

ON TOP OF THE WORLD



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

The Ferris wheel was a popular place to be as the sunset Friday at the Brooke-Alvinston Fall Fair. The local agricultural society which runs the event was thrilled to secure the midway company. A number of the companies closed during the pandemic due to a lack of business. Now, agricultural societies are having a hard time securing the rides which attract teens to the fair. For more on this year's fair see page 18.

TSL wants accommodation tax in all of Lambton

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

After two tough pandemic years, Tourism Sarnia-Lambton is looking for ways to support the industry and draw people back to Lambton County

Officials are hoping more municipalities will pass an accommodation tax to help the industry recover from COVID-19.

"We dug deep," said Mark Perrin, executive director of Tourism Sarnia-Lambton at the organization's annual general meeting on Sept. 28. The travel industry adapted to the pandemic with virtual or drive through events.

But Perrin says TSL needs more cash to help continue the recovery. Sarnia and Port Edward are currently the only two municipalities in the county with the accommodation tax. Perrin is hopeful it will be implemented in Lambton Shores in 2023, but this will depend on the upcoming municipal election.

Perrin also wants municipalities to include Air BnBs in the accommodation tax. It is estimated there are 350 short term rentals in Lambton Shores alone.

SEE ACCOMMODATION PG 2

Warwick pays over \$160k for office space

Heather Wright
The Independent

More than a year after the lease was signed, we're just getting details now of how much the Township of Warwick will pay for its new municipal office.

The township moved into its new office in Watford on Nauvoo Road in April 2022. Construction started in 2021 by the Watford Investment Group which removed a block of old buildings in the downtown and erected a new plaza and home for Libro Financial.

Council approved the construction and work began April 2021. At the time, council was still negotiating the cost of the lease.

Councillors met in camera to discuss the lease in May, but there was no documentation in minutes after that meeting to show if a deal had been reached and its terms.

Township CAO Amanda Gubbels tells *The Independent* the lease was signed July 20, 2021. It's a 25 year lease with an option for the township to purchase the building after four years.

"I can confirm that the township

currently pays a per square foot rent at the new facility of \$22 per square foot in basic rent. This represents a total of \$13,451.17 per month or \$161,414 per year," Gubbels said in an email to *The Independent*.

If Warwick continues to lease the building for the full 25 year lease, it will have spent \$4,035,350. If the township arranges a purchasing agreement in year four, it would have already paid \$645,656. It is not clear what the terms would be should the township purchase the building.



FILE PHOTO

Members of council opened the new office space in April but the cost to the municipality had not been revealed.



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ANOTHER RECORD-BREAKING AUCTION



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

It's like people had set aside their pie money for a couple of years. The Brooke-Alvinston Pie Auction blew their last record out of the water this year, raising \$60,315 Friday for the Children's Health Foundation. In the past, the auction has raise over \$30,000 a year making it the foundations single biggest fundraiser each year. But this year's event more than doubled the average \$30,000 donation. There were a number of pies which sold for \$2,500 as did two, two-pound peanut butter cups. Organizers Wayne Deans, Jamie Armstrong and Allison Deans say the pie auction started decades ago by Deans, Jim Hayter and Ken Alderman to help a Bright's Grove girl facing some significant medical expenses. Over 10 years over \$200,000 has been raised for equipment at Children's Hospitals.

Managing development a concern at Wyoming all-candidates

Heather Wright
The Independent

Development, respect and teamwork were all up for debate at an All-Candidates meeting for Plympton-Wyoming council.

The Wyoming Lions hosted the first of two meetings for the community Sept. 28.

The several of mayoral candidates, vying to take up the position left vacant by the retirement of Lonny Napper, promoted their accomplishments.

Tim Wilkins talked of his work to bring better Internet to the lakeshore and to have the boat ramp at Highland Glen repaired. He said his strong voice is needed at the county level. "Fifty per cent of your tax dollars goes to county council and we have one voice there to represent all the wishes of your council at that council chamber. That's a lot of your money. That's a lot of your tax dollars."

Muriel Wright agreed adding she would be there to support development in the community. "As an experienced leader, I will continue to provide quality and affordable core services which keep the tax rate reasonable. Our families, our farmers and our small business owners are my priority."

Gary Atkinson says the new leader needs integrity and the ability to work with people. And he spoke out about the conduct of council which one questioner called bullying. "There is no place in council or anywhere else in our society for intimidation, or bullying, I will not accept it. I think we as a

council need to be educated about it."

Some of the councillor candidates also talked about managing growth in the community. "We will continue to grow, we need to continue to upgrade our infrastructure and accommodate that growth but we cannot allow it to change who we are," said Mike Vasey after speaking about the value of small town living.

Candidate Alex Boughen agreed. "The next term of council is about investing in our infrastructure to ensure it can support the ongoing development. It's about supporting our local businesses and prioritizing

local economic development. It's about improving the vibrancy and livability of our community. And of course, it's always about affordability, and doing our part to spend your tax dollars well, and do our part to make sure residents aren't priced out of their home."

And there was also a question about the sign controversy where Muriel Wright was caught on tape stealing other mayoral signs. Both Wright and Wilkins said they had discussed the matter and have put it behind them.

A second meeting is planned for Thursday at the Camlachie Community Centre at 7 pm.

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Editorial

Transparency is an issue

The Independent has attended a number of all-candidates meetings this municipal election cycle and the buzzword this year seems to be transparency.

Voters from Inwood to Petrolia, Corunna to Cam-lachie want their government to be transparent. ‘We don’t know what is going on at council’ the voters attending the meetings say.

There is a problem with transparency at the municipal level; everything from councillors simply passing reports without any discussion, to banning councillors from closed door meetings with no legal authority to do so, to keeping financial details out of the public agenda when that is clearly the business of all taxpayers are examples of that.

Transparency issues can also fester because of the double talk of administrators. In some cases, they and the leadership of council, lay out only part of the truth so people misunderstand the core of the issue.

Take for example, Petrolia allowing its staff to apply for grants without first specifically, publicly approving the project for the community. It’s a practice which takes place in every other municipality in our readership area - except Petrolia. Administrators in town say in the Petrolia Connection that council always approves the contracts for the grants. That is not the point and is intentionally misleading. Council is to set policy - like if we need a four-phase project for an outdoor complex - and then municipal employees can move forward. Instead, we have administrators applying for grants for projects not formally approved. It is foolish for politicians to say they can give back the cash if they don’t like the project. We can’t think of one instance where that happened..”

So yes, transparency is an issue.

But; voters also have to take some of the blame for lack of information. Most municipalities provide public agendas online for taxpayers to read. Six of the eight municipalities in our coverage area also provide a video feed of the meetings. And of course the public is always able to ask questions of their representatives.

If you want to know what your council is doing, take some time to read agendas or listen to council meetings. You’ll be come an informed voter calling out real transparency issues when you see them.

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



LAMBTON COUNTY ARCHIVES PHOTO

In 1952, the Sarnia Observer went to the Brooke-Alvinston Fall Fair and declared 18 year-old Jim Harper of Watford and “Topsy” one of the proudest entries. That year, the horse show attracted hundreds of people eager to see the horses. This photo of five-year-old Topsy who “put on a first class show,” catches the eye of judge Keith South of Brigden.

Let’s talk not just knock and walk this election

During the federal election, I wrote a column decrying one candidate’s decision not to be involved in all-candidates meetings. I asked at the time, if she won’t answer your questions at election time, do you think she’ll answer them when she’s in power?

I thought, at the time, this was a rarity. That most people seeking public office today understand the importance of actually engaging with people and answering their questions so the voters can make informed choices.

But apparently that’s not a thing anymore.

Case in point - my kitchen table. There are a number of flyers from would-be Petrolia council candidates sitting there. They appeared - as if by magic - at my front door in the past few weeks. Some were tucked in the door, others, placed neatly on the nob.

But this all seemed to be done by silent election elves winging their way around the town in an effort to spread the word about their choice of candidates.

I joke of course. But I am wondering why the people who seemingly would like people to vote for them would dump their election literature without even knocking to see if someone was there who had a question.

I get that sometimes people aren’t home, so knocking doesn’t help. But in each case, there was a warm-blooded, engaged voter at our house who heard nary a knock at the door.

I have thought perhaps some of the people KNOW who lives at my house and would rather not engage with the always opinionated editor of the local paper. That’s too bad because I’m always open to a good discussion about

bad politics.

I suppose I should not complain too much, after all, I do have a grasp of the issues at town hall.

But if the candidates are only dropping their flyers and going, they’re missing a great opportunity to win votes but to more importantly educate people on the importance of municipal government in their lives and maybe engage them to become citizens who care. So to the candidates; let’s talk - I promise I won’t be too opinionated. Not.



