

ROARING AND ROLLING AFTER 90 YEARS



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE
Petrolia Lion Bill Fell was prepared for everything as the club celebrated 90 years of service with a parade and barbecue Saturday. See more photos on page 7.

Avian flu fears ground backyard chickens in PW

Heather Wright
The Independent

The chickens will not come home to roost in Plympton-Wyoming.

Town council, citing concerns about the Avian Influenza, decided against a bylaw which would have allowed homeowners to raise up to 10 chickens in the backyard to produce eggs for their families.

The town began dealing with the issues during the pandemic when a neighbour complained about the coop in the backyard of the Needham family. Jon Needham said at the time the chickens became a family project during pandemic and said they were therapy for his son, who is autistic.

He also told council there were as many as 2,000 backyard birds in Plympton-Wyoming according to the local feed dealer. Council gave the family a reprieve from the bylaw which prohibits farm animals and agreed to consider a by-law to regulate the process.

This year, the town has held a number of public meetings with the community being almost evenly split on whether the move should be allowed. Monday, there were over 200 people listening in when council deliberated the bylaw. The town had received 45 letters and emails, 28 against and 15 for and five with concerns about the coops.

But it was a letter from Ontario's Chief Veterinarian and a local poultry farmer which convinced council this was not the time to allow families to raise chickens in the backyard.

Cathy Furness, in a letter to a local poultry producer, said the province had just banned events where birds are brought together because of concerns about Avian Flu.

SEE CHICKENS PG 2

East Lambton Community Complex complete next week

Heather Wright
The Independent

After years of planning and a few more of construction, the East Lambton Community Complex will open in one week.

Warwick Township CAO Amanda Gubbels gave councilors the news at Monday's council meeting.

"We are on track to open- the municipality anticipates receiving occupancy on October 7, and transferring rentals to the location from Centennial Hall as of October 11," she says.

The project has been planned since 2017 when the council of the day received a report which laid bare the poor condition of the main community gathering spot – Centennial Hall. The conversations began about what could replace the hall. The plan eventually morphed to a new community

hall attached to the Watford arena. It will be able to host events for more than 400 people and it will have something never anticipated at Centennial Hall – a recreational centre which will be run by the YMCA.

Construction began with the renewal of the arena in May. Officials originally hoped to be in the building by mid 2022 but delays in labour and supplies, largely brought on by the pandemic,

slowed progress.

In August, contractors promised to have the doors open by October and Gubbels says it is happening.

"I will note not everything will be complete, complete. So it'll be able to be used but there might you might see some contractors still touching up some paint. That kind of that kind of thing. The report does note a few items that may not be available one includes that divining wall ...in the gymnasium

as of the 11th. The refrigerators in the walk in freezer so we have a stopgap measure identified there and potentially some challenges with some flush valves for urinals but we will be working through those with the contractor to of course, make sure the facility is up and running as quickly as we can."

She added a public open house is expected Oct. 12 between 5 and 7 pm.

SEE EAST LAMBTON PG 2



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SCAN FOR MENU



PW chicken bylaw turned down

CON’T FROM PG 1

Furness added the Canadian Food Inspection Agency might “impose permitting requirements” to help fight the highly pathogenic avian influenza.”

Scott Helps, who is an egg farmer in Plympton-Wyoming also urged councillors to nix the idea of backyard chickens. “This is a complicated disease that is very serious, and I can’t stress it enough.... the compromising of that food system. Mr. Napper and council that’s is in jeopardy.”

Helps says there were 26 cases of Avian Flu last year and four more right now. Poultry producers who find it in their barns are forced to kill all the birds, sanitize the barns and wait a set period of time before any other birds can be brought in.

“I want to make sure you understand the severity of what happens when an AI thing is protected. And it’s with their strict protocols that have to take place in order for

them to be able to deal with that. I think it’s the number one concern,” he says.

Helps added officials have found the disease in other animal groups now and expressed concern where it would be found next.

That was enough to tip the balance for Councillor Mike Vasey who said he was leaning towards allowing backyard chickens.

“I really don’t care. I flip flopped on this for two years. And when we got reading through the experts, that is what’s kind of swayed me to the point where I can’t support this,” he says.

“I can’t see jeopardizing our food supply or big farmers that are around here - whether it’s chicken eggs, turkeys, I don’t care ... the risk of that outweighs the benefits of having the chickens. Sorry.”

All but Councillor Tim Wilkins voted against allowing backyard chickens.

ELCC complete October 7

CON’T FROM PG 1

Gubbels added the project is coming in on budget.

That’s despite the fact the township had to approve another \$700,000 project to build a workshop and repair the drainage around the building - something staff said was required because of the construction.

“So the whole project is targeted and on budget to the \$11.5 million allocated by council. (We’re) at \$10.6 million, almost \$10.7 million, which is under budget for a project. So that’s really, really exciting. And that’s before, of course, the donations,” said Gubbels.

The fundraising committee has a goal of raising \$2 million to offset the cost of the new building to taxpayers. The group hasn’t made an official announcement in a number of months but Mayor Jackie Rombouts said at last word the group had commitments for about \$1.6 million. And she’s expecting an announcement of more to come.

Gubbels says that, coupled with a number of grants which the township has applied for, the cost to taxpayers could be in the \$8.6 million range.

Gubbels says the township will have to finance some of the cost when the project is complete.

After a number of stops and starts because of the pandemic, Deputy Mayor Jerry Westgate is pleased the complex is close to opening.

“I want to congratulate staff to for getting

it going so fast at the end here. Maybe it wasn’t so fast but at least it is going to be done,” he said.

Council also approved the fees for renting the new hall. They’ll be significantly more with for example the rental of the full hall going from \$200 to \$350.

Council did change some of the rental fees staff suggested, particularly for youth groups and funerals.

Staff suggested a \$75 fee for youth and community groups to use the facility. That worried Councillor Colin Mitchell who is a leader with the Boy Scouts.

“I just ran the numbers for our group ... where we would be paying about \$1,600 a year for rental fees, this number raises it well out of the market at \$6,000 a year,” he said.

“We already rely on this community for a lot of fundraising for so much. We are a break even, not for profit organization, that in previous years, we’re touching 60 families within this community on a weekly basis. These are families that sometimes don’t have enough to even pay the program fees so we have a no Scouter left behind policy. Your pricing has taken the joy out of this new facility.”

Councillors agreed it was too high for community groups and returned it to the previous \$20 per night with the understanding the Scouts would move if there was another group willing to pay the full fee on a regular Scout evening.

Oil Springs filmmaker premieres Ace The Scout

Heather Wright
The Independent

After four years of writing, shooting and producing, Aaron Huggett’s labour of love Ace The Scout is ready for the big screen.

The Oil Springs producer with Electric Motion Pictures premieres the movie which stars Michael Vanhevel and Keenan WA Keeshig Oct 7 at the Imperial Theatre in Sarnia. There will also be shows at Victoria Hall the next weekend.

“I’ve always been fascinated by the World War One fighter pilots and this is the birth of that form of warfare. Planes have never been in the sky. There’s never been guns mounted to them. And, you know, two warring sides want so desperately to find an advantage that they start arming, flying motorcycles... And Billy Bishop emerges as this like, almost larger than life Canadian hero.” As Huggett read about Bishop, he

came across the legendary Anishnaabe sniper Francis Pegahmagabow. The film tells the story of two young friends who volunteer to fight but find themselves low on ammunition and morale relying on their brothers-in-arms including Pegahmagabow to survive three days behind enemy lines. Huggett says it is a story few Canadians know and he’s passionate about telling it.

“I feel kind of a responsibility when I see the conditions, culturally, that people are taking freedoms for granted, that were bought with a high price. And there’s not enough public discourse as we watch our rights and freedoms erode. And over the last two and a half years, that has been unprecedented. ..I want to be able to create conversation and get people talking. And hopefully they dig deeper and understand the importance of protecting God-given rights that are only recognized by the government.”

