

# The Independent

Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton

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## Rent and run

*A Petrolia council candidate faces online heat for renting a room to run; practice legally OK*

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

A Petrolia councillor seeking re-election is trying to set the record straight about where he lives.

A social media post questioned why Grant Purdy's address is the same as fellow councillor, Wade Deighton, on the official list of candidates running for the Oct. 24 municipal election.

One resident on social media called it "intentional deception ... that should be brought to light" and another saying it was "shady dealings."

Another social media post added "the candidates all keep talking about transparency. I've yet to see much of it in this past council."

Purdy, in a social media post, explained during his second term of council, he divorced and needed a place to stay. At the time, Councillor Ross O'Hara offered him a room to rent. O'Hara is moving soon, and the housing situation in Petrolia is difficult he says.

"With the housing market prices soaring, and little options for apartments for non-seniors in Petrolia, it was/is not feasible to purchase a home at this time – but is something I'm working on and plan to achieve," he wrote.

**SEE PURDY PG 2**

## Teacher appeals conviction

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

A former Petrolia elementary school teacher will be in court in December to launch an appeal after being convicted of sexual exploitation.

Boere was found guilty of sexual exploitation in a Sarnia court on Jan. 28 after four encounters with a teenaged boy over the summer of 2019. Sexual exploitation charges are laid when a person is in a position of trust or authority to a minor according to the Criminal Code.

Boere was an elementary school teacher in Petrolia at Hillcrest but the teen was not her student. There is a publication ban on any evidence which might identify the teen including how they knew each other.

Court heard the encounters began after the break up of Boere's marriage. There were two other sexual encounters, one which the judge found sexual touching had taken place the other where there was intercourse.

Boere was sentenced to one year in jail for the crime. Instead of spending time in jail, Boere appeared in bail court where she was released with conditions until her appeal is heard. Boere will return to court Dec. 9 to set a date in the appeal process.

## LITTLEST PLOWMEN



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Farmers of all ages came out to the 100th anniversary of the Lambton County Plowmen's Association Plowing Match Saturday. Farmers competed for the straightest furrow while children and politicians had a chance to look at the tractors. See page 8 for more photos.



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SCAN FOR MENU





# Is it business or politics? Plympton-Wyoming council nix’s tree day event

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming council turned down a request from mayoral candidate Tim Wilkins’ business to use a local park during the election campaign.

Wyoming Tree Service holds a tree planting seminar each year on National Tree Day and planned to hold a seminar in Kings Square Park Sept. 21.

Wilkins says the company has been holding the ‘Tree Talk’ on National Tree Day for about 18 years. Last year it moved to a municipal park after the local school boards pandemic protocols wouldn’t allow the company to hold the seminar.

The company paid a fee of over \$300 to use the park, plants two trees there and trims others in the area. Wilkins says the business

was charged a fee then because there was a picnic shelter. This year, Wilkins business would have had the park for free since there is only play equipment there.

But when the rental agreement came to council Wednesday, there were concerns about optics. Gary Atkinson, who is also running for the top job, questioned whether Wilkins should be using a local park during an election campaign.

“I think it’s a really good idea. I think it’s something that the community really needs. The concept is good. But I sometimes question the ownership of the company because you’re entered into the municipal election ... Would you consider postponing it till after the election?”

Wright added “she looks at it as an unfair advantage and it will be more appropriate if you defer this until after October 24.” Wilkins

says the event is held because it is National Tree Day.

Councillor Mike Vasey also thought the timing was off. “I understand you did this last year Tim. And we appreciate that but you also weren’t running for mayor last year ... you’re on the line that you’ve got two other candidates that you’re running against and then your company is putting something on in town and we’re giving you the park to do it.”

But Mayor Lonny Napper disagreed saying the company was only being “civic minded.”

Wilkins said this is not a campaign event and the other two mayoral candidates, Atkinson and Wright, as well as members of council and candidates were welcome to attend. He added if a council member had a concern they should go to the Integrity



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Kings Square Park in Camlachie was to be the site of a National Tree Day event.

Commissioner.

After council pulled the plug on the rental, Wilkins told *The Independent* he’ll approach

Petrolia council to see if council will allow the event in one of the town’s parks.

## Purdy’s run okayed by Petrolia’s clerk

**CON’T FROM PG 1**

Councillor Wade Deighton offered to rent Purdy a room. Under the Municipal Act to run for municipal office you must either own or rent property in the municipality or be the spouse of someone who owns property. That can include a business property.

The 2022 Candidates Guide to Ontario Municipal Council Elections says “To run for a position on council you must be eligible to vote in that municipality. On the day you file your nomination, you must be a Canadian citizen aged 18 or older, and qualify as a resident or non-resident elector.”

The voters’ guide clarifies there are three ways to qualify to vote; “if you live in the

municipality. You may own, rent, live in shared accommodation where you do not pay rent or live in the municipality but do not have a fixed address.”

Purdy says he consulted the Integrity Commissioner to make sure his living arrangements – split between Deighton’s home and a house in Marthaville – was legal under the Municipal Act.

He added he is “disheartened” that people on social media – including former Mayor John McCharles – did not reach out to him and ask directly “instead of perpetuating misinformation.”

Purdy’s nomination for his third term on Petrolia council was certified by the town clerk.

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Organizer Cheryl Veary in the Gunk and Dunk tank. The event is moving to Petrolia this fall.

## Fiery Faces come to Petrolia

The Independent

A popular Halloween fundraiser is moving to Petrolia.

The town’s annual Harvest Days events will include Fiery Faces.

The event - which took a two year hiatus during the pandemic - raises money for community groups. In 2019, Lunches for Learning benefitted from the event held in Wyoming.

This year, the group will make Petrolia it’s home. On Oct. 20, there will be a day of carving at Petrolia Discovery. The pumpkins will be displayed there and lit on Oct. 21 for three hours.

On Oct. 22, Fiery Faces will hold a family day at the Petrolia Y. It will include games and crafts for all ages and the famous gunk and dunk event.

Petrolia has in the past held its own carving competitions which were displayed at Victoria Park.


2022 MUNICIPAL election

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NORTHERN TORNADOES PROJECT PHOTO

This drone photo shows the path of the EF0 Tornado in St. Clair Township.

## Third tornado hits Central Lambton

Heather Wright  
The Independent

For the third time this summer, the Northern Tornadoes project says Central Lambton has been hit by a tornado. The team, based at Western University, says the storm which blew through Ontario Aug. 29 became a tornado in Payne - a hamlet in St. Clair Township just south of Nova Chemicals.

The team found damage to trees and barns but no injuries were reported. There was also a clear path the tornado took in a field near Highway 40.

Officials estimate winds hit about 125 km/h and the storm hit land for about 4.5 kilometres with a width of about 250 meters.