Heather Wright

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Canada

Opinion

Put garbage collection to a vote says reader

EDITOR:
Regarding the Letter to the Editor from Mr. Beaubien about ‘Curbside garbage pick up not needed in

Enniskillen’.
I appreciate your opinion Mr Beaubien and with the knowledge of your life long commitment to the

politics. But I suggest we put it to a vote. All in favor say aye!
Danna Andrade
Enniskillen, ON

Volunteers appreciated, deserving of celebration

EDITOR
The Volunteer Service Awards given out by the Town of Petrolia were so well deserved by those that received them. They certainly go above and beyond.
Many of which put hours and hours of work into volunteering for what they believe in. There were also many more that are deserving of this award,

especially those that work from our town office, our mayor, councillors, those that work behind the scenes at the VPP and everyone that organizes and works so hard to put on our community events.
Being appreciated in this way, with a dinner, prizes and awards gives us all such a good feeling. The town recognizes their volunteers

and has a beautiful way of showing us that any amount of time is acknowledged by them.
I love Petrolia and am so glad that we moved to this town to raise our children here in this wonderful community.
Thank you.
Marianne Terpstra
Enniskillen, ON

Curbside garbage pickup is not likely in Enniskillen

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

Enniskillen Township councillors are not keen on the idea of curbside garbage pickup.
But there is a possibility of extending the hours of the waste transfer station to 7 pm.
A letter from Dustin and Mandi Pearson sparked the discussion at the Oct. 3 meeting. They want council to consider curbside waste and recycling collection. If this was not possible, the Pearson’s asked the time the waste transfer site is open be extended to 7 p.m. at least one day a week.
While Councillor Mary Lynne McCa-llum and Mayor Kevin Marriott were not open to the idea of curbside pick-up, they would consider extending the hours of the waste transfer site until 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. The waste transfer site on Oil Heritage Road is currently open from noon to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, while the site is open on Monday, Friday and Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to noon.

It was suggested that this change in time be only done a seasonal basis when daylight hours extend beyond 7 p.m. This is so lighting at the waste disposal site will not be an extra cost for the township. Township Clerk and Treasurer Duncan McTavish will present more information about the proposed changes at the next meeting.
Council passed its new littering by-law later in the meeting, which would allow the township to fine anyone \$300 who is caught littering on any municipal lands, roads or on private property.
It was the proposal of this by-law, which led to the discussion about curbside pick-up in Enniskillen Township.
There have been two letters to the editors to The Independent, one in favour and one against curbside pick-up within these pages in September. One suggested having curbside pickup might stop people from littering the roadsides with garbage.

HONOURING THOSE WHO SERVE



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Roger Mailloux was one of 95 people celebrated as a volunteer in the Town of Petrolia. Mayor Brad Loosley hosted the dinner Sept. 29, handing out plaques to four people and a group. Mailloux was honoured as a Community Partner, Ross Ellsworth was named Community Service Volunteer of 2021, Paul Gordon received the same award for 2020. Susan Laker of the Petrolia Legion was named the Community Partner of 2020. The town’s volunteer Special Operations Response Team was also honoured. The group supports the local fire department and provides first aid support to community events year round and provides help in emergencies. The town estimates every 100 volunteers contributes about \$370,000 in volunteer labour.

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The Town of Petrolia logo features a stylized building and the text 'Town of PETROLIA you'll be surprised!'. The Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership logo features a stylized 'S' and 'L' and the text 'SARNIA-LAMBTON Economic Partnership Powering a Sustainable World'.

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The Petrolia Dentistry logo features the word 'Petrolia' in a serif font, a stylized 'D' inside a circle, and the word 'Dentistry' in a sans-serif font.

A photograph of the exterior of the Petrolia Dentistry building. It is a single-story building with a brick and stone facade, large windows, and a flat roof. There is a parking lot in front.

FIRE HONOURS



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Petrolia/North Enniskillen firefighter Ken Henry received his 50 year bar at the annual firefighter recognition night. Erv Sullivan received his 1st and 2nd bar for his Federal Fire Service medal for 40 years of service and Deputy Chief Darren Allan received his Federal Fire Service medal for 20 years of service from Chief Jay Arns.

Reaume-Zimmer to be next Bluewater Health CEO

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

Paula Reaume-Zimmer will be in the next leader at Bluewater Health. She will replace Mike Lapaine as president and CEO Jan. 1. He is retiring at the end of the year. Bluewater Health made the announcement on Oct. 3

“I am extremely excited, but I am not excited to not have Mike in the next office to me,” said Reaume-Zimmer. She called Lapaine an incredible mentor to her who pushes her to be better.

Her key priorities are to deal with the daily challenges of capacity, as staff moves patients through the hospitals. The pandemic has resulted in some trying years, and she acknowledged it has taken its toll. Reaume-Zimmer hopes to create some new excitement within the organization.

Reaume-Zimmer said it is too soon to tell, whether she will be giving up her other roles within Bluewater Health. She is currently in the dual role of the Vice President of Integrated Services at Bluewater Health and the Canadian Mental Health Association Lambton Kent. She is

also the CEO of Lambton Elderly Outreach.

She’s been heading up the start up of the county’s withdrawal management program which has taken over a decade of local lobbying to get the province to fund the facility.

Reaume-Zimmer began her career as an inpatient psychiatric nurse, and she held various roles in the mental health and addiction services sector and has also been a leader within the emergency department.

She earned her Doctorate in Health Administration from Central Michigan University and she also studied at the University of Toronto’s Rotman Advanced Health Leadership Program.

Lapaine informed the board earlier this summer he would be retiring. A select committee of the board identified and vetted Reaume-Zimmer through an internal search of the organization. She was unanimously approved by the board at its meeting last week.

He is confident in Reaume-Zimmer to continue on in the role. Lapaine has been the President and CEO since 2016.

- THE INDEPENDENT

Candidates speak

Voters looking for the right people to run their municipality will have a chance to scope out the candidates. Warwick Candidates candidates meet Wednesday in at Centennial Hall, Petrolia’s all candidates meeting Oct. 12 at Victoria Hall. Plympton-Wyoming contenders meet in Camlachie Thursday at 7pm.

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People and circumstances change everyday, making happiness an ‘elusive’ goal, Success and prosperity can disappear, only God’s love satisfy’s the soul. Without Jesus, life is no more than repetitive cycles, mimicked, each day, Perishable pursuits bring emptiness; self-centerness blinds the way.

From an earthly perspective, death is the ultimate equalizer, of all, But, Jesus sacrificial gift at Calvary, defeated death thru satan’s fall. The only true purpose of life, is to ‘revere’ and ‘obey’, God’s will, One irrevocable breath, a lifetime, squandered or endlessly filled?

One question lingers, balancing ‘Eternal’ life or death, for you and me, Is He Lord of your life, has His ‘redeeming’ Blood, ‘cleansed’ and set you ‘free’?

His Promise


Dear Lord Jesus, this ‘Thanksgiving’ finds me thankless and so separated from you. Please ‘forgive’ all my sins; I invite you into my heart to be Lord of my life. I will live for you alone and ‘thank-you’ for your redeeming blood, which you shed at Calvary for me and the assurance of an ‘Eternal’ home in Heaven, with you.Amen.

GROGAN-WATFORD



ON OCTOBER 24TH

RE-ELECT SOUCH



Marty Souch

FOR COUNCILLOR OF PETROLIA

SENDING LOVE ON ORANGE SHIRT DAY



PHOTO CREDIT

Students at Col Cameron Public School in Corunna joined with people across Canada to acknowledge the harm Canada did for Indigenous people, particularly by trying to “take the Indian” out of young children in Indian Residential Schools across the country. First Nations communities have been mourning the death of children in the government approved, church run schools for years. Last year, Canada enacted Truth and Reconciliation Day after the unmarked graves of children were discovered in Kamloops at residential schools.

Transparency, programs for teens at Brooke-Alvinston all-candidates

Heather Wright
The Independent

Jamie Armstrong says the one thing that is needed in Brooke-Alvinston is more transparency in municipal government.

Armstrong, a one-term councillor, is running against the incumbent mayor, Dave Ferguson in this year’s municipal election.

When asked at an all-candidates meeting in Alvinston Sept. 27 what one thing needed to be done in the community, Armstrong answered; “I would like to see some clear transparency in the municipality and more communication with their stakeholders, and make sure that everyone’s being heard and there aren’t things that are going on behind closed doors without the rest of the council knowing.”

Armstrong and Ferguson have butted heads a number of times, most notably about the plans of the Alvinston Optimist to invest in the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre. Armstrong, who is an Optimist, has advocated for the project at council with Ferguson questioning whether the project should be a priority.

There was a theme of transparency at the event which saw about 200 community members come out to hear what the candidates were proposing.

Les Douglas, Greg Hilliard, Jenny Redick and Craig Saunders all men-

tioned the issue saying the community needs to know what is going on at council.

That seemed to stun current councillor, Jeannette Douglas, who believes council has been very open. She urged the taxpayers in the room to call her with their concerns saying she always answers her cell phone and will try to help.

Incumbent Frank Nemcek agreed adding council has “done a pretty good job the last four years. We spent your money very reasonable. I think we didn’t waste any... I think we’ve done a real good job spend your tax dollars the best way we could.”

Wayne Deans agreed saying a councillor can only use their best judgement to make good decisions for the taxpayers.

Don McCabe, a candidate for councillor, said the township has to find a way to win back provincial grant money which has been cut over the years. Brooke-Alvinston has lost millions as the province reduces the Ontario Municipal Partners Fund.

“I would like to see a strong budget that is supported by provincial government - not cutting back the funds that we’ve seen cut over the last year - to allow us to expand the community and get an emergency shelter, or how health care emergency base back into Inwood.”

Vanessa Beniot said she would rely

on experts to help her analyze the budget to make sure the money was being well spent.

Candidates also expressed concern for the lack of opportunities for youth and seniors in the community.

Ferguson suggested there should be more emphasis placed on the recreation needs of seniors. “We have a great place for ball and hockey, and some youth activities but as we get older, the seniors are looking for a place, in my opinion, to meet in the mornings for an hour or two and a half, to make sure that we’re well and to talk with each other,” he said.

Both Hilliard and Redick wanted to see more opportunities for children who don’t like sports.

“We’ve got this facility right here. Maybe we could reach out to somebody within the community and try to try to find some volunteers that are talented, musically talented in acting... who might engage the younger people in our population that skate about as badly as I do,” said Hilliard.