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Petrolia pays \$80k for Y backyard consulting

Heather Wright
The Independent

The engineering firm which compiled the four-phase plan Backyard Plan at the Petrolia Y will receive \$80,000 for it services. That’s part of the agreement the Town of Petrolia signed with Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario for \$699,000 in funding for the project.

According to a report by Dave Menzies, the director and facilities for the town, MIG Engineering had been working with the town staff for seven months before council approved the concept and signed the grant papers in May. At that point, the plans MIG had designed had not been revealed publicly nor had the four-phase plan

been approved by the municipal council. Town staff applied for the grant without seeking that approval.

Menzies May 9 report says “Once Council approves the signing authorities, the agreement, banking information and associated paperwork will be returned to our project support manager at FedDev. The Clerk will produce a cover letter to indicate Council’s approval.”

After the grant was received and the town was committed to putting up \$233,000 for the project which had received no direct public input. Mayor Brad Loosley told *The Independent* he encouraged town staff to apply for grants without first clearing the projects through council.

CAO Rick Charlebois says construc-

tion of the soccer pitches beside the Y facility is now well underway and they will be ready for use in the new year. He expects the 100-space parking lot should be complete next summer. Originally, the town was to have completed the work by Feb. 2023, according to the contract signed with the federal agency, however Charlebois says the town has received verbal approval to complete the project by Feb. 2024 because of the issues surrounding construction materials in supply chains.

It’s not clear when, or if, the engineering firm which will consult throughout the project, will hold an open public session to lay out all the details, as Menzies suggested in his report in May. Council received the plan at its final council meeting Sept. 12.

Two Lambton grain elevators up for sale

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

Two grain elevators in Lambton County are up for sale.

And agriculture leaders fear smaller farmers may bear the brunt of the closure of six southwestern Ontario grain elevators.

The announced closure of the Ontario Grain LP elevators announced by Sollio Agriculture on Sept. 21 will lead to greater transportation costs for farmers, said Lambton Federation of Agriculture President Gary Martin. He is especially concerned for smaller farmers who may not have easy access to semi-tractor trailers like their larger counterparts.

Six locations of Ontario Grain L.P including grain elevators in Dawn-Euphemia at Rutherford, Becher near Wallaceburg, Staples, St. Thomas, Princeton, and Palmerston are closing. While the company is exiting grain marketing in Ontario but Ontario Grain will honour all existing contracts and fulfill its obligations to farm customers, employees and business partners during the transition, the



The grain elevator at Rutherford is one of six being sold by Ontario Grain LP - a division of Sollio Agriculture

company said as it released the news.

It plans to continue serving clients during the 2022 harvest season at a reduced capacity.

Martin was surprised by the announcement, but had already been fielding calls from affected farmers in Lambton County by Thursday afternoon. The nearest elevators to Florence would be either in Inwood or Thamesville, he said.

The Becher elevator in Wallaceburg is the company’s flagship elevator, says Martin who added it had been

rebuilt approximately seven years ago.

Martin is curious to see who buys the grain elevators. The elevators provide grain drying, cleaning as well as storage services for farmers. Ontario Grain will begin a sale process of its assets with prospective buyers. Sollio Agriculture is a major shareholder in Ontario Grains.

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture will be discussing the changes made with the Ontario Grain elevators at its October meeting.

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Enniskillen wants the numbers

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

Enniskillen Township will pay \$11,600 to the Town of Petrolia for the use of the arena.

This is something Enniskillen Township has done every year, said Clerk/Treasurer Duncan McTavish. He says there is \$12,000 in the budget for the expense.

Councillor Wally Van Dun said the township never gets the number of youth from Enniskillen Township are registered in minor hockey or in figure skating to come up with an exact number.

The Town of Petrolia relies on the local sports organizations to give them numbers of youth who have participated in its programs, but surrounding municipalities which pay for the service did not receive this information. That concern was raised in Oil Springs recently as well.

The Town of Petrolia calculated the grant based on an average over the last five years.

The Town of Petrolia is charging each municipality \$100 annually for every youth who is using the Greenwood Recreation Centre. It has been suggested that is fee will increase in future years, with Enniskillen Township paying \$12,180 annually for the same amount of youth who are using the facility this year.

Councillor Mary Lynne McCallum suggested that this grant come before Council each year to be discussed. Mayor Kevin Marriott agreed with this course of action.

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Editorial

Truth

Our job is to report the truth. Democracy depends on it. This National Newspaper Week it's important to recognize your Champions Of The Truth and we do so with this editorial from Gordon Cameron, president of the Ontario Community Newspaper Association.

Maybe I'm a bit of a throw-back, but when it comes to debating the issues of the day, my style leans more towards persuasion rather than brute force. I like to build my case point-by-point, parry the objections where I can, and when I can't, I like to take them away and have a think about them. While I may have gone into the discussion with my mind made up, facts, evidence and arguments may cause me to change my mind. And that's a good thing.

Too often, debates move from what should be a free exchange of ideas into a no-holds-barred, zero sum game clash for the ages. No quarter is asked and certainly no quarter is given. Two ideas enter, but only one can leave. Win or lose. Kill or be killed. And that's a very bad thing.

It's bad because with that winning-is-everything mentality, the lines between truth and "truth" gets blurred. Inconvenient facts get ignored, projections are presented as certainties and counter arguments are dismissed with only the flimsiest of pretexts. Not only that, the tone can range from haughty and superior to ridicule and outright bullying.

And that's no way to come to a decision in a functioning democracy. It's supposed to be the rule of the people, not the rule of the loudest.

That's why newspaper journalism is so important. At our best, we look at every issue the same. We gather all available facts, we talk to experts and supporters from both sides, we do our research and then present what we find to our readers so they can make up their own minds. We have no direct interest in which side is right and which side is wrong. We lose nothing by pointing out the flaws in both arguments. Our job isn't to advocate, it's to inform.

As valuable as this is to the community, it doesn't come without a cost. If you treat any challenge to your beliefs as heresy, you come out guns blazing, often attacking not what was reported, but the fact that it was reported. If I'm wrong about something, I'll correct it, but if I'm accused of being pro or anti something just because I contradicted a "fact," that says a lot more about the person complaining than it does about the quality of my journalism.

Truth is neutral. Truth doesn't care if it agrees with your beliefs and desires. Reporting the truth helps the community discuss and debate the important issues of the day fully and with clear eyes.

The ultimate decision on these questions is up to you, but it's our duty to give you all the information you need to decide for yourself.

Letters to the Editor

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

Our Story



FROM THE DAVE BURWELL POST CARD COLLECTION

It seems people in Petrolia have always loved a parade. While the Petrolia Lions celebrated 90 years of service Saturday with a parade, we thought we would show you a parade in the downtown from a time when the community was still called Petrolea.

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Publisher / Editor: Heather Wright
news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

L.J.I. Reporter: Blake Ellis

Sales Associate: sales@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

Classifieds / Graphics: Connie McFadden / Lauren Wright
office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

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Opinion

Beware of fake news during election: Luckhurst

EDITOR:
Petrolia voters beware of the fake news that is being spread over social media.
According to my research using the Ontario, Financial Information Returns from 2007-2017 the council - which included John McCharles, Liz Welsh, Joel Field, and Richard Poore - and administration managed, with just a 12 per cent increase in population and households, to make Petrolia the highest taxed community in Lambton County.
Taxation increased from \$2,723,480 to \$4,905,626 - that's 80 per cent.
Salaries, wages and benefits went from \$1,994,515 to \$3,762,298 - 88.6 per cent or \$1554 per household.

