isabel
Dunlop**
Sat., July 30th ~ 1-4 pm
at Oakdale Hall
Please join her family and share your memories




Death Notices

July 10 - July 18, 2022

SUNDAY, JULY 10	WEDNESDAY, JULY 13
BOOTHE, Sandra Faye Age 70 Smith Funeral Home	RYAN, John Francis Age 85 Smith Funeral Home
MAHON, Dr. Kingsley "King" William Age 87 Smith Funeral Home	THURSDAY, JULY 14
MONDAY, JULY 11	ROACHE, James "Jim" Edgar Age 75, of Corunna Knight Funeral Home
KLEIN, Audrey "Elaine" (n Clarke) of Port Lambton John C Badder Funeral Home	SAUVE, Nancy Sue (n Williamson) Age 62 Smith Funeral Home
ORTINS, Maria Sousa Age 90 Smith Funeral Home	SATURDAY, JULY 16
TUESDAY, JULY 12	LAIRD, Joesph Arthur Denning's of Forest
BAMBURY, Barry Levi Age 64, of Sarnia McCormack Funeral Home	SUNDAY, JULY 17
REECE, Earl William of Sarnia D.J. Robb Funeral Home	THOMPSON, Larry Ross Age 69, of Saskatchewan Gilpin Funeral Home
SITZES, Cynthia Tammy (n Dionne) Age 44, of Bothwell VanHeck Funeral Home	MONDAY, JULY 18
WARD, Gladys Jean Age 87 D.J. Robb Funeral Home	JOYCE, Emily Margaret (n Robertson) Age 91, of Bothwell Badder & Robinson Funeral Home
	QUINN, Peter Age 85, of Petrolia Needham-Jay Funeral Home

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

In Memory of
Sharon Crul
February 7 1950 - July 21 2012
10 years have passed but...
Your presence we miss,
Your memory we treasure.
Loving You Always,
Forgetting You Never.
Love, All your Family

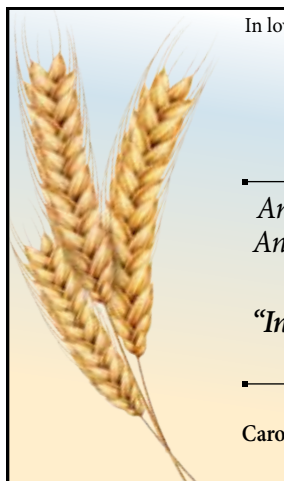



Griffith, Arthur - In fond memory of Arthur who passed away July 20th, 2008.

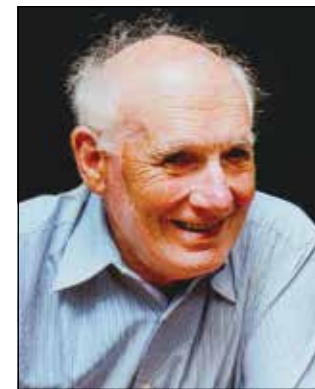
*We think of you in silence
We often speak your name
No length of time can take away
Our thoughts of you today*

Sincerely missed by
**Bill & Karen, Bill & Sharon,
Ray & Linda, Ross & Gayle**

In loving memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather and friend
John Arthur GRIFFITH
Jan. 20, 1941 - July 20, 2008
*Another harvest is on its way,
And we still love and miss you
Each and every day.*
*"In spirit, heart and memory,
love lives forever"*
Your family,
Carolynne, Mandy, John and Ann Marie,
Julia, Brett, and Katie