St. Clair Township Mayor Steve Arnold says the municipality's works garage on Moore Line also sustained



NORTHERN TORNADOES PROJECT PHOTO

The roof was blown off the top of this farm on Moore Line Aug. 29.

damage. The hoop roof was torn to shreds and will cost \$250,000 to repair.

The hydro also failed in the area with some homeowners in the dark 34 hours.

## Inwood may get community garden

Heather Wright  
The Independent

There may soon be a community garden project in Inwood.

Stephen Harrott recently wrote to council suggesting a community garden be built around the Inwood Library "to establish a learning and teaching demonstration with a variety of plots displaying different gardening techniques: some raised beds at various heights to accommodate everyone, young and old, mobile and not so much, vertical, square foot, SPIN (Small Plot Intensive), food forest and a small fruit tree orchard."

Community planning meetings are already underway, but Harrott was looking for municipal approval for the idea. "It is intended that no municipal resources would be required except perhaps access to water and a community notice board," he wrote to council.

"Projects like this have proven to build neighbourhood cohesion by bringing the community together, building trusting relationships, giving residents a more meaningful sense of belonging

to the community, experiencing a higher quality of life, gaining a sense of accomplishment, greater physical and mental well-being and transforming underutilized space to grow food which may not be available where groceries are normally purchased."

Harrott says there are people in the community interested in the project who are involved in the planning meetings. It's hoped with municipal and county approval the construction of the garden could begin this fall.

There seems to be interest for the project, however staff, in a report to council for Thursday's meeting, suggests the Inwood Park may be a better location, with more room and light and storage area for tools.

Lambton County Library officials also suggested they use the backyard of the Inwood Library for programming when the weather is good, since the building is so small.

Administrator Janet Denkers suggested council consider a community garden policy to make sure municipal employees don't end up taking care of it.

The proposal goes to council Thursday.

## CLOSER TO THE GOAL



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Fundraising for the new East Lambton Community Complex has hit \$1.6 million. The township's fundraising committee is trying to raise \$2 million to help cover part of the cost of the \$11.5 million rebuild of the Watford arena with the new community centre attached. Recently Watford Roof Truss donated \$150,000 to the project in honour of the company's 50th anniversary. The complex is expected to open in October.





The Town of Petrolia and the Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership are coming together on a Downtown Revitalization project. Have your say to help make our downtown grow.


## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

**SEPT 20<sup>TH</sup> • 7-8:30 PM**  
**SEPT 27<sup>TH</sup> • 10-11:30 AM**  
**AT THE PETROLIA YMCA**

For inquiries contact Coordinator Leena Bourne at lbourne@sarnialambton.on.ca or 519-332-1820

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# Charlotte's Corner



### Back-to-School Health Tips


As children head back-to-school this year, many are welcoming the sense of normalcy for our kids even though the pandemic isn't over. We're seeing COVID-19 restrictions loosen, including dropping the requirement to wear a face mask in most non-clinical settings.

Before the pandemic, the fall and back-to-school season was always a time where we saw a ramp up of respiratory viruses, as more and more people gather inside again. The average child aged 2 to 7, gets one cold per month in the fall and winter. Here are some health tips to help keep you and your children in optimal health through the back-to-school season:

- Ensuring your children are up-to-date on their vaccinations, including the COVID-19 vaccine and the flu shot when it becomes available
- Encourage hand-washing regularly throughout the school day, and when they arrive home from school
- Regular washing and disinfecting of water bottles, back packs, lunch bags, etc.

In the emergency department, we often see a lot of worried parents throughout the fall and winter months whose children are displaying cold & flu symptoms. We always remind patients and parents that most infections with cough and runny nose are viral and do not require antibiotic treatment. These viruses are best treated with rest, good nutrition, and over-the-counter medication for symptom relief.

Bacterial infections, like strep throat do require antibiotics to clear up. If you have



just a sore throat without a runny nose or cough then seek medical attention. The fall also brings a lot of earaches in children. In my experience, over 90% of pediatric earaches are resolved within three days. If it persists, I recommend seeking medical attention.

I hope these helpful tips can prepare you and your family for the busy back-to-school season. Wishing all Petrolia students a great first week back!

- by Dr. Charles Winegard, Medical Director, CEEH of Bluewater Health



# Editorial

## The political games have begun

While you have been enjoying the summer, the municipal elections have been taking shape. Now that fall is upon us, it's clear politicians and their supporters are ready for what will be the most important two months of the campaign.

There have been some political shots fired which lead us to believe the next two months will be very interesting

In Petrolia, Grant Purdy, who is looking for his third term, and Wade Deighton - who is seeking term number two - were singled out for criticism after people noticed their address is the same. Purdy said he sold his home and now rents a room from Deighton while living there and in Enniskillen.

Some on social media called it "shady dealings" and "intentional deception" even though Purdy's nomination was approved by the clerk - who is bound by law to make sure the rules are followed.

While it's fair for voters to ask what's going on, the Municipal Act makes it clear you don't have to own a home to be elected in a municipality.

It's also fair for voters to make a decision based on the fact someone admits they live only part of the time in the municipality they seek to serve.

In Plympton-Wyoming, Councillor Tim Wilkins' business request was turned down the use of a local park. Councillors worried it gave him an unfair advantage with the voters during the campaign. Wilkins encouraged them to attend the tree planting event in September- but still the answer was no.