General Government (Town Hall Staff) increased \$438,745 to \$850,714- an 93.9 per cent increase.
Petrolia during that time and under their guidance a debt of \$10,200,000 (\$4,213 per household) with an annual interest of \$271,000 came about.
While making Petrolia the highest taxed municipality in Lambton County they lost control of the Community Centre, lost our compost depot, and our road sweeper just to name a few.
The question is where did the money go and can we afford more of the same?
We need to stop hiring and utilize our present workforce.
Instead of splash pads and playground equipment for our youth, the administration would prefer to pad the workforce.
This same group was also found to have broken Ontario Municipal act rules by holding a closed-door meeting with YMCA officials on Sept. 11, 2017.
The Ontario Ombudsman ruled the closed-door meeting was illegal under provincial law.
Remember - a 88.6 per cent increase in wages with just a 12 per cent increase in population and households.
Everyone should vote for candidates that have the taxpayer's interest and not their personnel projects.
Shareholder of the Corporation of Petrolia Gary Luckhurst

Curbside garbage pickup not needed in Enniskillen

EDITOR:
As a long time resident of Enniskillen, I find it interesting that a new resident would not be aware that we do not have curbside pick up.
Perhaps, prior to moving, this person should have researched what services are provided by the municipality.
In my opinion, council and the administration is doing a very responsible job.
We do not need curbside pick up.
Marcel Beaubien Enniskillen, ON

DISCOVERING THE ARTS



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM PHOTO
Saturday was the day that art and history merged at the Petrolia Discovery Centre. Booths featuring many local artists were nestled on the grounds of Discovery Centre among the machinery and old authentic buildings that tell the story of the beginnings of Petrolia. Even a spattering of raindrops didn't deter anyone from enjoying the day. Cabin Fever serenaded those taking in the event and wandering among the booths. People could have a self-guided tour of the grounds, getting a glimpse of Petrolia's oil heritage, while also picking up the many items for sale that were crafted by some of the community's most talented. Featuring jewelry, paintings, photography, wood, fabric and leather art.

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Historic echoes at cenotaph rededication

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

Exactly 100 years after Petrolia stopped to dedicate the newly designed cenotaph in Victoria Park to those who fought in the First World War, people stopped again to rededicate the monument to those who served.

On Sept. 24, 1922, just four years after the guns went silent at the end of the First World War, those who fell in Petrolia and Enniskillen Township were honoured by the unveiling of the cenotaph in Victoria Park.

That day, says local historian Martin Dillon, the Petrolia’s Citizen Band performed patriotic songs. Major Fairbanks originally unveiled the monument designed by Emanuel Hahn. The cenotaph features a statue of a Canadian soldier from the First World War, standing at a battlefield grave. His helmet is slung over his shoulder with his left hand on the cross with his right hand holding his rifle.

The cenotaph was completely restored in 2012. The entire joint between the monument and base was removed and resealed with lime mortar. The cenotaph was hand washed, sealed and the inscriptions were hand painted.

The cenotaph was re-dedicated on Saturday afternoon on its 100th anniversary in a ceremony which had many similarities with the original dedication.

Both featured the minister of the First Baptist Church in Petrolia as pointed out by Pastor Alex Craig, as he addressed those assembled. Petrolia Mayor Brad Loosely also spoke, as well as Enniskillen Township Mayor Kevin Marriott. Petrolia Mayor Preston performed these duties a century ago.

And a number of dignitaries laid wreaths, including Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey who



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

MPP Bob Bailey looks up at the Petrolia cenotaph while laying a wreath as a lone piper played at the rededication of the monument.

said there would not have been a concession in Enniskillen or a street in Petrolia who would not have had a young person in uniform or had been affected by the conflict in some way.



Petrolia Legion President Dennis Laker and Sergeant-at-Arms Philip Laker laid wreaths for the Petrolia Legion.

Goodbye to a hall full of memories

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

It was a place where memories were made so it was fitting for people in Watford to say goodbye to Centennial Hall before it’s demolition.

An open house and farewell dance were held Saturday at the site of so many weddings, family reunions, public meetings and community dances.

The Watford Centennial Centre was built in 1967 in commemoration of the centennial of Confederation in Canada - one of many building projects across the country to mark the history of the country.

The Watford Hall was developed through the cooperation of the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada, and the local centennial committee, which worked to have donations of materials and volunteer labour to reduce the overall cost of construction.

Don Fisher a member of the volunteer committee that built Centennial Hall, was on hand Saturday. Fisher served with Chairman Dr. Lester Allen, Vice Chairman Ronald Wallis, Reeve Alvin Perritt, as well as Keith Boyd, William Swan, John Neill, Rev. William Mercer and Pauline Swartz on the centennial committee.

An addition was later constructed on the building adding a substantial amount of space. The gun club had its gun range in the basement, while youth groups such as Cubs, Brownies, Scouts, Cadets and many after school programs have used the facility throughout the years, Fisher said.

There was also another familiar face in the crowd. Gary Muxlow and Friends played throughout the afternoon. He has performed at countless events in the old hall and he was pleased to be involved in its send off.

The dance is being held as a fundraiser for the 150th anniversary of Watford celebration being organized for June 23 to 25, 2023. Pieces of the hall were auctioned off that night including the



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

Gary Muxlow entertained the crowds one more time as Warwick said goodbye to Centennial Hall Saturday. Residents could read the history of the community gathering place from newspaper clippings from the past.



countertop of the bar, railings, the clock and the building’s sign so members of the community could keep the memory of the community hall alive in their own home.

The building will be demolished in October once the new addition to the East Lambton Community Complex is completed, which will replace the community hall.

Not ready for fall? How about Christmas

While you may not be able to find your cozy socks yet, people at the Town of Petrolia are already thinking about Christmas.

The town announced the theme for this year’s Santa Claus Parade. It will be Under the Sea.

The parade will wind its way through the downtown on Dec. 3 starting at 2 pm.

Entry forms are available online and anyone with a float will begin lining up at LCCVI starting at 11:30 with judging at 1:15 pm.

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A Roaring Good Parade

BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTOS

When you need to celebrate, what is the best way? A parade of course. The Petrolia Lions Club had a good reason to hold a parade as it marked its 90th anniversary. Community groups such as Parents for Parks, Lambton Young Theatre Players and the neighbouring Wyoming Lions came out to celebrate Saturday. The club held its first meeting in the dining room of the Fletcher Hotel on Nov. 24, 1932. It then officially received its charter at a banquet on Dec. 5 with 32 members. Given that the club was founded during the depths of the Depression, one of its first efforts was to donate 42 barrels of milk to the undernourished children of Petrolia. The Lions were also involved in establishing Petrolia's first public library in 1934.




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FRIDAY

4:30pm Midway Opens
6:30pm Official Opening
7:30pm Tractor Pull & Beer Tent
Pie Auction

SATURDAY

10:30am Light Horse Show
11:00am Lambton 4H Sheep Show
Parade Commences
Beef Show
11:30pm Heavy Horse Show
12:00pm BAAS Roast Beef Dinner
12:45pm Frog Jumping
1:00pm Sheep Show
1:45pm Orea Cookie Stacking
9:00pm Fair Dance - RUMBLEFISH

SUNDAY

1:00pm Demolition Derby
Talent Show
BINGO
3:00pm Candy in the Straw
3:30pm Bike & Helmet Draws
4:00pm Removal of Exhibits

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As part of our election coverage, The Independent recently sent a survey to all candidates running for office in Plympton-Wyoming; the following are their answers.

2022 Municipal Election

Candidate Profiles - Plympton-Wyoming Mayor

Gary Atkinson

Gary Atkinson, 71, after serving four years on Plympton-Wyoming council is running for the town's top job. Atkinson, who is retired, is also active in the community serving on the local Agricultural Society, as a director with St. Francis Advocates and on the Lambton Agricultural Hall of Fame. He's also coached minor baseball and was on the committee of adjustment.

What is the most important issue facing Plympton-Wyoming in the next four years?

In no particular order: 1. Regulation and operation of Air B&Bs within the town. 2. How to deal with the side effects of the residential growth we have experienced. 3. Business and commercial development within Wyoming and Camlachie. 4. Dealing with the recommendations, setting the course on an action plan as well as preparing the financing on recommendations of the Waste Water Management report. 6. Internet service for all our residents and businesses.

What would you do about the issue you identified?