“I have tried for years and years to get some programs running through this arena through the summer after school programs so that our youth do have some work to go other than walking the streets and getting into mischief because they’re bored,” said Redick. “We need to make sure that we’re supporting our youth, as well as our elderly.”

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2022 Municipal Election

Candidate Profiles - Mayor of Petrolia

Brad Loosley

R.Brad Loosley, 73, is one of two former administrators of Petrolia vying for the top elected position. Loosley, who is well known as figure skating coach and active in his church and community, is seeking his second term as mayor.

What is the most important issue facing Petrolia in the next four years?

The control of the financial portion of the municipality to keep taxes under control while reducing the town's debt, and recognizing the VPP as the only department under Council's control that makes a sizeable profit each year - bringing approximately 40,000 people to the community which is a great benefit to the businesses and restaurants within the town. I also wish to follow the Town's Strategic and Master Plans.

What would you do about the issue you identified?

I would work with staff and council together to control the municipal budget plus long range and capital projects through Asset Management. This budget control has resulted in finding that Petrolia is no longer listed as the highest tax rate in Lambton.

Do you support implementing

Richard Poore

Richard Poore grew up in Sarnia and came to Petrolia to lead Victoria Playhouse Petrolia. In retirement, the 64 year-old continues to help with set construction now. He's also the vice chair of the Petrolia Discovery Foundation.

What is the most important issue facing Petrolia in the next four years?

As I've spoken to our citizens over the last several months, many important issues are being raised, including but not limited to sidewalks and trails, sewer rates, bylaw enforcement, the homeless issue, development charges, a splash pad, youth engagement and a desire for change and better leadership from our elected officials. Citizens are telling me they don't feel as though they are being listened to, and the public consultation process leaves them without a voice.

What would you do about the issue you identified?

The one issue that requires immediate attention, and which would in turn impact all of the other issues stated above, is better leadership from our elected officials.

development fees in the next term of council? Why or why not?

Yes, providing the fees are reasonable. The town has benefited from no development fees in the past. However, growth should pay for growth. Development charges can only be used for appropriate capital costs resulting from the growth or the residential development project. Our great town is fortunate to have several land development projects at the initial stages of the development process and now is the time for town council to have a Development Charges study completed. With this information, council can decide on fair and appropriate charges.

Many of Petrolia's subdivisions do not have sidewalks - how do you think the town should address the problem? Should it be a priority? How much cash should be dedicated to the task yearly?

The current council did address this item going forward, in that any new sub-divisions will have sidewalks on one side of the street. Council directed a Connectivity Study that will study our current sub-divisions without sidewalks. It will bring recommendations to address and prioritize areas without sidewalks within the sub-division and

I would utilize my diverse training and leadership experience to ensure the culture of council is one of collaboration, consensus building, full participation, goal-setting and visioning for the future. Opportunity for public engagement/consultation should be better communicated, with advance notice on multiple platforms to ensure all residents are aware, informed and able to participate in the process. I would like to see more opportunities for residents and business owners to provide input and feedback, with opportunity for actual discussion so residents are able to fully understand the issues at hand.

Do you support implementing development fees in the next term of council? Why or why not?

I feel development fees are essential to responsible investment in the future growth of Petrolia. I believe development should pay for development. It will be a priority of mine to obtain the Development Charge Study so council can make informed decisions about the fees. There is the potential for approximately 1,000 new homes in the next 5-10 years. It is imperative



connecting these sidewalks to key areas within the town, such as , the downtown, hospital, schools, etc. There has been one public session already and another one is planned for later this year. Public input will be key to getting this right. The budget amount will be determined as recommended in the study.

Transparency is key to good government; how do you think Petrolia could provide more information to the public about the business of government?

Yes, I fully agree that transparency is key to good government. Without transparency, government cannot be held accountable. And yes, government can always improve on informing the public better. Municipal government provides a very broad scope of services from safe drinking water to road construction to by-law enforcement. Each of these activities can be complicated in their own right. One of my ideas if re-elected, would be to survey the public and ask them for what aspects of municipal government would they appreciate more information and then hold public or town hall sessions with council. I would have staff as the subject matter experts present,

that we plan financially to support the necessary infrastructure. I don't believe existing citizens should be solely responsible for these costs. If these costs don't come from development fees, it will be necessary to pay for them out of the property tax revenue.

Many of Petrolia's subdivisions do not have sidewalks - how do you think the town should address the problem?

Walkability is definitely one of the major concerns of many citizens and, in my opinion, a huge priority. Council needs to rely on the results of the Sidewalk/Connectivity and Walkability Study currently being conducted to assist in determining what the residents feel are the priority areas. This is integrated with the 2018 Town of Petrolia Community Wellbeing Master Plan, which also identifies the need for sidewalks. Sidewalks are a community builder; they are integral to a healthy, safe community. In my opinion, all new subdivisions must have sidewalks on at least one side of the road, preferably both, paid for by the developer. In the 2023 budget, I believe we should

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

and council would listen to any suggestions from the public for improvement. I have always been able to listen to the public and try as best I can to help with a solution to any concerns.

Recently, town staff applied for and received grants for projects which had not been approved by council in public session. This committed taxpayers to thousands of dollars in spending without the proper approvals in place. Do you approve of this process? Explain why or why not and what you would like to see happen in the future.

Staff does not have the authority to approve grant agreements and have always received Council approval prior to the Town of Petrolia committing to any Federal and/or Provincial grant program. The agreement, called a Transfer Payment Agreement, is a detailed, legal document committing both the Federal/Provincial government and municipality to many conditions on both sides. These agreements are usually 20-50 pages long. The Transfer Payment Agreements are presented to Council for consideration and council approval is requested for the Mayor and the Clerk (or CAO/treasurer) to be

able to sign on behalf of Council. As Mayor, I have personally signed all of these grant agreements over the past 4 years. The Town of Petrolia has been extremely successful on grant applications over the past 10 years or so. This year we received grant approval for almost \$12 million on our \$16.2 million Water Treatment Plant In-take Replacement Project which is critical for the Town to maintain our safe drinking water system. Our current In-take is at the end of its useful life of 80 years. We also recently received a \$700,000 grant to improve our recreational facilities at our Petrolia YMCA. Staff are doing a great job, and I would encourage them to continue doing great work at securing federal and /or provincial grants which are extremely competitive. Most municipalities use private grant writing companies, but in Petrolia, it is our staff that does all of this work. With additional special COVID grants over the past 3 years, Council receives a periodic grant summary report to keep Council appraised of how the Town is doing. This report not only includes grant approvals, but grants submitted and anticipated grant

had not been approved by council in public session. This committed taxpayers to thousands of dollars in spending without the proper approvals in place. Do you approve? Explain why or why not.

Both short and long-term operating and capital budgets are reviewed and updated during each annual budget process and are therefore fully available to the public through the public consultation process. It is, in fact, staff's job to be proactive in applying for and securing funds through grant applications from both government and non-government funders to assist with capital and operating funding. By doing this, it positions any given project to be "shovel ready" when or if an opportunity for funding arises. Staff do not act without proper approval. Simply applying for grants does not commit taxpayer dollars to a project; it is one of the many steps necessary at the beginning of the process. Staff's job is to present Council with funder-approved dollars, which allows them to make fully informed decisions on whether to then approve the project and the municipality's financial impact.

Candidate Profiles - Petrolia Councillor

Bill Clark has been involved in Petrolia politics for years, serving on the Community Services Advisory Committee and the group which brought the Oil Heritage Centre to the town. The 53 year-old now wants a seat at the council table.

What is the most important issue facing Petrolia in the next four years?

I think the main focus should be on growing the town and the tax base so that infrastructure and recreational facility improvements can be made without imposing excessive tax increases on the residents. Many of the items recently before council tied to growth have been stalled or tabled and no real decisions made. Council needs to get these projects

moving forward. I feel the current council became distracted with the multiple Integrity Commissioner investigations. I believe some new faces and fresh ideas are needed to help move council forward and get the focus back on the job the residents elected them to do.

What would you do about the issue you identified?

Come to council with an open mind and no personal agenda. Show up having read the prepared council information package. Do the homework and research the topics and be ready to reasonably debate the pros and cons of each issue. Make informed decisions and move forward with or terminate proposals brought forward rather than keeping them tabled and open for

Bill Clark

an indeterminate time frame. Work together to advance the agreed upon projects in a cost effective manner. Be present. Attend the meetings of the committees of council you are appointed to. These committees are made up of residents who all want to contribute to their community. Listen to the people that elected you.

Do you support implementing development fees in the next term of council? Why or why not?

I think the BM Ross study that council deferred and effectively dismissed is a necessary tool in making an educated decision on whether implementing development fees is the right way to proceed. I think the argument that this fee would deter builders from doing

business here is false. Many other communities have implemented these fees and it does not appear to have deterred new home construction in those municipalities. I think the study proposal should be revisited and the study completed. This information will assist council in making an informed decision. I would support implementing development fees if the study and follow-up research concludes the fees would relieve the residents from any possible tax increases as a result of new development.

Many of Petrolia's subdivisions do not have sidewalks - how do you think the town should address the problem?

I believe it is certainly worth investigating the costs associated

with extending the sidewalks on the major routes where sidewalks exist but were not continued when development extended these streets. Extending the sidewalk should have been required, and should be a requirement going forward, when extending any street already having a sidewalk. I do not support going back and putting a sidewalk on every street in town that does not have presently have one. I think the installation and added winter maintenance costs would be extensive. I believe the town is on the right track now in requiring all new subdivision construction have a sidewalk on at least one side of the street.