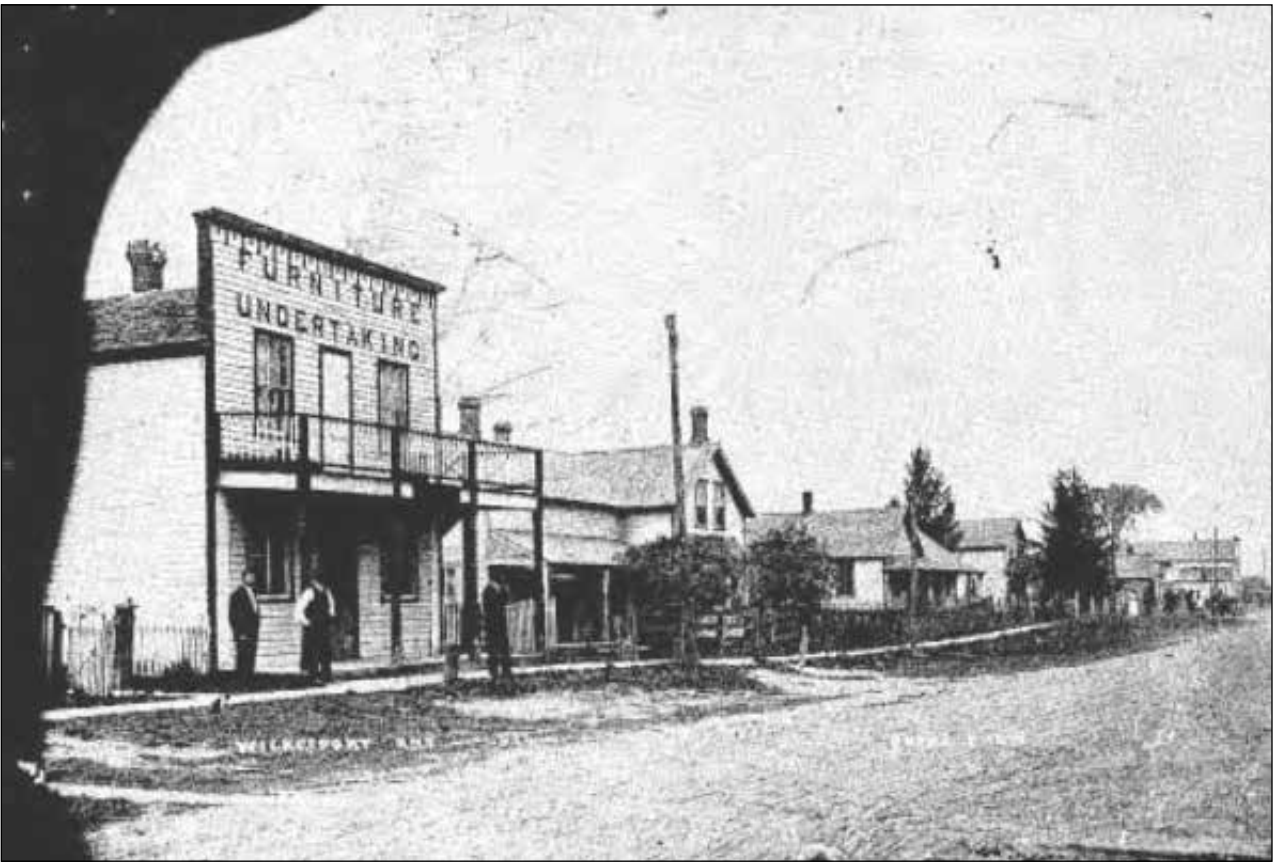
It strikes us that most voters wouldn't have thought of using a park to plant trees as an unfair advantage, but perhaps some would.

It's clear after watching these two incidents unfold, that the elections in Central Lambton will be more than just a little interesting. There is always behind the scenes lobbying and jockeying for public opinion, but as seasoned watchers of Central Lambton municipalities, it seems the political gamesmen ship has arrived on the scene early showing for some, the races are tight enough that they're doing everything they can to get ahead of the others before election day.

## Letters to the Editor

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

## Our Story



FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

In about 1840, John Wilkes came from Brantford and established a mill at a spot along the Sydenham River. By 1888, Wilkesport was the head of navigation on the Sydenham River and was named after the Wilkes Brothers who were lumber dealers. It was a thriving hamlet of three hotels, three general stores, three blacksmith shops, one grist mill, one saw mill, one water power mill, one shoe store, one furniture store, one harness shop, one butcher shop, one jail. Three steamers, the Silver Spray, The Haney, and the Manitoba, a passenger boat plied the Sydenham. The Manitoba made weekly trips to Wallaceburg.

## Wanted: council candidates with plans for cyclists, walkers

I'm not much of a city person but there are lessons rural urban centres, such as Petrolia, can learn from them.

Two of our kids recently moved to Toronto for school and I was their mover. It's not my favourite job particularly when the apartment they moved to was steps from the grounds of Exhibition Stadium and they were moving smack dab in the middle of the Canadian National Exhibition. Bumper-to-bumper traffic everywhere. Ugh. It reminded me of why I enjoy living in smaller communities.

Barry and I returned to visit the kids, shlep some more stuff to them. While the traffic was still horrific, I did see a different part of Toronto which I found appealing.

Aside from every kind of mass transit option you could think of, Toronto actually thinks about non-motorized

modes of transportation - ie your feet.

John and I had been cycling around Petrolia for the better part of two years. He wanted to continue cycling at school. After watching cyclist weave in and out of gridlock - without helmets - I was nervous about the idea.

But I loaded up his bike - along with my own - so we could find somewhere to ride. And as it turns out, one of Toronto's gems is its waterfront trails.

You can hop on your bike and travel right across Toronto as part of the 3,600 kilometres of trails the municipality maintains.

Downtown, where people walk almost everywhere, there are cycling traffic lights, just to make sure you don't run someone down.

Granted, these routes aren't a ride in the country; the view is nice, but there are some hard-core cyclists in a

hurry to get where they're going.

While I'd love 3,600 kilometres of bike trails in the region, that's not realistic.

What is realistic is to expect the people you elect to actually THINK about non-motorized transportation during the planning of our community. Right now, they don't. How we ended up with entire neighbourhoods without sidewalks is beyond me. I for one, will be looking for municipal council candidates who have a real plan to change that.



Heather Wright

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Canada



# New book highlights VPP, local artists

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Maddison Bell wants kids to know all about the theatre and the community of people who work there.

Bell, who is the assistant to co-artistic director David Rogers at Victoria Playhouse Petrolia, has written a children’s book called Victoria’s Playhouse. It’s about a little girl who discovers the Petrolia theatre and learns about everyone who works there.

The author grew up in Bright’s Grove, but until she came to Petrolia in 2016 for a summer job at the theatre, she didn’t even know the VPP existed.

“When I was a little girl like we would go to the theatre my mom would take me to Toronto to see like The Lion King ... I was always a dancer, but I was not particularly into the singing and acting part of things, but that was just something you did,” Bell tells *The Independent*.

In the summer of 2016, while she was attending Wayne State University for dance, Bell came to Petrolia to audition for Scotland Sings. And she was floored by what she found.

“This has been around the corner from my house for this long? Like I just can’t even believe I missed it. I felt so silly.”

Bell also found a warm and accepting

community at the VPP. “There’s so much kindness at the core of the arts community and at the theatre. It sincerely is their most important value ... just being kind to one another and I just felt ... a sense of belonging. I want children to feel that way, too”

So, Bell wrote a story about Victoria who arrives at the theatre and meets “all these vibrant characters who encouraged her fascination with the theatre. And then she learns that each new friend has a unique talent that will guide her in putting on a show of her own.

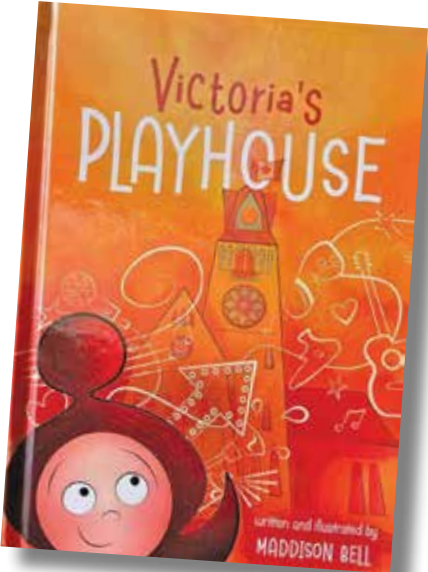
“And at the theatre, she finds that dreaming big is a good thing, and that you’ll always be supported.”