1. The number of residential Air B&Bs have grown within our community the last few years. Staff are currently reviewing the policy we have in place and we are awaiting further recommendations prior to updating same. They need to be fair to the business owners yet be respectful to the neighbours and residents who live close by. This item is ongoing and I believe it is something that is long over due and needs to be dealt with ASAP. 2. We have been fortunate to have experienced the residential growth that we have had the last few years. Our infrastructure especially our roads need work. We have to have establish/maintain a direction to proceed and especially with maintaining our roads. 3. We need to develop our business and commercial area within PW. See the next section for same. 4. Our recently released Waste Water Management report indicates a path for us to follow. This is to upgrade and add new equipment to ensure our system operates as needed without failure moving forward. The report is complete and the recommendations by the engineer need to be followed. 6. There are several areas within our community that are lacking good internet service. We need to continue to lobby and work with SWIFT to ensure we fulfil the needs of all our residents.

Plympton-Wyoming's housing market is

Tim Wilkins

Tim Wilkins has served as a councillor in Plympton-Wyoming for the past four years. This election the farmer and business owner running to represent the municipality as mayor. Wilkins has served as a volunteer firefighter in Camlachie for 17 years. He's also a member of the department's peer support team.

What is the most important issue facing Plympton-Wyoming in the next four years?

I'm fighting for a lot of different things as a candidate, but if I had to choose just one issue, it would be infrastructure. We have seen a tremendous growth in residential development, but our infrastructure is at threat of not keeping pace. Things like our roads, sewers, water and wastewater are all infrastructure projects that need to be invested in before we continue development at the pace we have seen.

What would you do about the issue you identified?

We need to ensure we act on our wastewater master plan. We have the plan and now we need to get to work on making smart investments in our infrastructure to save us down the road. We need to also look at developing grant programs for

booming, however there has not been a great deal of economic development in the community providing jobs to the area. What do you think needs to be done to attract new businesses?

I think we need to be progressive in our search to bring in new business to our community. We need positive planning that encourages businesses to want to come to PW. We need a plan in place to approach and encourage merchants to open their doors in our town and possibly create and promote incentives for them .

Wyoming's business centre has few businesses to serve the rapidly increasing population - what services are needed and how would you play a roll in attracting them.

We need the necessities. Grocery store, gas station and even a hardware store to begin with, from there we can encourage further development of other opportunities as well. In Wyoming proper, there is room for small business development and the municipality on the whole could use a small industry to assist employment. We need to work with planning to be able to accommodate and work with those businesses looking to open in PW. As mayor I would encourage council to look for incentives for the businesses that want to establish themselves, develop and have a footprint within our community.

Plympton-Wyoming has recently taken over the management of three parks, Lamrecton, McEwen and Highland Glen - should they remain passive parks or have more active features? If so, what?

Lamrecton Park officially now belongs to the town and it is classified as a passive park. I believe it should remain with that designation. McEwen Park does not officially belong to the town as of this date. Having said that - the town is maintaining it, and keeping it available for use by our residents. I believe it should remain with a passive designation. Although Highland Glen does not officially belong to the town, but we look forward with anticipation to when this does happen. Council needs to be aware of the costs associated with rehabilitation of the park. This includes the former boat launch as well as the infrastructure going into the park. Further studies need to be done as well as discussions and input from within the community before financial commitment is made. We want to get it right prior to proceeding with this project.

high-risk areas in our municipalities and support older homes in desperate need of upgrades, like the installation of backflow preventers and check valves. Infrastructure means we also need to improve the maintenance of our roads, from resurfacing projects to grading and snow removal.

Plympton-Wyoming's housing market is booming, however there has not been a great deal of economic development in the community providing jobs. What do you think needs to be done to attract new businesses?

Commercial and economic development is absolutely critical moving forward, and council needs to start prioritizing it. Council needs to start shifting focus to supporting businesses and commercial areas instead of ignoring them. We need to invest in community grants that freshen up our commercial core in Wyoming and help owners refresh their storefronts. We need to maintain a low and competitive tax rate and aim to improve the commercial efforts in the Camlachie area. We need to position Plympton-Wyoming as a good place to invest and grow a business.

SEE WILKINS PG 11

2022 Municipal Election

Candidate Profiles - Plympton-Wyoming Mayor

Tim Wilkins - con’t from pg 10

Wyoming’s business centre has few businesses to serve the rapidly increasing population - what services are needed and how would you play a roll in attracting them. First, I just want to say how happy I am that the current council was able to help secure a wellness facility

and doctor’s office in Wyoming. This is incredibly important and was something our town desperately needed. Moving forward, I see an opportunity for additional services for both the aging community and new families. These are both growing demographics in Plympton-

Muriel Wright

One of Muriel Wright’s first exposures to politics was in the 1980s, when she worked with others to keep Toronto garbage from coming to Lambton County. The agriculturalist, who took courses on Environmental Law at Lambton College, also helped organize the local Blue Box recycling program. She’s been active in 4H in her youth and the Women’s Institute and her church. After serving four years as deputy mayor, she’s running for the top job. **What is the most important issue facing Plympton-Wyoming in the next four years?** As Mayor, my number one goal will be to closely monitor the upgrades to our water and sewage treatment plants in conjunction with the rate of our growth. The continued growth of parks in our town has expanded

to 22 parks and right of ways with a new waste water park to be added next year. The budget has grown to \$600,000 this year and expected to increase yearly as demand becomes higher. The town needs to have an over all assessment of its needs for new parks and management of existing parks, known as a Master Plan. It is the only plan we have not completed. Providing quality and affordable services while keeping the tax rate reasonable. Every year we struggle with the rising rate of inflation to keep our tax low. **What would you do about the issue you identified?** As mayor, I will work with council and administration to work through the tough decisions that need to be made. We will continue to follow our strategic plan of evaluating all reports in their priority level.

Candidate Profiles - Plympton-Wyoming Councillor Alex Boughen

Alex Boughen, 29, is taking his first foray into municipal politics. The University of Guelph graduate is a volunteer firefighter, and serves on the Lambton Group Police Services Board. He’s also volunteered on Plympton-Wyoming’s new special events committee. **What is the most important issue facing Plympton-Wyoming in the next four years?** Infrastructure: we need to repair and maintain existing infrastructure that is in need of repair (especially our roads), while simultaneously planning for the long-term by investing in infrastructure projects that ensure we stay ahead of current and future development (water, wastewater, sewers). Fiscal responsibility and affordability is another: with skyrocketing prices and record breaking property assessments, people are scared they’re being priced out of their home. There’s no denying that we’re facing an affordability crisis. A lot of the contributing factors are not directly in the realm of municipal government but there is a role council can play, and that requires a commitment to fiscally responsible long-term decision making so increasing and unexpected costs

don’t fall solely on the backs of the taxpayer. **What would you do about the issue?** Infrastructure: We need to work closely with staff to further identify issue areas like our roads and understand what challenges staff are facing when it comes to repairs and ongoing maintenance. We need to ensure they have the resources to act on them. Part of that is ramping up our efforts when it comes to provincial and federal funding opportunities. We also need to act on the recommendations made in things like the recent 2021 Wastewater Servicing Master Plan. We cannot afford to fall behind when it comes to wastewater infrastructure. With the development we’re seeing, we’re in for a world of hurt if our infrastructure surpasses its capacity. Cost of living: Fiscally responsible decision making does not mean jeopardizing critical capital investments. It’s about long-term planning and securing provincial and federal funding to support both capital projects and smaller scale upgrades to our parks, trails, and waterfront. While we need to continue investing in infrastructure and other community projects, we need to simultaneously

Randy Dayman

Randy Dayman, 72, is taking another shot at politics. The retiree who has run federally hopes to become a Plympton-Wyoming councillor. **What is the most important issue facing Plympton-Wyoming in the next four years?** It is highly important to me that our local government proceeds with cost

effective sewage upgrades. Current infrastructure needs to be diligently maintained, which includes local roads and parks. We live in a family oriented community and we want to maintain that important aspect as we move forward. **What would you do about the issue you identified?** I am very skilled at looking for the

The Independent recently sent a survey to all candidates running for office in Plympton-Wyoming; the following are their answers. We asked candidates to keep their answers to 150 words. Some have been edited for length.