CONTINUED ON PAGE NINE

2022 Municipal Election

Candidate Profiles - Petrolia Councillor

Bill Clark continued

Transparency is key to good government; how do you think Petrolia could provide more information to the public about the business of government?

I think reminders of upcoming council meetings and further advance public notice of the council agenda would help. I think more detailed social media and print media notifications could be used to make this possible. I also think social media and print media could be used to remind residents that they can reach out to their councillors or contact the town hall and speak directly to staff regarding any town related item or concern they have. Residents do not need to wait for the next session of council to raise concerns.

Recently, town staff applied for and received grants for projects which had not been approved by council in public session. This committed taxpayers to thousands of dollars in spending without the proper approvals in place. Do you approve of this process? Explain why or why not and what you would like to see happen in the future.

I think ideally council would want to know in

advance of any grant application submissions before they are made. However, it is my understanding that many grant applications have submission deadlines that do not always align with the council calendar. Further to that it is my understanding that staff will apply for grants based on Capital projects or other projects currently on the books for council to approve. This is done as a means to help accelerate the completion date of the project rather than have the process stalled while waiting for the funding approvals months after the project has been approved by council.

It is also my understanding that applying for the grant and being successfully offered the funding does not commit you to the project. The project still has to be approved by council before the funds are officially accepted and if the project is not approved the offer of funding can be declined.

If this is not the case and applying and receiving an offer of funding does force the project on the community then I would be opposed to staff making these applications ahead of project approvals.

Wade Deighton

Wade Deighton, 49, is seeking his second term on council. He is also currently attending Thompson River University.

What is the most important issue facing Petrolia in the next four years?

Housing, taxes, community, well-being, and Petrolia's youth

What would you do about the issue you identified?

I would like to see a reduction in taxes where possible. Aiding development of housing for all income levels. Adding more programs or ideas of programs for our youth, and I would like to see the YMCA be returned to the Town of Petrolia to manage with the right leadership in place to make it more accessible to everyone as a community centre.

Do you support implementing development fees in the next term of council? Why or why not?

No, I do not. I believe that we have enough fees that add to the price of housing. Additionally remove roadblocks that have been put in place of developers as a go forward. More affordable housing for everyone.

Many of Petrolia's subdivisions do not have sidewalks - how do you think the town should address the problem? Should it be a priority? How much cash should be dedicated to the task yearly?

We have a robust sidewalk plan that is concentrated on the central core of Petrolia,

linking all subdivisions to the downtown core. I believe we need to put this as a priority to get them up to the current standards and shape that they are accessible to all. Then we will look at the other subdivisions.

Transparency is key to good government; how do you think Petrolia could provide more information to the public about the business of government?

I am a firm believer in having open council question periods that will always be front and centre in my mind and agenda. That is the first step of transparency. Additionally, I would like to see the Town of Petrolia not only televise, but simulcast all council meetings to an open online forum so that people can watch live

Recently, town staff applied for and received grants for projects which had not been approved by council in public session. This committed taxpayers to thousands of dollars in spending without the proper approvals in place. Do you approve of this process? Explain why or why not and what you would like to see happen in the future.

I am all for staff asking for grants. All concepts have been through committee and the staff saw opportunity and seized the moment to apply for grants. Nothing is committed to the town even if given grants, we can turn those back and we've decided to move forward with plans for things that are needed for the town

Shalen Hunter

Shalen Hunter, 35, a supply teacher for the public school board, is taking her first run for political office hoping to become a councillor in Petrolia.

What is the most important issue facing Petrolia in the next four years?

Community engagement – we need to fully engage with all sectors of our community to properly determine long-term and short-term goals for our town.

What would you do about the issue you identified?

Enhance communication to better understand the needs of all community members and increase the responsiveness of council to those needs.

Do you support implementing development fees in the next term of council? Why or why not?

This is an important issue which faces the incoming council. If elected, I will work with my fellow councillors to review the idea of implementing development fees, taking all viewpoints into consideration to reach a consensus based on the best interests of our town and community.

Many of Petrolia's subdivisions do not have sidewalks - how do you think the town should address the problem? Should it be a priority? How much cash should be dedicated to the task yearly?

Sidewalks are another significant topic which the

incoming council should address. If elected, I will work with my fellow councillors to determine the appropriate approach to ensuring this issue is properly resolved to the benefit of our town and community.

Transparency is key to good government; how do you think Petrolia could provide more information to the public about the business of government?

As civil servants, councillors should be open and transparent in all aspects of their role. Increasing modes of communication and enhancing community engagement in municipal governance would promote trust in our councillors as representatives serving in the best interest of our town and community.

Recently, town staff applied for and received grants for projects which had not been approved by council in public session. This committed taxpayers to thousands of dollars in spending without the proper approvals in place. Do you approve of this process? Explain why or why not and what you would like to see happen in the future.

This issue is another one that should be addressed by the incoming council. If elected, I will work with my fellow councillors to determine if this process provides the best outcomes for our town and community.



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October 7-10, 2022

FRIDAY OCTOBER 7TH

Seniors/Student Day
Admission \$5.00 until 5 pm then \$10.00
Elementary Students & Younger - Free

- 9:00 am Exhibit Buildings Open
- 10:00 am Agriculture Awareness Day (til 4 pm) (C)
- Emergency Response Displays
- 11:00 am Crystal Gage (ET)
- 11:30 am Official Fair Opening (ET)
- 12:15 am Crystal Gage (ET)
- 2:00 pm Pickin' n Fiddlin' at the Fair (ET)
- 7:00 pm Southwest Ontario Tractor Pullers Association & Good Times Truck Pullers Association (G)
- 8:00 pm Exhibit Buildings close at 8 pm

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SATURDAY OCTOBER 8TH

Admission \$10.00
Elementary Students & Younger - Free

- 9:00 am Exhibit Buildings Open
- 9:00 am Mid Western Horse Show (HR1/2)
- 9:00 am Haflinger Show (HHR)
- 10:30 am Standard and Bantam Poultry Show (PB)
- 11:00 am Open Sheep/Market Lamb Show (C)
- 11:00 am ProRider Freestyle MX- Show, Meet & Greet (G)
- 11:25 am Bluewater Chordsman (ET)
- PARADE at NOON
- 12:30 pm Randy Satchell Band (ET)
- 1:00 pm Beef Cattle Breed Show (C)
- 1:00 pm Canadian Great War Society Cavalry - Formation Riding demonstration (HR3)
- 1:00 pm ProRider Freestyle MX- Show, Meet & Greet (G)
- 1:15 pm IPM Awards Presentation (ET)
- 1:30 pm Pie Auction (CS)
- 1:30 pm Randy Satchell Band (ET)
- 1:30 pm Ontario Vintage Tractor Pullers Association (G)
- 2:00 pm Canadian Great War Society Cavalry - Skill at arms weapons display. (HR3)
- 2:30 pm Dino Craft Centre (CS)
- 2:45 pm Steppin' Up Dance Club (ET)
- 3:30 pm Jacklyn Wills (CS)
- 3:30 pm Christine Storey and Friends (ET)
- 4:00 pm ProRider Freestyle MX- Show, Meet & Greet (G)
- 6:30 pm Team Sorting (C)
- 8:00 pm Exhibit Buildings Close at 8:00 pm



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SUNDAY OCTOBER 9TH

Admission \$10.00
Elementary Students & Younger - Free

- 9:00 am Exhibit Buildings Open
- 9:00 am Mid Western Horse Show (HR1/2)
- 10:00 am Brigden 4-H Sheep Show (C)
- 10:00 am Children's Rabbit & Guinea Pig Show (FY)
- 10:00 am Meet & Greet - Superheros (CS)
- 10:00 am Western Ontario Outlaws - Lawnmower Races
- 10:30 am Ducks & Geese Show (PB)
- 11:00 am Interdenominational church service with the Chapelaires (ET)
- 11:00 am Dino Craft Centre (CS)
- 11:00 am ProRider Freestyle MX- Show, Meet & Greet (G)
- 12:15 pm Buck and Boys Classic Country (ET)
- 12:30 pm Working Wagon Teams Show (HHR)
- 1:00 pm Meet & Greet - Fairytale Characters (CS)
- 1:00 pm ProRider Freestyle MX- Show, Meet & Greet (G)
- 1:15 pm Piano Time with Barry Betts (ET)
- 1:30 pm Intercounty 4-H Sheep Show (C)
- 2:00 pm Dino Craft Centre (CS)
- 2:15 pm Buck and Boys Classic Country (ET)
- 3:00 pm Western Ontario Outlaws - Lawnmower Races
- 3:15 pm Joan Spalding and Friends (ET)
- 3:30 pm Meet & Greet - Fairytale Characters (CS)
- 4:00 pm ProRider Freestyle MX- Show, Meet & Greet (G)
- 6:00 pm Exhibit Buildings Close at 6:00 pm



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MONDAY OCTOBER 10TH

Admission \$10.00
Elementary Students & Younger Free

- 9:00 am Farm Truck Displays - All Day (G)
- 9:00 am Exhibit Buildings Open
- 9:00 am Heavy Horse Show (HHR)
- 9:00 am Brigden 4-H Beef Show (C)
- 9:30 am Open Light Horse & Miniature Horse Show (HR3)
- 9:30 am Brigden Fair Open Speed Show (HR1)
- 10:00 am Beef Cattle Feeder Club & Market Lambs (C)
- 10:00 am Baby Show 9 - 12 months (CS)
- 10:30 am Pigeon Show (PB)
- 11:00 am Great Canadian Lumberjacks (LS)
- 11:30 am Baby Show 5 - 8 months (CS)
- 12:00 noon Sarnia School of Irish Dance (ET)
- 1:00 pm Shane Cook and the Woodchippers (ET)
- 1:00 pm Ontario Four Horse Hitch (HHR)
- 1:00 pm Intercounty 4-H Beef Show (C)
- 1:00 pm Beef Cattle Breed Show (C)
- 1:00 pm Great Canadian Lumberjacks (LS)
- 1:30 pm Baby Show 0 - 4 months (CS)
- 2:00 pm Mark Blaney (ET)
- 3:00 pm Shane Cook and the Woodchippers (ET)
- 3:00 pm Great Canadian Lumberjacks (LS)
- 4:00 pm Exhibit Buildings close at 4:00 pm

NOTE: TIMES & LOCATION SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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2022 Municipal Election

Candidate Profiles - Petrolia Councillor

Chad Hyatt

Chad Hyatt, 41, wants to be a Petrolia councillor to promote fiscal responsibility. This is his first run for political office.