It’s a mirror of what happened to Bell when she came to VPP.

In the book, Bell uses her real-life coworkers including Rogers, David Hogan and cast members such as Fiddler Jesse Grandmont and Music Director Mark Payne to guide Victoria through the theatre. Bell illustrated the book herself and that drew raves from her co-workers.

“They loved it. David Hogan kept saying ‘Look! I’m a character in a book!’”

While the book is meant to inspire and teach kids about the theatre, it was also therapeutic for Bell. She illustrated Victoria’s Playhouse



during the pandemic, when she couldn’t be with her theatre family.

“I kind of felt like it was a way to stay close to the theatre because I was drawing my colleagues every day, hilariously.”

And she says the book is a “time capsule.

“I wanted to capture this moment in time,” says Bell. “Life moves fast. And I didn’t know where life would take me and I just, wanted to remember this one (moment), big time.”

The book is available at the VPP during performances, some Petrolia stores and at maddisonbell.ca.

## Charity ball tournament for murder victim’s kids gets PW support

The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming council decided to waive the fees for a charity baseball tournament at the Camlachie Community Centre.

It’s being held next weekend and will go to a fund to support the children of a man who was murdered in Warwick

Township in 2018. It’s being organized by the families of Jesse Storr’s children. A letter to council says they chose a ball tournament because Storr played his entire life.

While council approved the move, there was some question whether people from outside of the municipality should be able to have the rental

of the Camlachie Community Centre waived.

Councillor Tim Wilkins suggested Warwick - where Storr lived - also has many ball diamonds and then his home municipality would be able to contribute.

Council agreed to waive the \$678 fee by a vote of five to two.

## Businesses and residents having their say on downtown

The Independent

Petrolia wants to know what merchants and citizens think could improve the downtown.

Recently, the town and Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership began a downtown revitalization project, with the help of a Rural Economic Development Grant.

Laurissa Ellsworth, director of marketing, arts and communications, for the town says one of the first plans

of attack is to survey the business community. Petrolia is in the middle of transitioning to a Business Improvement Association board of directors. Members have been talking to retailers about the plan and about 85 businesses are willing to be members of the organization.

The prospective BIA board is trying to develop a marketing plan for the downtown area using an online survey.

“We’re close to 40 per cent of the businesses have completed so that’s

pretty good. And then once I have that, we’ll be able to kind of be a little bit more clear to the business as a whole.”

Ellsworth says there is also a survey to see what residents would like to see in the downtown. It’s available online through the town’s social media connections or by phone at 519-332-1820.

The town is also planning two community sessions to talk about the vision for downtown.

They’ll be held at the Y in Petrolia on Sept. 28 and 29.

## Why pay when kids play elsewhere asks Oil Springs

Blake Ellis  
Local Journalism Initiative

Councillor Matt Strangway doesn’t have a problem with the Village of Oil Springs paying a user fee for Petrolia’s Greenwood Recreation Centre, but he’s voicing concern about how the fee is calculated and the amount of time kids actually spend on the ice in Petrolia.

The user fee with the Town of Petrolia has been a bone of contention with the Oil Spring Council for years. Strangway understands the need for the annual fee as Oil Springs doesn’t have an arena. Petrolia, which maintains Greenwood, bills the village yearly for the Oil Springs athletes who

use the arena. Last year, the village didn’t pay the fee.

Strangway, at a recent village council meeting, said hockey teams are only playing their home games in Petrolia, and are holding practices in Alvinston and Watford, due to ice not being available in Petrolia.

“It royally burns me,” said Strangway.

He voiced his concerns about the lack of ice time at Petrolia’s Greenwood Recreation Centre, after a letter was received from the Petrolia’s Director of Facilities and Community Services Dave Menzies.

In it, Menzies says the local sports organizations - like Petrolia Minor Hockey and Petrolia Figure Skating -

have not been able to supply the Town of Petrolia firm numbers on how many kids from other municipalities have been using the arena.

Instead Petrolia decided to take the average number of participants over the last five years to determine the amount. Petrolia says about 15 Oil Springs registrations were paid and billed the village \$1,500.

Mayor Ian Veen said there should be a user fee, but feel the minor sports organizations should charge the parents directly during registration. Therefore only those who use the facility would be asked to pay.

The council will be sending a letter to Petrolia registering its displeasure about the lack of ice time for players.

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**9:00** Greg Williams - \$15  
Age of Majority Req'd

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17th**

**8:00am** Food Trucks Open  
**9:00am** Chainsaw Carver  
**9:30am** Taxidermy Display Open  
**10:00am** Displays Open / Vendors Open  
**10:30am** Baby Show  
**11:00am** Petting Zoo Opens  
**11:30am** Inflatables Open  
**12:00pm** Light Horse Show  
**12:30pm** Parade  
**1:00pm** Food Booths Open  
**1:30pm** Refreshment Tent Opens  
**2:00pm** Beef / Dairy / Sheep Shows  
**2:30pm** Heavy Horse Show  
**3:00pm** Classic Champion Wrestling  
**3:30pm** Showcase

**VENDORS**

**BARN DANCE WILLIAMS**

**DISPLAYS**

**ANIMALS**

**TOY TRACTORS**

**FOOD**

**INFLATABLES**

**CCW LIVE IN ACTION**

 **SHOWCASE**

Tickets - \$15  
Elementary Kids Free

Doors open @ 6:30pm  
Show starts @ 7:00pm

**Musical Acts**  
**RYAN DUNCAN**  
**COLT AND DAVE**  
**MATT WEED**  
.....& more

**50/50 RAFFLE** **CASH BAR** **Light Snacks**

For Tickets: (519) 384-0130

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176th Annual  
**Wyoming FALL FAIR**  
EST. 1846

**SEPTEMBER 16 & 17, 2022**  
www.plympton-wyomingfair.com

**BARN DANCE**

**TOY TRACTORS**

**DISPLAYS**

**ANIMALS**

**FOOD**

**INFLATABLES**

Friday September 16th, 2022 8pm - 1am

176th Annual  
**Wyoming FALL FAIR**

**GREG WILLIAMS**

Cash Bar - Age of Majority Required

Tickets: \$15 Call: 519-312-4660 / 519-384-0130

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**CLASSIC CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING**  
**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17**  
**SHOW STARTS AT 2PM**

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# Celebrating 100 years of Plowing

BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

The Lambton Plowmen's Association welcomed farmers and the community to the 100th anniversary of the local plowing match Saturday. It is a place for the agricultural community to gather, demonstrate their skills, look at the history of the event and for local politicians to try their hand at plowing. At the top, Petrolia Councillor Marty Souch gets a reaction from the other municipal leaders competing in the class. And at the right, St. Clair Township Councillor Tracy Kingston tries to keep the plow on the straight and narrow. She needed help to get back on the straight and narrow. Kingston was named the winner of the good natured event.