Wyoming, and we should help encourage space and providers of these types of services. **Plympton-Wyoming has recently taken over the management of three parks, Lamrecton, McEwen and Highland Glen - should they remain passive parks or have more**

active features? If so, what? These are all incredible feats and great assets for the Town of Plympton-Wyoming. As the chair of the committee that helped bring the Highland Glen Park and boat launch back to life, I’m proud to talk about the future of these parks. The



opportunity at Highland Glen park, for example, is massive. Ultimately, though, I think the use for these parks and future improvements must be determined through public consultation to ensure we transform these parks in usable assets for the entirety of Plympton-Wyoming.

bring back the Business After Five monthly activities of networking with all businesses. The municipality could establish incentives to help partner business incentives. The town needs to encourage businesses to sustain our housing developments. **Wyoming’s business centre has few businesses to serve the rapidly increasing population - what services are needed and how would you play a roll in attracting them.** As mayor, I would work with SLEP and Chamber of Commerce to develop a Strategic Plan to work with existing business and creating incentives to new businesses to come to town. Possibly reinstating the BIA of Wyoming Businesses. Establishing seasonal activities and celebrations to encourage businesses to participate and

contribute to the community. **Plympton-Wyoming has recently taken over the management of three parks, Lamrecton, McEwen and Highland Glen - should they remain passive parks or have more active features? If so, what?** Plympton-Wyoming has not received the blessing of the ownership of McEwen and Highland Glen (from the province) as of yet. I believe the condition on all parks, is that they have to remain passive, to never be developed. PW has an agreement with the St. Clair Conservation Authority to do maintenance only. The Highland Glen boat ramp has been given the go ahead to be repaired. Passive parks are commonly used by the general public for regular recreation and personal use such as picnics and swimming and water sports.

the ones that will attract new investments. **Wyoming’s business centre has few businesses to serve the rapidly increasing population - what services are needed and how would you play a roll in attracting them.** With the recent development seeing an increase in younger families, recreation services are becoming more and more in need. And although we see an increase in young families within the community, we also have an aging population. Priority needs to be placed on the greater need for services and amenities for seniors. The downtown business core also lacks specialized/unique retail business opportunities, which can draw visitors from other communities and bring vibrancy to the downtown. Local restaurants are always a great addition to a community. Ultimately, I can provide my opinion on what services I think are missing but this is data that can be collected from the community and compiled into a report that outlines areas of opportunity. I will advocate for creative solutions, like seeking funding available through FedDev Ontario and OMAFRA to support data collection like this.

Plympton-Wyoming has recently taken over the management of three parks, Lamrecton, McEwen and Highland Glen - should they remain passive parks or have more active features? If so, what? Although each park is similar in their lake and beach access, there are differences that can lead to varying usage. With the boat launch and higher vehicular traffic as a result, I see value in Highland Glen remaining a passive space at the shoreline with beach access, greenspace, and picnic areas. There’s a bit more opportunity for active features at parks like Lamrecton, with its size/layout and proximity to residential areas. Although there’s lake access at a park like Lamrecton, I’m still a believer that council should look at active features like a splash pad, which are incredible assets for families with young children. Active features like a splash pad provide a safe and fun alternative to lake swimming and foster an environment that encourages interaction and community building. However, should council decide to consider changes like this, community consultation needs to take place.

most cost effective solutions. **Plympton-Wyoming’s housing market is booming, however there has not been a great deal of economic development in the community providing jobs to the area. What do you think needs to be done to attract new businesses?** We need to provide infrastructure to attract businesses. It is important

to get local businesses together to come up with a master plan. **Wyoming’s business centre has few businesses to serve the rapidly increasing population - what services are needed and how would you play a roll in attracting them.** We need to listen to the business community to get their input. Current businesses in our

community need our support and we need to gather their experienced input as we move forward. **Plympton-Wyoming has recently taken over the management of three parks, Lamrecton, McEwen and Highland Glen - should they remain passive parks or have more active features? If so, what?** SEE RANDY DAYMAN ON PG 12

2022 Municipal Election

Candidate Profiles - Plympton-Wyoming Councillor

Randy Dayman

Plympton-Wyoming has recently taken over the management of three parks, Lamrecton, McEwen and Highland Glen - should they remain passive parks or have more active features? If so, what? We need a total revamp at Highland Glen of the boat ramp and parking as well as upgrades to the public washroom facilities. It would also be advantageous to look into installing a playground and possible splash pad to attract

Kristen Rodrigues

Kristen Rodrigues, 56, has been helping her neighbours with political issues for 25 years including gaps in Internet services and shoreline emergency permits. Now she wants to help as a Plympton-Wyoming councillor. What is the most important issue facing Plympton-Wyoming in the next four years? Agriculture is one of our most economical viable resources we have and more attention to policies and planning is needed to support diverse uses, awareness, promotion and education in globally climate sensitive times that we are facing. Development is necessary but there is a balance that we need to consider as it relates to our unique landscape. Following provincial mandates is necessary but it is broad in its context in recognition of each municipalities differences and the communities needs. Other important issues are parks and recreation, shoreline management and drainage. What would you do about the issue you identified?

Participate with the community and council on innovative and smart planning solutions that provide the most support from and for the tax base.

Plympton-Wyoming’s housing market is booming, however there has not been a great deal of economic development in the community providing jobs to the area. What do you think needs to be done to attract new businesses?

Over the last several years growth was steady and sustainable until exponential growth burst in high density cities and pushed into surrounding rural settings. In turn those on

John van Klaveren

John van Klaveren, 59, is well known as a fast-talking auctioneer who has donated his services to all kinds of local charities. Now he wants to serve the community as a Plympton-Wyoming councillor.

What is the most important issue facing Plympton-Wyoming in the next four years? Long term planning including infrastructure. What would you do about the issue you identified?

Prepare to meet growth. Plympton-Wyoming’s housing market is booming, however there has not been a great deal of economic development in the community providing jobs to the area. What do you think needs to be done to attract new businesses?

Pave the way for business startups and growth. Remove barriers that slow down expansion and encourage small business,

Mike Vasey

Mike Vasey, 58, is hoping to reclaim his seat on council. The former fire chief and member of the Wyoming Lions ran in the 2018 but failed to gain a seat. He became a councillor after the death of Ron Schenk.

What is the most important issue facing Plympton-Wyoming in the next four years? Retaining our small town friendliness, while improving infrastructure.

What would you do about the issue you identified?

families and create a destination on the shores of Lake Huron. Lamrecton has been developed into a lovely venue and is being well utilized. McEwen Park also needs washroom upgrades to address large crowds that use the park. The concept of an outdoor ice rink at McEwen Park is one that needs move forward to create a fun winter activity for our community.

rural outliers of metropolitan cities burst and the combination drove many to smaller urban rural settings like PW. The pandemic amplified the demand quickly. Inflation, higher interest rates and the return to workplaces has quickly changed the anomaly and I believe slower or more normal growth rates will be restored to some degree. Now the focus should be on more focus towards economic development to support our larger population in order to sustain a viable and prosperous community and this includes the promotion of small business incentives as well as value added businesses on agricultural lands. Wyoming’s business centre has few businesses to serve the rapidly increasing population - what services are needed and how would you play a roll in attracting them. The Wyoming and Camlachie business areas are lacking in amenities. Both require incentives, supports and promotional help. Small restaurants, local markets, gas in the north end, close to community centres where local and out-of-town visitors tend to come in higher numbers.

Plympton-Wyoming has recently taken over the management of, Lamrecton, McEwen and Highland Glen - should they remain passive parks or have more active features?

These parks would definitely benefit from value added services. Some devices offered may have the ability to generate income to offset the costs of maintaining the parks as well. Community input and wish lists should help form what those services look like and what would actually be beneficial long term for the local and tourism sectors.

farms and industry. Wyoming’s business centre has few businesses to serve the rapidly increasing population - what services are needed and how would you play a roll in attracting them. Successful small business attracts successful small business. Encourage revitalization of retail settings, along with potential incentives. Plympton-Wyoming has recently taken over the management of three parks, Lamrecton, McEwen and Highland Glen - should they remain passive parks or have more active features? If so, what?