What is the most important issue facing Petrolia in the next four years?

With the tightening of the economy, the fiscal management of the Town will be critical within the next few years. Maintaining a strong plan for growth, service, maintenance, and capital expenditures will be required to support the town and its residents.

What would you do about the issue you identified?

I will actively work to understand the budget and work to bring new ideas and visions as shared by the constituents of the town and from my past experiences.

Do you support implementing development fees in the next term of council? Why or why not?

I do support the implementation of development fees within the town. With the integration of policies around the use of development fees, the cost burden on the town budget can be reduced. Benchmarking policies from other municipalities shall provide insight in how the fee schedule should be arranged.

Many of Petrolia’s subdivisions do not have sidewalks - how do you think the town should address the problem? Should it be a priority? How much cash should be dedicated to the task yearly?

As I reside in a neighbourhood without sidewalks, I can understand how this can be a concern for some and a non-issue for others. Sidewalks are a critical component of infrastructure for the safety of the residents. Instead of installing sidewalks in all new

and existing development, I believe a risk analysis should be conducted to determine the necessity for a sidewalk. For high-risk areas, sidewalks be implemented, and low risk areas we could consider wider streets with integrated multi use paths for walking and biking.

Transparency is key to good government; how do you think Petrolia could provide more information to the public about the business of government?

Transparency within the town can be mainly achieved through digitization. Providing digital information to the residents that is easy to find and easy to understand can result in meaningful dialog and data exchange between the local government and the citizens.

Recently, town staff applied for and received grants for projects which had not been approved by council in public session. This committed taxpayers to thousands of dollars in spending without the proper approvals in place. Do you approve of this process? Explain why or why not and what you would like to see happen in the future.

Government grants are a key source of income for the Town and reduce the use of funds which can in turn be allocated to other projects. Applications for these grants can be time dependent and very competitive amongst other municipalities in the province. Thus, I do see high value in trying to receive these grants as needed, when conducted within the means as outlined within the town’s policies and procedures. Pre-planning and maintaining insight into new grants that become available via our MP and MPP are critical to future developments.

Allison Melvis

Allison Melvis is a newcomer to Petrolia politics. The Early Childhood Educator became interested in municipal politics as council approved a new development in her neighbourhood.

What is the most important issue facing Petrolia in the next four years?

The residents of Petrolia deserve an open and honest council that truly stands with integrity. This has been a serious issue in the past and there have been some issues with this council as well. Residents need to feel that for each issue town councillors and the mayor truly have the best interests of the residents, businesses and Petrolia in mind. We need to work hard on regaining trust. Post-COVID, Petrolia is expanding rapidly. We need to allow room for growth, while maintaining the quality of everyday life for the current residents of Petrolia. The town has some major, expensive projects planned in the coming years, such as the expansion at the YMCA. It’s very important that we remain focussed on what town residents truly want and need, so that they receive value for their tax dollars.

What would you do about the issue you identified?

I think the most important thing to keep in mind is when you are a councillor, you’re not there to be best friends with other councillors or the mayor. You are there to represent the residents and business owners of Petrolia who voted for you, who believed in you, as well as those that did not. Since running for council, I have come to learn that most of the discussions are done at committee meeting levels, which creates the reports that are presented to council at their public meetings. I firmly believe there needs to be more open discussion and more questions during council meetings. I have heard from many residents that they feel there is a ‘good old boys club’ mentality amongst the council. What is best for the town, for the town residents needs to be first. I’m not easily swayed. I do my homework. I think for myself. I will speak my mind. I will ask questions. I will challenge. I will focus on what is best for the town, not for the other councillors or the mayor.

Do you support implementing development

fees in the next term of council? Why or why not?

I have to say that this topic frustrates me enormously. I was at several council meetings when the proposal of a study to look into this was tabled to the next meeting. I was at the last council meeting where the topic of having the study completed was not even opened for discussion. Initially I felt council was cowardly to shove the issue aside for so long. It appeared as if the council was concerned with the upcoming election and wanted to avoid making a decision on this topic, so as not to affect their chances at re-election. I have recently been told it has long been the intention that the final decision on this would go to the next council. To an extent I can understand this. But, this topic has been on the agenda for months. I am still unclear as to why this council, in months of time, could not or would not make the decision to move forward with the study. I know there will be people that are offended by my use of the word ‘cowardly’. In my personal opinion, refusing to have difficult conversations, ones that not everyone may agree with you, or where you might need to make an unpopular decision, is cowardly. I will have a discussion with anyone. I might never agree with someone, but that doesn’t change the fact that the discussion needs to take place. I think implementing development fees definitely needs to be looked into. I would fully support having the study done on this topic and then base a final decision with the information presented in that study.

Many of Petrolia’s subdivisions do not have sidewalks - how do you think the town should address the problem? Should it be a priority? How much cash should be dedicated to the task yearly?

I attended the in-person presentation about sidewalks. I must say, I believe the initial reports were extremely thorough and detailed. I also complement the town for providing multiple opportunities/ways for residents to share their opinions on this topic. I am a firm believer that we really need to look at the quality of the sidewalks we currently have.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

LAMBTON-KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE

ELECT

KATHRYN SHAILER



Central Lambton:
Brooke-Alvinston/ Enniskillen/
Oil Springs/ Petrolia/ St. Clair Twp

**Lifelong educator
Forward thinking
Experienced communicator**

As a lifelong educator—and even more importantly, as a mother of two and grandmother of three—I understand well the issues facing our schools and our children today.

I bring over forty years of experience as a postsecondary teacher and administrator, including directing and teaching in continuing educations programs for reskilling and upskilling adult learners

As we emerge from the pandemic, we need to understand and address the full impact of the past two + years, to assess what was lost—not only in terms of academics, but also social skills and the mental well-being of our students and teachers.

Beyond that, we live in a rapidly changing world. A strong and responsive public K-12 system is the foundation for long-term solutions: developing the right skills, cultivating innovators, and preparing the leaders of tomorrow.

www.facebook.com/kathryn.shailer.5/about

re-ELECT

DAVID FERGUSON

Mayor Brooke Alvinston

Experienced Collaborative Teamwork Trusted Integrity

Working for all of Brooke Alvinston

VOTE

DAVID FERGUSON

Mayor Brooke Alvinston

2022 Municipal Election

Candidate Profiles - Petrolia Councillor

Allison Melvis continued

Many are in dire need of repair, and are often unusable. A well thought out plan, looking at the order of what should be addressed first, should be created. Current sidewalks that are used the most should be repaired first. I also feel that any and all new development should have mandatory sidewalks included. Yes, some might not connect to anything, yet. But when a development is built, no matter how small, sidewalks should be included. I think sidewalks should be a priority, due to the fact that they can have a very direct and immediate effect on the quality of life for people. For someone with mobility issues, having a usable sidewalk by their home can literally change the way they live their life. I honestly can't say a specific cash figure. I would tie this in with planned road maintenance and current development.

Transparency is key to good government; how do you think Petrolia could provide more information to the public about the business of government?

In 2022 I have attended more council meetings than what I attended in my entire life prior to this year. While attending meetings I was absolutely flabbergasted at the lack of discussion, lack of questions, and sometimes what to me appeared to be the lack of attention of the council. I wondered if it was the intention simply that council passes motions to accept reports? I thought the intent was for council to read the reports, ask questions about the reports, have a discussion. I had the impression the vast majority of the work council does, the discussions council has, is done behind closed doors. I have heard from many people that they believe this. To an extent this is true. I was unaware of how much was accomplished at the committee level. I will add I was also unaware of who could attend those committee meetings, basically that the general public was welcome. I think this needs to change. I feel we need to give more exposure and explanation to residents in general, as well as more clarity, as to how the Petrolia municipal government actually runs. Where and when issues that affect them and the town are

Ross O'Hara

Ross O'Hara, 72, has served on Petrolia for 26 years. He's seeking another four year term this election.

What is the most important issue facing Petrolia in the next four years?

Having all the various subdivisions that are proposed at this time approved.

What would you do about the issue you identified?

I would work with the county and the developers to expedite the process.

Do you support implementing development fees in the next term of council? Why or why not?

No...because it increases the cost to the developer which is passed on to the purchaser of the home.

Many of Petrolia's subdivisions do not have sidewalks - how do you think the town should address the problem? Should it be a priority? How much cash should be dedicated to the task yearly?

All new subdivisions will have sidewalks and

Debb Pitel

Debb Pitel, 59, a mental health advocate in Lambton County wants to be a part of Petrolia council.

What is the most important issue facing Petrolia in the next four years?

I feel those are yet to be determined at this point. All issues affecting our community are important. While campaigning I'm gathering information to research and find related articles from previous meetings to align. I welcome conversations that open up conversations to best represent the issues they feel need addressed.