# Sports

## Barons Sr. A heartbreaker

The Independent

The drive for back-to-back OBA titles came up just short for the Wyoming Cattlebarons. They bowed 10-9 to Tecumseh in the Senior A final on Sunday in Woodslee. Curtis Helps led the Barons with three hits and three runs scored. Eric Marsh and Craig Steadman both had two hits and two RBI.

Wyoming had a 5-1 lead early in the game and scored three runs in the top of the seventh to lead 9-4 before Tecumseh walked it off scoring six times in the bottom of the final inning. Wyoming advanced to the championship game with a 3-1 win over the host team earlier in the day. The Cattlebarons won the B title last year.

## Sr. B title goes to Mitchell in P-town

Blake Ellis  
Local Journalism Initiative

Mitchell are the Senior A champions after the Ontario Baseball Association championship in Petrolia over the Labour Day weekend. Mitchell defeated the Fort Erie Canons 5-3 to claim the title. Port Lambton became the only Lambton County team to make it into the playoffs. Mitchell defeated the Pirates 6-1 Sunday morning to advance to the finals. The Pirates were involved in one of the more unusual games of the tournament.

Port Lambton defeated Leamington Barons 7-3 Saturday in Wyoming by default. After some choice words and catcalling were leveled at the umpire by some of the Leamington players in the seventh inning, the umpire called the game handing the Pirates the win and a spot in the semi-finals against the Mitchell Astros. The host Petrolia Raiders opened the tournament on Friday with an 11-8 loss to the Creemore Padres, followed by 4-1 loss on Saturday at the hands of Clarington. The Courtright Cardinals opened with a 6-4 loss against Mitchell on Friday, followed by a 5-2 loss against Leamington on Saturday.

## Flags, Flyers close out exhibition play

The Independent

The Petrolia Flyers will wrap up the PJHL exhibition schedule this Saturday against the Mooretown Flags at Walpole Island. The Flyers rallied from a two-goal second period deficit to beat the Jr. Kings, 5-3 in Dresden Friday. Harly Jacklin Allison had the game winner in the final minute of regulation time. It followed a 6-2 setback to the Flags Thursday night in Watford with newly

signed under-aged player Jace Dupuis recording the hat trick for the Flags. Mooretown edged Wallaceburg, 5-4 last Wednesday with Ayden Letang scoring twice for the winners. The Flags close out the preseason at Mt. Brydges on Sunday afternoon. Meantime, Petrolia continues to round out its roster by signing 16 year-old Dylan Campbell from East Lambton as well as goalie Sam Dobroski and forward Owen Hull for the coming season.

## McGrail, Richardson returned to Sarnia Legionnaires

The Independent

Wyoming's Jace McGrail got caught in a numbers game with the Peterborough Petes and has been returned to the GOJHL's Sarnia Legionnaires by the OHL club. The 17 year-old rearguard was a tenth-round pick by the Petes in 2021.

He had eight goals and 29 points last season split between the Lambton Jr. Sting and Legionnaires. Meantime, Plympton-Wyoming's Ryan Richardson was invited to the London Knights' camp as a free agent and has since been returned to the Legionnaires and Forest's Bradyn Santavy left the Owen Sound camp

## GOLDEN



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Bothwell's Nick Wammes is bringing home four medals - including two gold - from the Canadian Track Cycling Championships in Milton. Wammes won the individual Sprint and Team Pursuit golds as well as the bronze in the men's Kilo and taking the silver to James Hedgcock by 0.005 seconds in the Keirin. The world championships are next for Wammes, seen here with the female Sprint champion Kelsey Mitchell during the weekend event.

Re-Elect

Brad LOOSLEY

for MAYOR

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PLYMPTON WYOMING FAIR

SHOWCASE

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17th, 2022

Tickets - \$15

Elementary Kids Free

Doors open @ 6:30pm

Show starts @ 7:00pm

FAMILY FUN EVENT

Musical Acts

RYAN DUNCAN

COLT AND DAVE

MATT WEED

.....& more

CASH BAR Light Snacks

For Tickets: (519) 384-0130

Partial Proceeds to help support

www.plympton-wyomingfair.com

## Tryouts on tap

The Independent

The Alvinston Killer Bees of the Western Ontario Super Hockey League will hold an open tryout this Sunday in Strathroy. It'll be held at the Gemini Arena between 3-5 pm. The cost is \$25 per player. Contact the Bees by calling 519-312-0442. Or if you're interested in wearing the Petrolia Squires' jersey this season, the final tryout is next Wednesday, Sept. 14 between 8:30 and 9:30 pm. The cost is \$20 per player. Interested players can contact head coach Craig Prudom at craig.prudom@icloud.com

## Triest competes at Masters' Nationals

Alvinston's Andy Triest went 1-4 at the Softball Canada Masters Nationals in Newfoundland but the record was not as bad as it might look. St. Thomas, with Triest on its roster, lost three of four games by a single run.

Meantime, Toronto Batmen lost in the final of the men's division. One-time Alvinston Indian player Ty Sebastian of the Batmen was chosen as the tournament Most Valuable Player.

## Aces face The Rock

The Alvinston Aces and Highgate Rock are going head-to-head in the second round of the Southwest Middlesex Men's Fastball League playoffs. The Aces advanced by eliminating Moraviantown last week. Game one of the second round series was scheduled for Tuesday night in Alvinston but the score was not available prior to our press time. The next scheduled in Alvinston is Tuesday, Sept. 13 at 8 pm.

## White wins

Mike White has improved his amateur boxing record to 6-0 with a victory at an Ontario vs. Newfoundland dual event hosted by the Bluewater Boxing Club in Sarnia. The Wyoming fighter trains at the KAYO Boxing Club in Chatham.