Having an area to experience the beauty of nature including the clean beach is a treasure. It could be considered to leave as a passive park for the many advantages of a quiet setting. If a park already has active features, insuring they are safe is important.

Continue on with the momentum we have started with the social committee, engaging the public. Follow through with our master plans. Plympton-Wyoming’s housing market is booming, however there has not been a great deal of development providing jobs. What needs to be done to attract businesses? We have established commercial zones as a first step, next we need to get the word out we are open for business.

SEE MIKE VASEY PAGE 13



OCTOBER 2022

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2022 Municipal Election

Candidate Profiles - Plympton-Wyoming Councillor

Mike Vasey

CON'T FROM PG 12

What needs to be done to attract businesses?

We need to capitalize on our location with the rail, highway and border. Wyoming's business centre has few businesses to serve the rapidly increasing population - what services are needed and how would you play a roll in attracting them. We are in desperate need of a commercial centre in the Camlachie area. I would love to see a gas bar, variety with space for a small grocery and a restaurant. I would like to see the town acquire land and develop. This will allow us control and give us the ability to

Conner Weed

Conner Weed, 28, has served his community as a firefighter, a minor ball volunteer, with the local agricultural society and as the president of the Wyoming Legion. But he also wants to serve as a Plympton-Wyoming councillor. What is the most important issue facing Plympton-Wyoming in the next four years? One of the most important issues I see in the next four years is growth in Plympton-Wyoming What would you do about the issue you identified?

Plympton-Wyoming is a growing community and there's no better joy in my eyes than seeing families move to our municipality and start young families or on the other end of the spectrum moving to Plympton-Wyoming to retire. With growth comes issues and major questions. Is our wastewater facilities able to handle it? Is there a sufficient system for our storm water to get away fast and not flood every basement in the new subdivision? We have already seen some of these questions get overlooked in the new subdivision in Wyoming and would hate to see it continue to happen in the subdivisions to come. Plympton-Wyoming's housing market is booming, however there has not been a great deal of economic development in the community providing jobs to the area. What

Bob Woolvett

Bob Woolvett, 72, is seeking his fourth term as councillor in Plympton-Wyoming. What is the most important issue facing Plympton-Wyoming in the next four years? Infrastructure improvements including roads and bridges. Upgrades to water and sewer systems for future development. Expansion of natural gas infrastructure to rural areas. What would you do about the issue you identified? Work with staff and council to ensure we are doing the proper planning for these issues and other issues as they arise. Plympton-Wyoming's housing market is booming, however there has not been a great deal of economic development in the community providing jobs to the area. What do you think needs to be done to attract new businesses?

Our housing market has been hot. We have seen two new Equipment dealerships come to the town. We are a rural community with a lot of industry located in Sarnia for jobs. We have many small businesses in Plympton-Wyoming that employ people. We have a brewery and winery and our farmers also hire a lot of people. There are new residents that are coming to our town that now work from home virtually. To attract new business we need to keep an open mind and define what kind of business we would welcome. Proper planning is necessary.

Mike Thompson

This candidate did not complete The Independent's survey.

work with future tenants. Plympton-Wyoming has recently taken over the management of three parks, Lamrecton, McEwen and Highland Glen - should they remain passive parks or have more active features? If so, what? With all three parks stipulations came with how they are to be used. A few years ago PW did not own any parkland on the lake. Now we have the three parks with about 45 Acres. It is important that they stay passive and allow access to the lake for all to enjoy. The boat ramp at Highland Glen is an attractive feature but must be economically feasible moving forward.

do you think needs to be done to attract new businesses? The old saying is if you build it they will come. I think the expansions happening right now in the valley is a great asset for Plympton-Wyoming and look forward to hearing other ideas from the community. Wyoming's business centre has few businesses to serve the rapidly increasing population - what services are needed and how would you play a roll in attracting them. I think downtown Wyoming isn't in too bad of shape right now... at least we don't have eight pizza shops downtown. With that being said services are going to be needed in Camlachie in the coming months/years. With all the houses and development happening there I don't think it will be an issue attracting new businesses out that way. Plympton-Wyoming has recently taken over the management of three parks, Lamrecton, McEwen and Highland Glen - should they remain passive parks or have more active features? If so, what? I don't see a problem with a little of both. Our new special events board in Plympton-Wyoming are doing a fantastic job and I hope to see more neighbourhood barbecues and small events at these park like we saw at McKay Park in Wyoming this past summer.

Wyoming's business centre has few businesses to serve the rapidly increasing population - what services are needed and how would you play a roll in attracting them. We do have great businesses in Plympton-Wyoming. I believe we need a commercial plaza in the Camlachie area that would include a gas station/car wash. In Wyoming it is great to see a new equipment dealer, health centre, restaurant etc. The town needs to advertise we are open for new businesses and what incentives we can offer to locate here. Plympton-Wyoming has recently taken over the management of three parks, Lamrecton, McEwen and Highland Glen - should they remain passive parks or have more active features? If so, what? What a great opportunity it was for Council to get ownership of these three waterfront parks. The new council will have to do some good planning on what new features that could be put in these Parks. Lamrecton Park has a large building that could be used for reunions/flea markets or other events requiring indoor use. Highland Glen Park - Council has approved funds to make the boat launch usable again. There could be an improved picnic area and gazebo for use in wet weather. Since we do not have final ownership of McEwen or Highland Glen the new council will be planning changes/improvements.



This Month In Lambton

September 2022



Warden Kevin Marriott
@LambtonWarden

Lambton Fall Colour & Craft Festival

The Lambton Fall Colour & Craft Festival will be taking place on Saturday, October 15 and Sunday, October 16 at Lambton Heritage Museum. Admission is \$5 and children 12 and under are free when accompanied by an adult. The festival is open from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. both days. Learn more about the event at www.lambtonmuseums.ca/fall-colour.

HHW Collection Events

Bring your household derived hazardous waste to an upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Day event and it will be disposed of by experts, for free!

- Saturday, Oct. 15,** 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m
Forest Public Works Depot
6958 Townsend Line, Lambton Shores
- Saturday, Oct. 29,** 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Clean Harbours Canada
4090 Telfer Road, St. Clair Township

For more information visit www.lambtononline.ca/hhw or call 519-845-0801.

Child care career fairs

Licensed child care providers from across Lambton County are actively recruiting to fill full-time and part-time positions. Come out and learn more at one of four career fair events in October:

- Mon. Oct. 3, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Forest Library
- Wed. Oct. 5, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Watford Library
- Thurs. Oct. 6, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Petrolia Library
- Tues. Oct. 11, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Courtright Library

These are drop-in events, no pre-registration is required. For more information visit www.lambtononline.ca/childcare.

Looking Ahead

9:30 a.m., Oct. 5, 2022 - Council Meeting
9 a.m. & 11 a.m., Oct. 19, 2022 - Committee A.M. & P.M. Meetings
Agendas, minutes and links to meeting live stream videos can be found at www.lambtononline.ca/meetings.