What would you do about the issue you identified?

being discussed and decided upon. However, perhaps I still see it wrong, but I still would like to hear more discussion at council meetings, more questioning, more dialogue. As a resident I would like to know what it is that our elected officials actually think about issues, and what questions or concerns they have.

I believe that residents need to be able to see Council addressing issues that affect them, and that they are discussed with them, or at the very least, done in such a way that they can easily access what the discussion was about.

Recently, town staff applied for and received grants for projects which had not been approved by council in public session. This committed taxpayers to thousands of dollars in spending without the proper approvals in place. Do you approve of this process? Explain why or why not and what you would like to see happen in the future.

It is true that staff applied for grants without final project plans being drawn up or approved, in regards to the Parks and Rec development planned by the YMCA. However, nothing included in the grant application was a surprise. Everything was based upon what was reported in the Parks and Recreation Master plan, which was presented to residents and council, and was accepted by council. It happened to be that the opportunity to apply for grants was available, prior to blueprints being drawn up. So, prior to full approval from council. Yet, wasn't applying for the grants the logical thing to do? Is phase one of the plan not much more extensive, given the large amount of grants, than it would have been had it needed to be 100 per cent funded by taxpayers' dollars? Do we really want to create a situation where town staff had ignored the potential of hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants? Given the information within the Parks and Rec master plan, council already knew what was needed, and what was wanted. Council accepted and approved that report. The development may not have been drawn up to see exactly what would go where, but the general concept had been approved.

all existing subdivisions will fall under the budget process.

Transparency is key to good government; how do you think Petrolia could provide more information to the public about the business of government?

All meetings are totally open to the press and public. All decisions and motions are open also.

Recently, town staff applied for and received grants for projects which had not been approved by council in public session. This committed taxpayers to thousands of dollars in spending without the proper approvals in place. Do you approve of this process? Explain why or why not and what you would like to see happen in the future.

All grants that the town receives are a benefit to the taxpayers. It actually saves them money. Staff does inform council when applying for grants and when they receive them.

Once those issues are determined, facts are found I think it's my role to bring these concerns to the table for discussion. Learn from the team, offer my insight. Follow up and offer feedback and insight to the source. Offer suggestions, solutions and time frames for resolution.

Do you support implementing development fees in the next term of council? Why or why not?

I have read previous minutes, conversations and although it has been discussed, I was not involved in these proceedings. I am open to learning and reviewing both viewpoints before making a decision.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

WILKINS FOR MAYOR PLYMPTON-WYOMING



LEARN MORE ABOUT MY CAMPAIGN AT
WWW.WILKINSFORMAYOR.CA

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS ACT VOTER'S LIST

Notice to the municipal electors of the



MUNICIPAL POSITIONS TO BE ELECTED:

The Voter's Lists prepared as required under the Municipal Elections Act Sec 23 (2) are available for review in the respective offices of the Municipal Clerks of Brooke-Alvinston, Dawn-Euphemia, Enniskillen, Oil Springs, Plympton-Wyoming, St. Clair and Warwick beginning on the 1st day of September 2022.

All voters should examine the list to ensure that their names and relevant information are correctly shown.

Applications for inclusions, additions, or corrections to or deletions from the list may be made by an elector through completing and filing a form obtainable at their Municipal Office. The last day for filing applications concerning inclusions, additions, corrections, or deletions of a voters' name from the voters' list is October 24, 2022 – Municipal Election Day.

No person shall use information obtained from the Voters' List except for election purposes.

Voters are encouraged to visit their local Municipal Office to make revisions prior to Election Day.

Janet Denkers <i>Clerk</i> Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston	Donna Clermont <i>Clerk</i> Township of Dawn-Euphemia	Duncan McTavish <i>Clerk</i> Township of Enniskillen
Martha Gawley <i>Clerk</i> Village of Oil Springs	Erin Kwarciak <i>Clerk</i> Town of Plympton-Wyoming	Mandi Pearson <i>Clerk</i> Town of Petrolia
Jeff Baranek <i>Clerk</i> Township of St. Clair	Amanda Gubbles <i>Clerk</i> Township of Warwick	

2022 Municipal Election

Candidate Profiles - Petrolia Councillor

Debb Pitel - continued

Many of Petrolia's subdivisions do not have sidewalks - how do you think the town should address the problem? Should it be a priority? How much cash should be dedicated to the task yearly?

I have seen the issues not having sidewalks firsthand. Safety to residents should always be a priority. Without a deep look into budget as a whole I couldn't comment on allocation of funds.

Transparency is key to good government; how do you think Petrolia could provide more information to the public about the business of government?

I feel the transparency has been done well.

Grant Purdy

Grant Purdy, 48, hoping the third time will be a charm. The incumbent councillor, who is a paramedic and refs both hockey and baseball, is seeking his third term on Petrolia council.

What is the most important issue facing Petrolia in the next four years?

I believe there are a few that are all up there - continuing to expand on programs and amenities for youth - working collaboratively with our service clubs as we have recently began doing is key; I also believe we need to keep taxes in check and work with all our developers to continue our growth and prosperity. Both in residential and commercial capacities. I also feel we need to continue to work with our local businesses to ensure we keep our downtown vibrant and booming. Finally, we need to ensure we try to keep our water and sewer rates reasonable. We have new infrastructure coming to our water treatment plant, and a new wastewater treatment plant which are important keys to those issues.

What would you do about the issue you identified?

All the issues I've mentioned above, are currently being addressed - we need to continue the progress.

Do you support implementing development fees in the next term of council? Why or why not?

No. In a nutshell, I believe it will have a negative impact on affordable housing for families. We already have a shortage of that. **Many of Petrolia's subdivisions do not have sidewalks - how do you think the town should address the problem? Should it be a priority? How much cash should be dedicated to the task yearly?**

I have been a proponent of sidewalks from day one. We have finally mandated sidewalk

Online, in-person, minutes and videos shared offer a very diverse opportunity of review. However there is always room to improve. **Recently, town staff applied for and received grants for projects which had not been approved by council in public session. This committed taxpayers to thousands of dollars in spending without the proper approvals in place. Do you approve of this process? Explain why or why not and what you would like to see happen in the future.**

I can't comment at this time without facts presented and reviewed. Maybe a current council would be better to field this question for now.

implementation in all new subdivisions; and are in the process of looking to gradually connect between the gaps. This is something that's been neglected for decades, and will take some time to complete. As for a dollar figure, I'm not sure exactly and wouldn't want to speculate. This is something that I want discussed at the next budget meeting if I'm fortunate enough to be elected to a 3rd term.

Transparency is key to good government; how do you think Petrolia could provide more information to the public about the business of government?

I think building on our social media platforms is key; I also believe print advertising is still a crucial component in this era of technology, given the fact we still have many seniors and others who are not tech savvy or own devices. I also am going to pursue a system similar to what the County and City of Sarnia utilize at their council meetings; a software that projects onto a screen whereby every time a vote is made, it shows each individual councillor and mayors vote - in essence it makes each and every vote a "recorded" vote. **Recently, town staff applied for and received grants for projects which had not been approved by council in public session. This committed taxpayers to thousands of dollars in spending without the proper approvals in place. Do you approve of this process? Explain why or why not and what you would like to see happen in the future.**

I believe each grant process should be approved by Council. I realize there are some instances where this hasn't occurred; I believe time constraints have been an issue on occasion and there are sometimes extenuating circumstances, but I do believe it's important to pre approve these items whenever possible. I would like to see it be more consistent.

development fees in the next term of council. At this time, I believe that these extra fees may deter people from moving to Petrolia. Residents are already paying the third highest tax base in all of Lambton County. If we want to see growth we need to keep the costs for our residents down. Developmental fees have to be spent on growth and growth alone. This money can not be spend on maintenance. Therefore, I don't believe we are at a point where we need these fees to grow our town. **Many of Petrolia's subdivisions do not have sidewalks - how do you think the town should address the problem? Should it be a priority? How much cash should be dedicated to the task yearly?**

The town should address this through the master plan that is currently in the works. This plan needs to be completed then followed as sidewalks are a priority in our town. The cost for sidewalks should be evaluated from year to year based on needs

Transparency is key to good government; how do you think Petrolia could provide more information to the public about the business of government?

I believe Petrolia has been very transparent over the last four years. We have had a great deal of town meetings to keep the public informed on the business of government.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



You're Invited!
**East Lambton
Community Complex**
Public Open House
**Wednesday, October 12, 2022
5 - 7 pm
61 Centennial Avenue, Watford**
Warwick Township will soon receive occupancy of the new East Lambton Community Complex and would like to invite the public to join Council, Staff and the YMCA of East Lambton for a tour of the new facility and light refreshments.
We look forward to welcoming you on the 12th!

**VOTE
OCT 24**

**Jamie
ARMSTRONG**

FOR MAYOR

BROOKE ALVINSTON MUNICIPAL ELECTION 2022

2022 Municipal Election

Candidate Profiles - Petrolia Councillor

Marty Souch Continued

Recently, town staff applied for and received grants for projects which had not been approved by council in public session. This committed taxpayers to thousands of dollars in spending without the proper approvals in place. Do you approve of this process? Explain why or why not

and what you would like to see happen in the future. No I do not approve of this process; however due to the filing restraints of upper government the time frame for the process is very narrow. The Master Plan has been approved. In the future the upper governments need to

change the application processes for grants and allow for more time for approval process.