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

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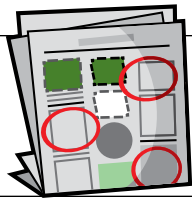
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Classified Deadline:  
Monday @ 12 noon

# Classifieds



Word Classifieds: \$10 plus tax for up to 40 words  
Stop in at the office 9a-3p Mon, Tues, Fri or 9a-12p Wed  
4156 Petrolia Line – Call 226-738-0728  
or email: office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

## Calendar

PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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

CLUBS AND REGULAR EVENTS				
DAY	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
3rd Thurs	7p	Oil Springs	Optimist Meat Bingo @ The Youth Centre	519-834-2152
Mon	1:30p	Alvinston	Seniors Cards @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Tues	1p	Wyoming	Wyoming Fair Bd - Euchre + coffee & cookies	519-312-0578
Tues	7p	Petrolia	Petrolia Toastmasters @ Petrolia Lion's Hall	519-381-4910
2nd Wed	7p	Petrolia	Bingo @ Petrolia Lion's Hall	519-882-8728
Wed	7:30p	Alvinston	LA Cards @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Wed	7p	Forest	Darts @ Forest Legion	519-786-5357
3rd Wed	7p	Sarnia	Monthly Meeting @ Horticultural Society	519-332-5837
Thurs	7p	Alvinston	Pool League @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Fri	7:30p	Alvinston	Dart League @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
Fri	1:30p	Forest	Shuffleboard @ Forest Legion	519-786-5357
Sat	6p	Alvinston	Catch The Ace @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100

UPCOMING EVENTS				
DATE	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
Sep 10	Noon	Petrolia	Ham & Cheese Sliders - \$3 @ Petrolia Legion. Eat In or Take Out.	
Sep 10	2p	Petrolia	Meat Raffles return @ Petrolia Legion	
Sep 11	4p	Tupperville	Dawn Valley United Church hosts the 133rd Anniversary Musical Celebration featuring The Torchmen Quartet. Please contact Gloria Pegg at 519-683-2266 for more information.	
Sep 12	6p	Wyoming	Plympton-Wyoming Health and Wellness Centre Grand Opening. Come join us for tours, staff meetings, refreshments!	
Sep 13	7:30p	Pt Edward	Bluewater Anglers September General Membership Meeting @ 210 Monk St. Guest Mr. Lorne Font from Twin Bridge Fishing Charter will talk about the art of vertical jigging for Walleye.	
Sep 15	7p	Sarnia	Ed Dejong – One Room School Houses of Lambton County @ LDS Church, 1400 Murphy Rd. or online by registering for Zoom Meeting at lambton.ogs.on.ca.	
Sep 16	11a-2p	Wyoming	Ham and Scalloped Potato Fair Luncheon @ Wyoming Lions Hall. Admission \$15.	
Sep 17	Noon	Petrolia	Hot Dogs - \$3 @ Petrolia Legion. Eat In or Take Out.	
Sep 17	7p-11p	Petrolia	Dance to "Just Us" for \$20 per person @ Petrolia Legion. Light Lunch provided.	
Sep 17	2pm	Petrolia	Meat Raffles return @ Petrolia Legion	
Sep 18	8a-12p	Wyoming	Wyoming Lions Breakfast @ the Lions Hall. Adults \$15, Kids 10 and under \$5	
Sep 18	1:30p	Alvinston	Drumhead Service @ the Alvinston Legion. For information, contact 519-898-2032	
Sep 21-24	Lunch	Watford	Legion Week Lunches return @ The Watford Legion. Profits from the week go to support Homeless Vets. Minimum \$12 donation. Takeout will be available.	
Sep 24	9a-12p	Sarnia	Drive Thru Food Drive @ New Horizons Community Church. All donations will be given to the Inn of the Good Shepherd. For more info, call 226-402-3060	
Sep 25	10a	Petrolia	The Petrolia Legion hosts a Mixed Dart Tournament. Admission is \$10 a player, pre-admission required. Call 519-882-1201 from 9am-9pm to register.	
Sep 29	7p	Wyoming	Wyoming Lions are hosting a Plympton-Wyoming Candidates' Night, at the Lions Hall, everyone welcome.	
Oct 5	7-9p	Watford	Branch 172 is hosting a Candidates' Night. A question period will follow.	
Oct 15	Evening	Watford	World's Greatest Fish Fry @ Branch 172 is back! Tickets will be available in early Sept. at the Legion on Fridays from 2-9pm and Saturdays from 12-6pm.	

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

### 591 Ontario Street Watford

Victorian Beauty! One of Watfords landmark houses is available! While retaining its elegance & charm of yesteryear, enjoy the comfort of today's modern amenities in perfect harmony. This 4 bed, 2 bath stunning home is superbly renovated, tastefully decorated and has so much to offer. Gorgeous entryway, spacious rooms throughout, wide baseboards & trim, high ceilings, captivating kitchen w/island, main floor laundry, formal dining room, grand stairway leading to 4 big bedrooms, your own private space in the Master bedroom w/ ensuite. See stars at night on the walk-out balcony. Large double lot w/high privacy fenced back yard ideal for children and pets to play. In addition: an oversized deck & hot tub for entertaining & family fun. A double-wide concrete drive & a two-car garage plus a workshop for the hobbyist. Low property taxes. Close to all amenities, high-speed fibre optic unlimited internet available to work from home. Upgrades are numerous, ask for a separate list of features.

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### 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.*

### open darts

starting Tuesday Sept 6 @ 7pm

*Haywood's* TAP & GRILL

Come in & check it out or for more info 519-882-0300

### WYOMING LIONS

**BREAKFAST**

Sunday September 18 8 am - 12 noon

at the Wyoming Lions Hall

Adults \$15; Kids 10 & under \$5

## DOWNRIVER CRAFT & GIFT SHOW

Moore Museum  
Mooretown • 519-867-2020 • www.mooremuseum.ca

Sunday, September 18 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Something for Everyone

Get an early start on your holiday shopping! Food booth.

Admission: Adult \$2.00 Children free with an adult.

Answers to this week's

## Sudoku

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

### LCDS & PETROLIA LIONS PRESENTS

# BEER & WING NIGHT

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Thurs, Sept 15 • 5-7pm  
LIONS HALL, PETROLIA

10 wings plus veggies  
Choose your sauce!  
Join us for live music & great times!

**TICKETS \$18 EACH**

For more info contact 519-882-0933

### Oil Springs Optimists'

# Meat Bingo

Thurs., Sept. 15 @ 7pm  
at the Oil Springs Youth Centre

To Enter and Play, you must be 18+ years of age

All proceeds go to local youth

### Promote your upcoming event

with a business card sized ad (3.33" w x 2" h)  
in the classifieds for just

**\$25.31\*** including tax

\*non-profit, service groups, individuals only

## LEGION Zone A4 DRUMHEAD SERVICE

Hosted by: Alvinston Branch #249

Sun, Sept 18, 2022  
1:30 pm parade to cenotaph service to follow

Refreshments at the branch following the service.  
For information contact: 519-898-2032

### WE ARE BACK!

PETROLIA LIONS CLUB

Come & Join Us at the Lions Hall

Wednesday Sept 14 2022

Doors Open @ 6pm  
**BINGO @ 7pm**

Refreshments Available Information 519.882.8728



Classified Deadline:  
Monday @ 12 noon



# Classifieds

**Word Classifieds: \$10 plus tax for up to 40 words**  
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4156 Petrolia Line – Call 226-738-0728  
or email: [office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)

## Obituary



### ROBERTS Hazel Irene

Aug 14, 1940 to Sept 1, 2022

Peacefully, in the Palliative Care Unit at Bluewater Health in Sarnia **Hazel Irene Roberts (nee Bell)** passed away at the age of **82** years. Hazel was the beloved wife of the late Harold Roberts. Mother of Frank (Mary) Roberts and James (Rochelle) Roberts. Proud Grandmother of Dylan, Timothy, Andrew (Samantha) and Travis. Great-Grandmother to Cooper. Dear sister of John (June) Bell, the

late Gail (the late Bill) Boyd, June (Steve) Price, Alice (the late Morley), the late Donna (Joe) Morreau, Shirley (Don) McKay, Cecil (Diane) Bell, Ron (Jean) Bell, the late David (Diane) Bell, Robin (Gina) Bell, the late Graham Bell, and the late Sidney Bruce Bell. Hazel was a treasured Aunt to her many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by her parents Nelson and Amy Bell.