*To read more, go to **lambtononline.ca***



Office of the County Warden
519-845-0801 | 1-866-324-6912
www.lambtononline.ca





BRIGDEN FALL FAIR

OCTOBER 7-10, 2022



MIDWAY OPENS 10 AM DAILY

Friday, October 7th

- Agriculture Awareness Day (10 am – 4 pm)
- Official Fair Opening (11:30 am)
- Educational Exhibits
- Pickin' n Fiddlin'
- Southwest Ontario Tractor Pull & Good Times Truck Pull (7 pm)

Saturday, October 8th

- Livestock Shows
- Randy Satchell Band
- Canadian Great War Society Calvary
- Parade
- Pie Auction for St. Joseph's Hospice
- Ontario Vintage Tractor Pull
- Jacklyn Wills/Christine Storey & Friends
- Team Sorting (6:30 pm)

Sunday, October 9th

- Livestock Shows
- Superheroes in the Community Showcase
- Interdenominational Church Service with Chapelaires
- Buck & Boys Classic Country
- Joan Spalding and Friends
- Community Showcase Fairytale Friends
- Working Wagon Obstacle Competition

Monday, October 10th

- Livestock Shows
- Baby Show
- Ontario Four Horse Hitch
- Shane Cook & the Woodchippers
- Mark Blaney

• World's Finest Shows Midway In Attendance
• Ploughman's Farmyard All Weekend

Ticket Prices (Cash and Passes Only):

Fri: Seniors / Student Day Admission \$5 until 5 pm then \$10;
Elementary Student & Younger - free

Sat - Mon: \$10 / Adults, Elementary Students & Younger - free

Free Parking on the Grounds





Dinosaur Park Walk Thru Exhibit
All 4 days



ProRider Freestyle MX
Sat & Sun: 11 am, 1 pm & 4 pm



Great Canadian Lumberjacks
Mon only: 11 am, 1 pm & 3pm



Helicopter Rides with Zimmer Air
Sat / Sun / Mon



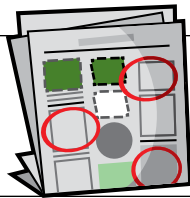
Western Ontario Outlaws
Lawnmower Races
Sun: 10 am & 3 pm

Check www.brigdenfair.ca or Brigden Fair Facebook page for Attractions schedule and program time adjustments. Times and location subject to change.



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

Real Estate



8021 Centre Street Alvinston

Come and enjoy this heated 24x36 shop w/ concrete floors, 10ft ceilings and a large door leading to a separate side street entrance large door. Ideal starter home, has 2 bedrooms, 4 piece bath, extra large kitchen and spacious living room. A huge primary bedroom on the main floor plus a loft bedroom (could be two bedrooms), main floor laundry. Numerous updates like natural gas furnace, central air, electricity, windows and more. An above-ground pool with deck for family fun. A bunkie in the back yard for kids playhouse. All this is located on an oversized wood privacy fenced corner lot for kids and pets to play. Low taxes, approx \$1650/yr. High speed unlimited fibre optic internet available to work from home.

new price
\$350,000

MLS# 40298438

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

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.*

Local person
Looking to Buy
OLDER CANADIAN & AMERICAN COINS & BILLS STAMPED JEWELLERY
No collection is too big or small but they must be older than 1967.
519.331.3081

For Sale

10" DEEP DISH APPLE PIES

Limited Supplies so get your order in soon
Call Carol 519-882-1684
NO CALLS after 9 pm PLEASE
or contact your favourite IODE member to order.

*** PICK UP LOCATION ***
The Greenwood Rec Centre 8:45 - 11 am

\$12 EACH

Margaret Stokes Chapter, Petrolia

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.

Rentals

Wyoming Lions
554 Main Street
Reception Hall Rentals
Weddings
Anniversaries
Funerals
Business Meetings

Up to 150 seating capacity
Fully licensed by AGCO
Bookings and information
call: (519) 845 0020 or 845 3333

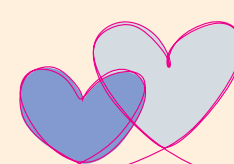


In Memory

In loving memory of a special wife, mother, daughter, sister & auntie.

Karen (Bradley) Kabbes
April 27, 1964 – September 28, 2015

The story of Karen's life was about loving others. Her final chapter is without ending because her legacy of love continues on in our lives. The branches of our family tree continue to grow and change – nourished and anchored by her love.



love Remembering Karen

with honour, gratefulness and boundless love ~ Her family

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

Card of Thanks

thank you

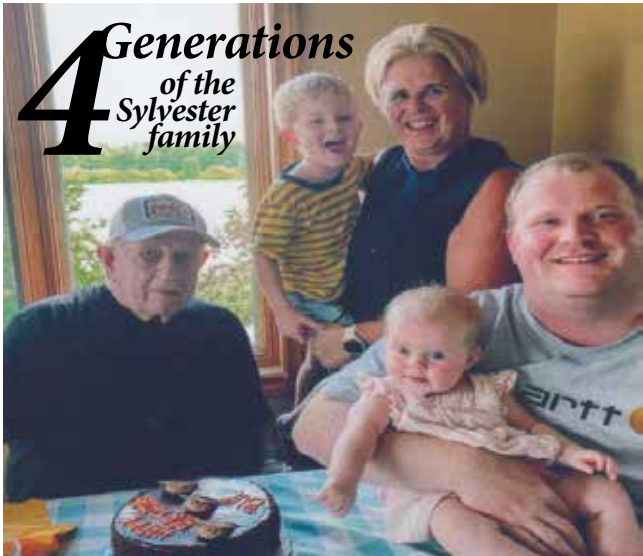
The family of
Elizabeth (Betty) Tully
extends our sincerest thanks to the friends, family, neighbours, community members, and former colleagues for sharing their memories at the celebration life service on September 16. We are also very grateful to Dr. Evan Lilly and the incredible team of healthcare professionals at the Community Care Access Centre for their support of our beloved Mom and wife.

Thank you one and all.



Card of Thanks


4 Generations of the Sylvester family



Great Grandfather Bill Sylvester
Grandmother Tami Young with 3-1/2 year old Garrett Young
Grandson Reid Young with 5 month old Pearl Young
Unfortunately my 80th Birthday Party had to be cancelled because of my hospitalization. I would like to thank family, friends, former co-workers and neighbours for the cards, letters, gifts and food brought to the house. Again, thank you everyone.
Bill Sylvester and Family

Celebrations

85TH BIRTHDAY
EDITH STOKES



Come and help celebrate...
On Sunday, October 2nd, 2022
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
at Petrolia Lions Hall
451 Huggard St, Petrolia.

CANCELLED

Please NO GIFTS.
Feel free to bring non-perishable item for the Petrolia Food Bank



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

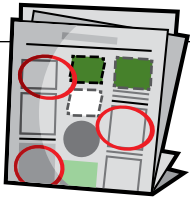
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
416 Queen Street, Petrolia
(Behind the Post Office)

In-Person Service
Sundays @ 10:00 am


Services also available online:
www.standrews-petrolia.ca

Pastor Katherine Hawley

Classifieds



PETROLIA
Municipal & School Board
ALL CANDIDATES
EVENING
Victoria Hall
Wednesday, Oct 12, 2022
7:00 - 9:00 pm
- bring a pen -
Written Questions Welcomed
Meet your Candidates

 **WYOMING LIONS**
will be hosting a
PLYMPTON - WYOMING
ALL-CANDIDATES
MEETING
THURS., SEPT. 29 @ 7 PM
Wyoming Lions Hall - 554 Main St
DOORS OPEN @ 6:30 PM

 Monday: 9 am - 3pm
Tuesday: 9 am - 3 pm
Wednesday: 9 am - 12 noon
Thursday: Closed
Friday: 9 am - 3 pm


THE MISFIT ELVES
1st ANNUAL **POKER RUN**
Christmas
FOR EVERYONE
A CARING COMMUNITY PROJECT

A group of friends and former firefighters from Wyoming (affectionately known as "Sandra's Misfit Elves") would like your help to support Christmas For Everyone. Christmas For Everyone is a non-profit organization which provides toys and food hampers to families in need in rural Lambton County.

Saturday, OCTOBER 1 2022

Start/Finish: Wyoming Lions Hall 554 Main St
Registration: 10 am • Kickstands Up: 11 am
\$20 Donation per motorcycle
BBQ & REFRESHMENTS for sale following Run
PRIZES: Best Hand, Best Costume, Best ??
Monetary donations gratefully accepted on site

Information: Bubba 519-312-3200 • misfitelvespokerrun@gmail.com
Proceeds to CHRISTMAS FOR EVERYONE PETROLIA

Coming Events

ST. PHILIPS CARD PARTY - Friday, Sept 30 @ 7pm at the St. Philips Hall. \$5.00 pp. Light Lunch. Wheelchair accessible. Call 519-882-4840.

WARWICK MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES NIGHT - Wednesday, October 5 from 6:30-9 pm, at Watford Centennial Hall. Hosted by Watford Legion Br#172.