Liz Welsh

Liz Welsh, 56, is hoping to regain her seat on Petrolia Council. The local historian who has volunteered for years preserving the heritage of the community in local cemeteries and more recently at Petrolia Discovery, last served on council in 2018. What is the most important issue facing Petrolia in the next four years? The most important issue facing Petrolia is keeping our long-term financial plan on track and keeping costs as low as possible for residents while continuing smart and sustainable development. To do this, we need to utilize the Provincial Policy Statement, Petrolia's Asset Management Plan, and other relevant legislation to ensure development meets the needs of the current residents without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Here it is important to note, our assets are not limited to sewers and watermain but extend to the infrastructure and services people depend on everyday - sidewalks, streetlights, playgrounds, and educated staff.

What would you do about the issue you identified?

I would ensure decisions regarding new developments, commercial, industrial, and residential, are made in consultation with residents and using all current legislation and following Petrolia's Asset Management Plan, Official Plan, and Strategic Plan. This will establish the long-term affordability of services. I want Petrolia to be in great shape to deliver all these services to residents now and generations from now.

Do you support implementing development fees in the next term of council? Why or why not?

Petrolia needs a balanced approach to development, one that reflects the need for all types of housing and businesses and respects the current taxpayers. I was discouraged to see that the current council would not commit to studying how and if development charges could be used in Petrolia. Development charges can be an integral part of asset management and can ensure existing residents are not covering all the costs for new development. In brief, growth should pay for growth. The Development Charges Act guides the application of charges in Ontario and requires the completion of a study before a council can consider any charges. The cost of this study, which takes approximately one year to complete, is recoverable as per the DC Act. I would support undertaking a study so Council can make an informed decision on use of development charges.

Many of Petrolia's subdivisions do not have sidewalks - how do you think the town should address the problem?

New developments should have sidewalks and priority should be given to filling gaps in the current network so there is safe connectivity for active transportation and accessibility within town limits. Wherever possible we should seek out active transportation and accessibility grants to offset the costs. This approach was adopted into the Official Plan July 12/21. I would

support the continued implementation of this approach. A report is expected in Fall 2022 that will detail the cost and scope of the work required to upgrade our sidewalks. Sidewalk costs are currently estimated at \$89/square meter for a 1.5 meter-wide sidewalk (this does not include engineering or annual maintenance and snow removal costs) so we can expect this work to have a significant price tag. I will study the report and make an informed decision on how the Town can best prioritize the rehabilitation and construction of sidewalks in our neighbourhoods.

Transparency is key to good government; how do you think Petrolia could provide more information to the public?

Council must engage with residents and be held accountable for its decisions. We may not always agree, but we should welcome healthy discussion on what is best for Petrolia. I will ensure there is an easy process to speak to Council. Over the last four years, I watched as residents sought answers from Council and none were provided. If a resident brings a question to council, I will make sure they receive a timely and thorough response. We must also improve digital access to Council meetings and information, including quality recordings on the Town's YouTube Channel. I also support more outreach to residents, so they know how and when council is available to them. Finally, communication with residents must be clear and concise. Our residents are busy. They need a quick reference to what is coming up on the Council agenda and how they can have their say.

Recently, town staff applied for and received grants for projects which had not been approved by council in public session. This committed taxpayers to thousands of dollars in spending without the proper approvals in place. Do you approve of this process? Explain why or why not and what you would like to see happen in the future.

During my previous terms on Council, I participated in 12 budget processes. It was my experience that financial considerations were presented to Council through the full-day draft budget meeting as well on an ongoing basis through reports to council. If elected, I would work with staff to ensure clarity for councillors regarding the impact and details of forward planning documents, and to develop a timely and transparent mechanism through which new funding opportunities can be quickly brought to Council. It is always worthwhile to step back and consider how we can improve and deliver the best results for the residents of Petrolia. Moving forward, I would like to continue to see multiple sessions to discuss a proposed budget, ensuring this large and often complex plan, is understood by residents, council and staff alike. I would work to build a respectful relationship with staff that encourages an open and honest dialogue. I commit to continuing to inform myself to ensure all my decisions are informed decisions.

ELECTION DAY IS OCT 24TH

MURIEL WRIGHT FOR MAYOR

Plympton Wyoming

COMMITMENT • LEADERSHIP • VISION



“As your Mayor, I am committed to providing quality services for you, supporting the hard working families, farmers and small business owners of P-W. Together with Council, I will lead us in finding solutions and making tough decisions that will benefit the entire community.”

– Muriel Wright

24 yrs of Experience and Leadership


The WRIGHT time, the WRIGHT choice


ELECT MURIEL WRIGHT FOR MAYOR | Vote from Oct.14 - Oct.24 | THE WRIGHT TIME, THE WRIGHT CHOICE

LAMBTON COUNTY RESIDENTS


Dispose of your HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE at this Special Mobile Event

Commercially Generated Hazardous Waste Will NOT be Accepted
Containers larger than 20 litres or weighing more than 25 kg (55 lb) will NOT be accepted







CORROSIVE
Batteries
Drain Cleaners
Oven Cleaners



TOXIC
Pesticides
Pharmaceuticals
Cleaning Fluids



REACTIVE
Pool Chemicals
Ammonia Bleach
Aerosols




FLAMMABLE
Gasoline, Paints
BBQ Starter
Oils, Solvents
Propane Cylinders

In every home there are products that need special care.
You will recognize them by these warning signs.

When you use these hazardous products, you use them carefully. When you don't need them any more, you should dispose of them carefully. That's what Household Hazardous Waste Day is all about - an opportunity to clear potentially hazardous waste out of your home and protect our environment - water, land, and air - at the same time. If hazardous products are thrown in the regular garbage, they can injure sanitation workers and cause long-term environmental problems. Bring your Household Hazardous Waste to the special depot, and it will be dealt with by experts, at no cost to you.

Additionally, in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, event attendees are asked to follow physical distancing protocols, including the following:

1. Package materials in disposable containers (i.e. cardboard boxes) as they will not be returned;
2. Place materials in the trunk or back of their vehicle to maximize distancing for event staff when collecting items; and
3. Remain in their vehicle at all times, as event staff will be removing materials from their vehicle.



ALSO ACCEPTED: Sharps (Hypodermic Needles)

NOT ACCEPTED: PCB's, commercial, industrial or radioactive wastes, tires, explosives (flares, ammunition), electronics.

PLEASE NOTE: For safety reasons, residents are asked to segregate lithium batteries from all other battery types prior to drop-off.


Saturday, October 15, 2022
9:30 am - 2:00 pm

Services paid for by the County of Lambton. Waste management collections services by Clean Harbors Canada Inc.


This service is intended to accept household hazardous waste from County of Lambton residents only.

Hazardous waste generated from private business will not be accepted.

Public Works Forest Depot, 6958 Townsend Line, Lambton Shores



For more information call the
County of Lambton
Public Works Department at
519 845-0801 / 1-866-324-6912
or visit www.lambtononline.ca



Sports

LANCER FOOTBALL



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

LCCVI's Junior football team played hard but came up on the bad end of a 25-0 score against the Northern Vikings in Sarnia Thursday. Here's a few scenes from the game.

Legionnaires crown Kings in GOJHL action

Lambton Jr. Sting grad Jaxon Priddle recorded his first career junior hockey hat trick to lead the Sarnia Legionnaires to a 5-3 win over the Kings in Komoka on Saturday night. Colton Graham added a goal and two assists and Brayden Degelas also scored for Sarnia. Plympton-Wyoming's Ryan Richardson and Jace McGrail along with Josh Glavin all had two assists for

the Legionnaires who never trailed in the contest. Mooretown Flags grad Logan Phillips made 35 saves in the Sarnia goal. The Legionnaires are 3-5-1 on the season. The same two teams play Thursday at the Pat Stapleton Arena at 7:10 with fans encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for the St. Vincent de Paul food bank. Among other games last week, Oil

Springs' William Hull scored his first goal of the season as Strathroy beat the Legionnaires, 7-6 in overtime. Meantime, ex-Legionnaire Carson Peer has extended his point scoring streak to three games with the Fredericton Red Wings of the Maritime Junior Hockey League. The Oil City product now has two goals and an assist in five games. The Wings are 2-3 on the season.

Fryfogle, Flyers register first win of season

New head coach Chris Fryfogle has picked up his first PJHL coaching victory as his Petrolia Flyers beat the Spitfires, 5-2 on Sunday afternoon in Aylmer. Petrolia is now 1-4 on the young campaign. Logan O'Leary-Dilosa scored twice for Petrolia, including the game-winner midway through the second period and Noel Sander-son added three assists. Harly Jacklin Allison, Colby Ackworth and Cole Hudson also scored for the Flyers and Daniel Gibson pitched in with two assists. Elijah Grant made 37 saves in the Petrolia goal.

The win followed a 5-2 loss to Mt. Brydges at home last Thursday. Hudson and Evan Morningstar scored for the Flyers. Petrolia hosts Dorchester on Thursday night at 7:30 trying to avenge an opening night loss on the road to the Dolphins in mid-September. The Flyers are at Lucan Saturday. The coaching victory wasn't the only high-light in the Fryfogle clan last week. Brayden Fryfogle scored his first goal for the Melville Millionaires of the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League. The Millionaires are 2-3-1 on the season.

Flags outscore Lakeshore on the Island

Tristen Konrad, Jace Dupius and Brody Genyn all had four points in Mooretown's 7-5 win over Lakeshore on Saturday at Walpole Island. Both teams are now 3-1 on the season. Konrad had a hat trick and added an assist, Dupius scored twice and had two assists and Genyn had a goal and three helpers. Masen Flett had the other Flags goal. Ethan Kerry and Blake Howard both regis-tered two assists. John Chartrand made 31 stops in the Mooretown goal. The Flags played the Stobbs Division-

leading 73's in Essex on Tuesday, but the score was not available prior to our press time. Mooretown is at home to Wheatley on Saturday at Walpole Island at 7:30. The Flags beat the Sharks, 4-3 in overtime last Wednesday in Wheatley. Dupius had the winning goal in extra time and Chartrand made 38 saves. Meantime, a former Flag scored his first GOJHL goal last week. Bo Doxtator scored for Stratford in a loss to Elmira. The Cor-unna teen signed with the Warriors during the off season.