Hazel knew how to have fun. As a young couple Harold and Hazel went all-out for seasonal decorations and costume parties. They both enjoyed scenic drives and diners. They were beautiful dancers. Hazel loved planning dinner parties and creating gifts for family and friends. Her flower gardens were inspirational. She had an optimistic character, helping hands and a great smile.

Hazel was always ready for an adventure. She would pack a light bag, stuff the car with snacks and games, tuck the boys in the back seat and hit the road to Petrolia for whatever celebration was happening. She enjoyed the long drive from Mississauga or Orangeville or Walter's Falls. She loved spending time making memories for the members of her huge extended family.

Hazel was the kind of person that added "shine" everywhere she went. She was thoughtful and generous and loyal. She was well-loved and she will be missed.

**A celebration of Hazel's life will take place in October.** Details to follow. As an expression of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to Lambton Meadowview Villa Auxiliary (<https://mycharityfund.ca/donate/44149>).

Memories and condolences may be shared online at [www.NeedhamJay.com](http://www.NeedhamJay.com)

## Cards of Thanks

We would like to thank our daughter Kim & son-in-law Shawn for putting on a big surprise birthday party for us, all the food and everyone who came and all the lovely gifts and cards.

Thank you ~ Ken & Mary Randall



## Cards of Thanks




The family of the late **Betty Anderson** would like to thank everyone for the calls, food donations, flowers and cards.

A heartfelt thank you to the pallbearers & flower bearers. We would like to thank Laura at Needham-Jay Funeral Home for all her care and compassion.

A special thank you to the 2nd Floor Staff at Meadowview Villa for their time and care of our mother for the past five years.

*Thank you, Cindy & Rick, Jim & Dana and families*



The families of the late **Irvine Syer** would like to express their heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all those who sent beautiful cards, online messages, flowers, dropped off food and gave donations in memory of our Dad. We were very touched and Dad would have been honoured by those who came to the visitation and the celebration of his life.

A huge thank you to Needham Jay Funeral Home! Steven Mailloux and his staff who, despite dealing with a stressful situation due to their fire, showed great professionalism and compassion and handled all our requests beautifully for the funeral. We thank our minister Rev. Dr. Christine Jerrett for her comforting message, Josh MacDougall (former student of Irv) for his excellent piano contributions and to a very special family friend, Marie McNally for her beautiful singing. And thanks to the Petrolia Lion's Club who provided a delicious lunch.

We especially thank both Dr Li and Dr Lam for their dedicated care over the years. Special mention to the Emerg and First Floor Staff at CEE Hospital for their excellent medical care of Dad each time he stayed there!

And lastly, a huge thank you to all the staff at Albany Village! You took such great care of Dad! Your compassion, patience and humour were so appreciated...You are a blessing!

### Coming Events


Lambton Heritage Museum is hosting the **PA DAY EVENT: CRAFT THE DAY AWAY on Friday, September 16** from 11am - 4pm. Drop-in to participate. Regular museum admission rates apply. Follow us on Facebook or visit our website.


Sarnia Horticultural Society monthly meeting, **Wednesday, September 21, 7 pm.** Guest speaker: Cheryl Losch, **"GARDENING MYTHS & LEGENDS."** Royal Canadian Navy Club, 1420 Lougar Avenue. Everyone welcome. [www.gardenontario.org](http://www.gardenontario.org). 519-332-5837.

## In Memory

**WOODS** - In loving memory of **Jean I Woods**, who passed away 6 years ago.

Greatly missed by sister Linda





## Death Notices

August 28 - September 4, 2022

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 28**

**CHERWONIAK, Brian James**  
Age 74, of Bothwell  
Badder & Robinson Funeral Home

**ELLIOTT, Eric Dean**  
Age 15mths  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

**HILL, Brian Henry**  
Age 92  
McCormack Funeral Home

**MONDAY, AUGUST 29**

**GRAY (GEORGE), Wanda Jean**  
(n Jacobs)  
Age 64, of Sarnia  
Smith Funeral Home

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 30**

**ANDRIASH, Patrick Bryan**  
Age 68  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

**ANSARA, Katherine Lee**  
(n Adado)  
Age 76  
McCormack Funeral Home

**GADD, Paul Arthur**  
Age 58  
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

**McGILLAWEE, John**  
Age 79, of Inwood  
VanHeck Funeral Home

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31**

**BENACQUISTA, Domenico Erminio Guido**  
Age 94  
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

**FUCHS, Ana Isabel**  
Age 70, of Sarnia  
Smith Funeral Home

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1**

**HARRIS, Jason Noel**  
Age 52  
Gilpin Funeral Chapel

**ROBERTS, Hazel Irene**  
(n Bell)  
Age 82  
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

**THOMPSON, David Ray "Dave"**  
Age 70, of Florence  
Badder & Robinson Funeral Home

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2**

**REID, Betty Diane**  
Age 73, of Sarnia  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

**ROBERT, Donald Munday "Bob"**  
Age 86, of Sarnia  
Smith Funeral Home

**THOMAS, Phillip Bruce**  
Age 59  
Denning's of Forest

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**

**DE KONING, Bonnie**  
Age 73, of Sarnia  
Smith Funeral Home

**BRESSETTE, Vera Mae**  
Age 76, of Kettle & Stony Point  
Gilpin Funeral Chapel

**MEADOWS, Tom**  
Age 79  
Denning's for Forest

**MOULTON, Lori Leanne**  
(n Lovell)  
Age 58  
McCormack Funeral Home

**NEUBAUER, Margaret Francis**  
Age 93, of Sarnia  
Smith Funeral Home

**SHANNON, Sean Daniel Lawrence**  
Age 56  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

**VANDENBERG, Dorathea Henrika**  
(n Vandkerkhof)  
Age 91, of Sarnia  
Smith Funeral Home

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4**

**BEZANSON, Fern Gladys**  
(n Dell)  
Age 87, of Wallaceburg  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

**GAGLIARDI, Isidoro Antonio**  
Age 88  
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

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



# Church DIRECTORY

### Christ Anglican Church

414 Oil Street, Petrolia

**Join us for In-Person Services Sundays @ 10:00am**

Everyone Welcome

Rev. Dave Hewett  
Church Office 519-882-1430  
[christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com](mailto:christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com)