OIL SPRINGS LEAGION - OPEN - to the public. **Wednesdays** from 6:30-10pm, with the exception of the 3rd Wednesday of month when doors will open at 8:30 pm following meeting. Everyone Welcome.

Notice



COMMUNITY PET PANTRY - (a St. Paul's United Church program initiative) We are reaching out to our community for item donations and financial support. Looking for: dry dog, puppy and cat food; canned cat food; clumping cat litter; gently used leashes, collars, food dishes, pet beds and pet toys. For more information about donating or to volunteer, call 519-882-1390.

Please join us
as we celebrate the retirement of

RICK SMITH

Thursday, September 29, 2022
2:00 - 4:00 pm | Warwick Community Centre
7074 Egremont Road, Watford

Snacks and refreshments will be provided



Classified Deadline: Monday @ 12 noon

THE PETROLIA & NORTH ENNISKILLEN FIRE DEPT.

Wants you to be our fire prevention star



Fire Prevention Week is October 9th-15th

Fire won't wait. Plan your escape.

firepreventionweek.org

GRAND PRIZE \$500

Send us a 1-minute video promoting this year's Fire Prevention week theme:

Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape

Contest open to all residents within
Petrolia & North Enniskillen Fire Department's fire area

TO ENTER:

- Video must feature this year's fire prevention theme
- All entries must be sent by email to fireprevention@petrolia.ca by October 5, 2022, at 6 pm

For more information, please contact Deputy Chief Darren Allan
fireprevention@petrolia.ca

Sports

Flyers lose tough one in Parkhill

Barry Wright
The Independent

Peyton Armitage and Owen Hull, with his first goal as a Flyer, scored 92 seconds apart early in the third period to give the Petrolia Flyers a 4-3 lead in the third period last Saturday in Parkhill. But the hometown North Middlesex Stars notched two goals in 26 seconds midway through the final frame to skate away with a 5-4 win. It was Petrolia’s third straight loss to start the season.

Daniel Gibson and Colby Ackworth had the other Petrolia goals. Gibson also had an assist and was chosen the second star of the contest. Newly acquired Zach Moore assisted on the Armitage goal for his first point with the Flyers after three seasons with the Mooretown Flags.

Elijah Grant made 38 saves and despite falling to 0-3 on the young season has a save percentage of .905.

Petrolia lost its home opener, 2-0 last Thursday to Thamesford. The Trojans scored a power play goal early in the second period to break a scoreless tie. The insurance goal came about three-and-a-half minutes later. Grant made 33



FLYERS HOCKEY PHOTO

Elijah Grant keeps his eye on the puck in the Flyers 2-0 loss to Thamesford.

saves for the Flyers.

Petrolia is at home to Mt. Brydges on Thursday at 7:30 and then take on the Spitfires in Aylmer on Sunday afternoon.

Wyoming’s Hudson leads Lions to first season win

The Independent

Cole Hudson had two hits and three RBI to lead Lambton College to a 5-4 win over Centennial in OCAA baseball action last weekend in Toronto. The Lions won it by pushing across a run in the top of the seventh inning.

Centennial won the nightcap, 19-1.

A scheduled doubleheader against Durham last Sunday was rained out.

The Lions have two home doubleheaders this weekend at Errol Russell Park. They host Sheridan on Friday at 5 and 8 pm and entertain Seneca on Saturday at 2 and 4 pm.

Lambton is 1-9 on the season. Sheridan and Seneca are both 2-8.

Alvinston’s Redick, Watford’s McLean have hot bats

LCCVI grad Sydney Redick went 1-1 on the mound with two doubles in a four-game split by Durham College in OCAA women’s softball last weekend. The Lords swept Lambton but then lost twice to unbeaten and first place St. Clair in Windsor.

Redick is hitting .325 on the season with six doubles and 11 RBI.

Meantime, Jenna McLean of Watford had two

hits and three RBI in a doubleheader victory by Fanshawe over Sheridan. McLean is among the leaders across the province in most offensive categories this season including hitting .488 with three homers and 26 RBI.

Fanshawe has a record of 10-2 and is in second behind unbeaten St. Clair with mark of 12-0.

Durham is in fourth place with a record of 9-5. Lambton is 2-10.

Petrolia’s McLean sixth at CanEast

Isaac McLean placed sixth at the CanEast Games completion in Mississauga on the weekend.

The 24 year-old owner of RIM Fitness in Petrolia had three top five finishes in the six-event Crossfit contest over two days.

His placing was nine spots better than his 15th place finish at the CanWest Games in BC earlier this year.

In the 2021 season McLean finished 262nd in North America and 39th in the Canadian competition.



Isaac McLean

McGrail’s game winning goal lifts Sarnia

Barry Wright
The Independent

Jace McGrail’s power play goal was the eventual game-winner leading the Sarnia Legionnaires to a 4-1 win over the host Pelham Panthers in Sarnia’s second game at the GOJHL Showcase tournament.

Former Petrolia Flyer Wil O’Leary-Dilosa had two assists for Sarnia while ex-Mooretown goalie Logan Phillips made 42 saves.

Sarnia lost its tournament opener, 3-0 to the St. Catharines Falcons.

Former Flyer Landon Marcy had his first career GOJHL goal last Thursday and Phillips made 42 stops as the Legionnaires beat LaSalle, 6-2.

A night earlier in London, Forest’s Bradyn Santavy had three assists to lead the Nationals over the Legionnaires, 8-3.

Corunna’s Dylan Dupius scored twice for Sarnia and Adam Maitland notched his first career GOJHL marker.

Sarnia has also signed rearguard Josh Glavin. The Lambton Jr. Sting grad, who turned 16 last weekend, was reassigned last week by the Saginaw Spirit. He was a third-round pick by the Spirit in the OHL Priority Selection earlier this year.

The Legionnaires take on the Vipers in LaSalle Wednesday and then host Strathroy on Thursday at 7:10 at the Pat Stapleton Arena.

Flags’ Chartrand makes OHL debut

The Mooretown Flags didn’t see any league action but that didn’t stop Flags goalie John Chartrand from making headlines.

He was called up as an emergency backup goaltender by the OHL Saginaw Spirit and saw third period action last weekend. He made five stops in the final period to secure a 2-1 preseason win by the Spirit over the Flint Firebirds.

The Flags (1-1) are back in action Wednesday at Wheatley. They host Lakeshore on Saturday at the Walpole



STEVEN FRANK IMAGERY

John Chartrand called up to Saginaw.

Island complex. Both games are scheduled to begin at 7:30.

Sting open OHL season on the road

It’ll be another week before Sting fans will be able to see their team play at the Progressive Auto Sales Arena as Sarnia will play its first two OHL regular season games on the road this weekend. The Sting open in Kitchener on Friday followed by a matchup with the Spitfires in Windsor on Saturday.

Sarnia’s home opener is against the Saginaw Spirit on Friday, Oct. 7 before hosting the Soo Greyhounds on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 9.

The Sting made a couple of deals sending overage forward Theo Hill to the Spirit for draft choices before acquiring former Lambton Jr. Sting rearguard Josh Hoover from Sudbury for picks.

Sarnia closed out the preseason with a pair of losses last week to Windsor Spitfires. They lost 6-5 in a shootout to the Spits last Thursday in Windsor and fell 7-1 to the Spitfires on Saturday at PASA.

Camlachie teen sets provincial records

Declan Watson set Ontario juvenile (15 and under) weightlifting records at the Autumn Classic in Burlington last weekend.

His clean and jerk of 121 kilos and his total of 217 kilos were both

provincial records for the 15-year-old from Camlachie. He also set a personal best with a snatch of 96 kilos.

Watson, a Northern student, finished third overall in the 89-kilo class.



7910 Industrial Rd., Watford
www.groganclassics.com
larry@groganclassics.com
519-849-7000

ONE-OF-A-KIND, MILLENNIUM HERITAGE DEALERSHIP



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sales 519-849-7000
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Fax: 519-849-7700 • email: sales@groganford.com

Grogan Ford Lincoln