Obituary



QUINN
Peter

Surrounded by family at C.E.E. Hospital, Petrolia, **Peter Quinn** passed away on **Monday, July 18, 2022** at the age of **85**. Born in Manchester, England, Peter immigrated to Canada in 1957. He was the beloved husband to Mary Quinn (nee VanDun) for 61 years. Loving father to Pauline (the late Les) Quinn-Gardner, Owen (Birgit) Quinn, Wendy (Geoff) Ainsworth, and Martin (Paula) Quinn, grandfather to Nicholas, Toni (Justin), Amanda (Luke), Jennifer (Casey), Michelle, Kayla (Kyle), and Erienne, and great grandfather to Maverick, Cara, and Zoey. Peter was the son of the late Owen and Maude Quinn, and is survived by brothers and sisters: Brian (Pat), Paul (Cath), Eileen (Tony), Mike (Ann), Frank (Marg), and Tony and predeceased by a sister Mary and brothers Vincent and Bernard. Peter was the son-in-law of the late John and Elizabeth VanDun and is a brother in law to Joe (the late Geraldine) VanDun, Maggie (Ken) Freer, and Wally (Karen) VanDun. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews. Peter started working at Krall Poultry Farms in 1957, in January 1961 he started working at Hyme's Clothing Store and eventually became owner. He enjoyed traveling and gardening was his passion. **Visitors will be received on Thursday, July 21, 2022 from 11:00 am to 1:00 p.m. at the Needham-Jay Funeral Home, 4059 Petrolia Line, Petrolia. A private service will be held with Interment in Mount Calvary Cemetery.** As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be left to Diabetes Canada (diabetes.ca) or C.E.E. Hospital Foundation (www.ceehf.ca). **Memories and condolences may be shared at www.needhamjay.com.**

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





SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Alvinston Jr. Aces win the Spagnuolo-Petro-Schwab Fastpitch Tourney in Michigan as they get ready for the Canadian Championships.

Jr. Aces win Michigan tourney

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

Alvinston Junior Aces pitcher Nick Ford came within one out of a perfect game on the weekend.

Ford's play was the icing on the cake as the Jr. Aces took the championship on the strength of their five wins in the Spagnuolo-Petro-Schwab Memorial Fastpitch Tournament from July 15-17.

Ford was cruising to a perfect game Sunday with two out in the final inning when the tournament host Schaefer-Bierlein Wranglers eked out single. Alvinston registered the final out to take the game 1-0.

The 12-team tournament in Michigan featured two teams from Ontario, two from Indiana with the rest coming from Michigan. The Aces started off against Frankenmuth. The Aces exploded in the top of the sixth inning with four runs, said Coach Andy Triest, describing the Tiffany's squad as one the stronger teams in the

tournament. The Aces won the game 7-2 before moving on to the Munger Bulldogs taking that game 4-1.

The Aces rounded out their play within its division with a 13-3 win against the Oetman of Moline, Michigan. This put the Junior Aces first in its six-team division and automatically advancing to the semi-finals against the Moline Bombers. The Junior Aces made easy work as the game was stopped because of the mercy rule at 11-4. This set up the championship game against the Wranglers.

Triest said this was a warm-up tournament in preparation for the Under 23 Men's Canadian Fastpitch Championships in Carp starting Aug. 2.

There will be seven teams in this year's event with four from Ontario, the Junior Aces, Owen Sound, Tavistock and Osgoode, with one team each from Quebec, Newfoundland and Saskatchewan to round out the schedule.

- THE INDEPENDENT

THE WIND UP



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Wyoming Wranglers beat Chatham 11-3 in front of a home crowd at Canton Park on Sunday afternoon in Under 13 Boys action.



A LOCALLY-SOURCED, COMMUNITY MEAL!

4th Annual farm to table Harvestfest

Local Chefs will prepare the meal with local food items purchased from Petrolia Farmers' Market Vendors & Area Farmers

Saturday, September 17, 2022 at 6:00pm

Doors Open at 5:00pm

Dinner Entertainment and Dancing Under The Stars

Cash Bar with Local Beer & Wine Available

EVENT SPONSORS



Outdoors at the **Petrolia Farmers' Market Pavilion**



TABLE OF SIX \$300

Advance Purchase Only
Limited Tickets Available

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
at the Petrolia Farmers' Market on "Market Saturdays" or at Town Hall

For more information please contact Laurissa at (519)882-2350 Ext. 231 or by e-mail to lellsworth@petrolia.ca



Christmas FOR EVERYONE

A CARING COMMUNITY PROJECT

presents **Christmas in July!**

New, Unwrapped GIFTS for newborn to 16 years

Drop off Mon to Fri, 10am to 4:30pm until July 29th at The Independent Newspaper, 4156 Petrolia Line



Thank you!

Rising costs means it will be more difficult to provide gifts this year. Help us jump start raising funds now so everyone has a Merry Christmas!

For information or to make a donation, contact us at 226-349-8660
Easy E-transfer! Send to: ChristmasForEveryonePetrolia@gmail.com with your contact info.