### St. Paul's United Church

4169 Petrolia Line at Centre Street

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

Rev. Carol Ferguson  
Church Office: 519-882-1390  
[www.stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net](http://www.stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net)



### First Baptist Church

418 Greenfield Street, Petrolia

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

Pastor: Alex Craig  
Church Office 519-882-2480  
email: [fbcpetrolia@gmail.com](mailto:fbcpetrolia@gmail.com)  
[www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca](http://www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca)



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

### Wyoming United Church

730 Second Street, Wyoming

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

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

Rev. Steven Longmoore  
Church Office 519-845-3963



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

### St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

416 Queen Street, Petrolia (Behind the Post Office)

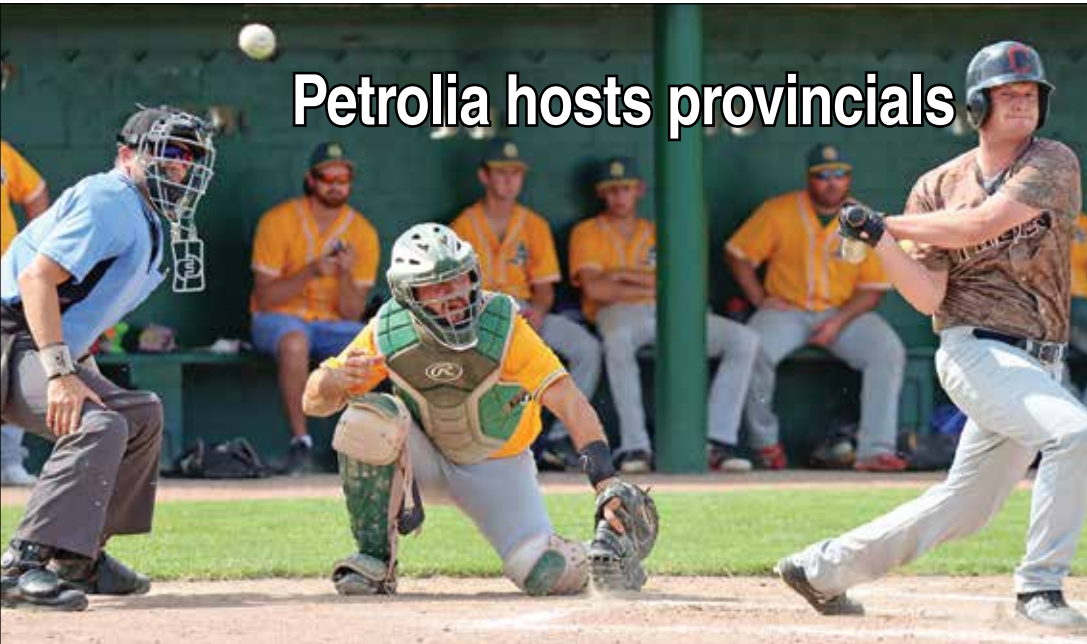
**In-Person Service Sundays @ 10:00 am**

Services also available online:  
[www.standrews-petrolia.ca](http://www.standrews-petrolia.ca)



Pastor Katherine Hawley

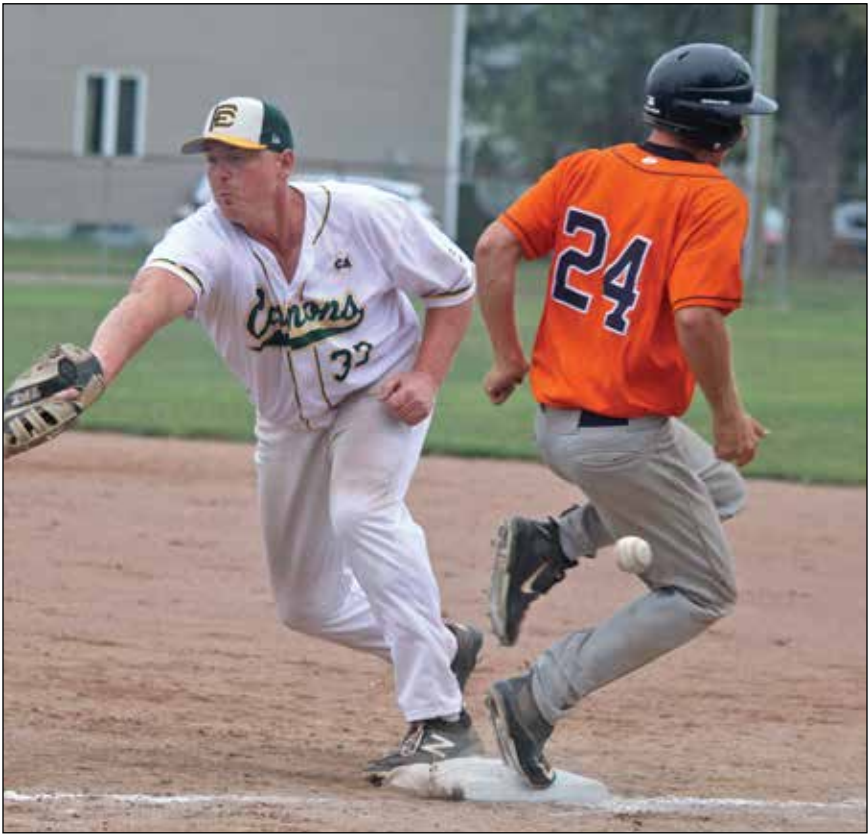




Petrolia hosts provincials

BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE AND HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS

Umpire Grant Purdy and Catcher Jace Dupuis watch for the ball during the fourth inning of the Friday afternoon OBA game. The Raiders hosted the tournament. Mitchell claimed the title with a win over Fort Erie. The games were played in Petrolia, Courtright and Wyoming. The game between Port Lambton and Leamington got chippy with the ump calling the game when Leamington players started cursing at him.



YOU'RE INVITED TO

**OUR SITE 70TH ANNIVERSARY**

**"SHELL-EBRATION"**

**AND COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE!**

Join us for food, entertainment for the kiddos, displays, swag, door prizes, site tours and more!

- Location:**

Shell Refinery at 150 St. Clair Parkway in Corunna
- Time:**

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Date:**

Saturday, September 17, 2022

Parking will be on LaSalle to the north of the site with shuttles taking attendees to and from the event. Look for parking signs directing the way. The event is open to all and is free of charge.