Plenty of high school sports in Petrolia this week

LCCVI will host St. Pat's in its junior football home opener this afternoon (Wed) at 4 pm. The Lancers opened the season with a 25-0 loss to Northern in Sarnia last week, while the Irish blanked CKSS, 6-0. The Lancers baseball team will host Wal-laceburg at 3:30 and Northern at 5:15 on Thursday in P-town. LCCVI improved to 2-1 last week with a 6-5 win over Ridgetown. LCCVI will entertain Great Lakes, North-ern and St. Pat's in senior boys' volleyball at the Petrolia gym today (Wed) beginning at 4:30, while the Lancer junior volleyball team travels to Northern for games against the Vikings, Wolfpack and Irish

The senior girls' basketball team is home to Ursuline on Thursday at 5:30 while the junior girls' soccer side takes on the Irish at St. Pat's on Thursday at 5:30. Meantime in cross country action, Charlie Shaw of LCCVI was second in the senior boys 8K race last Wednesday at Malden Park in Windsor. And the LCCVI team of Rhett Joy, Tayt Stonehouse, Jack Helps and Jack Morningstar finished second to CKSS in the boys' team competition last Wednesday at the LKSSAA golf tournament at Indian Hills near Kettle Point. North Lambton, which included Evan Van Gorp of Watford finished tied for third.

Glencoe evens fastball final with walk off win Monday

The Independent

Josh Weber's RBI single in the bottom of the sev-enth inning gave the Glencoe Astros a 4-3 walk off win over the Alvinston Aces in Glencoe Monday. Taylor Degraw was the winning pitcher for the Astros and helped his own cause with a pair of runs batted in. Brad Young took the loss for the Aces. Josh Hamilton homered in a losing cause for Alvinston. The best-of-five Southwest Middlesex league championship series is now tied at one game apiece. Game three is tonight (Wednesday) in Alvinston at 8 pm.

Wyoming's Turnbull named Lambton's Male Athlete of the Week

Barry Wright
The Independent

A productive weekend for Caden Turnbull has earned the Wyo-ming product male student athlete of the week honours at Lambton College. The LCCVI grad went six-for-12 in a four-game split last week-end with two doubles, a triple, five runs scored, four RBI and a pair of stolen bases. Turnbull is hitting .455 on the season. The Lions host St. Clair for a doubleheader on Friday at Errol Russell Park. First pitch is scheduled for 5 pm.

LCCVI grad leads Lambton to softball win vs. Mohawk

Brice Knight tossed a three-hit shutout, striking out sev-en to lead Lambton College to a 10-0 win over Mohawk in OCAA women's softball last weekend. Knight also had five hits and three RBI at the plate over the four games played overall. Lambton, now 4-12 on the season, take on first place St. Clair in Windsor next Wednesday.

LOCAL MATTERS

Local businesses live here. They play here. They invest here. They need our support, now more than ever.

Sports

Squires open new season Saturday at home

Barry Wright
The Independent

The sights and sounds of senior hockey at Petrolia’s Greenwood Recreation Centre returns on Saturday. The Squires host the

Creemore Coyotes at 7 pm to open the 2022-23 Western Ontario Athletic Association campaign.
The Saturday home contest is one of two scheduled this season. The other is against Durham on Oct. 22. The remainder of the

home games are the traditional 8:30 pm puck drop on Friday night.
The Squires will not face off against Clinton this season. The Radars have informed the league they are taking a leave of absence this season.

In a social media post, the Squire say they will miss the short road trips to Clinton and hope the Radars can resume play next season.



Killer Bees open the season Friday against the defending champions

Alvinston opens the 2022-23 Western Ontario Super Hockey League season Friday on the road. They take on the 2021-22 league champion Rocks in Elora.

The majority of the Bees’ home games again this year are Saturday nights at 6:30, including their home opener against the Delhi Flames on Oct. 15 at the Brooke-Al-

vinston-Inwood Community Complex.
The Flames, Tilbury, Plattsville and Erin are expansion teams in the league this season.

Petrolia’s Truman leads Jr. Sting at tourney

Isaac Truman had three goals and two assists in four games to lead the Lambton Jr. Sting in scoring at the Toronto Titans Early Bird U16 tournament last weekend.
Truman is one of four Petrolia players on the squad. The others are Adam Broad,

Michael Robertson and Roen Douglas. The team also includes Blake Verberne and Mason Pomoransky from Watford.
The Jr. Sting finished with a 2-2 record in Toronto and will compete at the Wendy Dufton Memorial tournament in London this weekend.

Sting’s Gaudreau named OHL goaltender of the week

Ben Gaudreau has been named the OHL goaltender of the week. The San Jose Sharks prospect had a goals-against-average of 1.99 in road wins for the Sting over Kitchener (6-3) and Windsor (2-1 in OT) last weekend. He stopped 39 of 43 shots directed his

way for a save percentage of .907 including breakaway stops on Reid Valade of the Rangers and Windsor’s Ethan Miedema.
The Sting host Saginaw in their home opener on Friday at 7 and then entertain the Soo on Sunday at 2.

AND THEY’RE OFF



SUBMITTED PHOTO

About 750 students from across Lambton County had picture perfect weather for the annual Central Lambton Optimist Cross Country meet in Petrolia Tuesday. The students will be on the trails again next week. Next week is Petrolia Area LKESAA Public Elementary Meet on Oct. 13 at Bridgeview Park. The top seven there advance to District Meet at Canatara Pk on Oct. 26

Corunna’s Thomson, Phillies heading to MLB playoffs

Barry Wright
The Independent

The Philadelphia Phillies with Corunna’s Rob Thomson at the helm clinched a National League playoff spot with a 3-0 win over the Astros Monday night.
As of our Tuesday press time, the Phils were 65-44 for a .596 winning percentage since Thomson took over as manager from Joe Girardi two months into the season.

Bryce Harper credits Thomson for turning the ship around in Philly but the skipper says the players did the work and deserve the credit.
The first round of the playoffs begins Friday.
Meantime, the Blue Jays clinched home field in the first round of the American League playoffs with a 4-1 win over the Orioles on Monday while Seattle lost 4-3 to the Tigers.

LCCVI golf team finishes second to CKSS

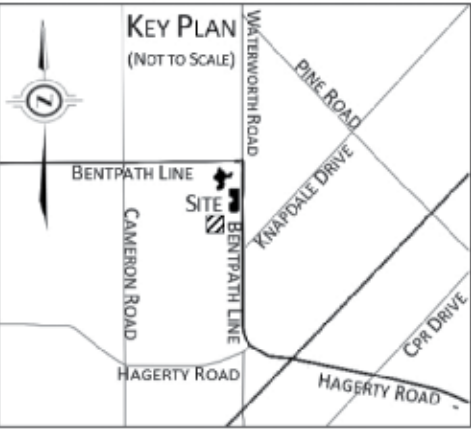
The LCCVI team of Rhett Joy, Tayt Stonehouse, Jack Helps and Jack Morningstar finished second to CKSS in the boys’ team competition Wednesday at the LKSSAA golf tournament at Indian Hills near Kettle Point. Joy and Stonehouse led the team both

carding 82’s on the day.
North Lambton tied for third. Their team included Watford’s Evan VanGorp.
The SWOSSA tournament is next Tuesday in Blenheim.

**45 METRE HDSS
NARROW LATTICE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
TOWER**
to provide wireless voice and data services.

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This telecommunications facility will include a walk-in equipment shelter and backup generator within a fenced compound of a 15m x 15m leasehold, with 6m wide access lane for road, power line and fiber optics, aerial or underground, as required. Paint colour and lighting subject to NAV Canada requirements. The facility is made to accommodate future co-location.



ON8349 - Newbury



ANY PERSON may make a formal submission of comments or concerns to the proponent listed below. Comments must be received by **Tuesday, November 8th, 2022**. Public input is an important component in the process of deploying this necessary infrastructure.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE, the approval of this Site and its design is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Government of Canada through Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) Canada. The Township of Dawn-Euphemia has no jurisdiction other than as a commenting body to ISED Canada and the Applicant. For more information contact the regional ISED Canada office toll-free at: 1-855-465-6307.

Proponent Contact: (email is best)
Jeff McKay, Xplore Inc.
(519) 566-9267 jeff.mckay@varcon.ca

Municipal Contact:
Donna Clermont, Dawn-Euphemia
Administrator-Clerk
clerk@dawneuphemia.on.ca

Fair Weather in Brooke-Alvinston

Thousands take in the Brooke-Alvinston-Watford Fall Fair during a picture perfect weekend

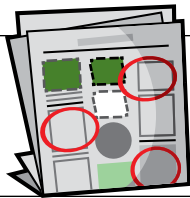


BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE
HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS

The weather was perfect as families met their neighbours at the Brooke-Alvinston-Watford Fall Fair over the weekend. The parade, including a float from the Alvinston Rodeo Committee, the rides, the animal shows and the demo derby, where Justin Gervais took the checkered flag in one of the events, were all a big hit.



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

**3219 Church Street
Brooke-Alvinston**

WOW, this classic Victorian home, on what is considered the most desirable street in town, is move-in ready. Enjoy all the old-world charm, 3 bedrooms and 1.5 bathrooms and original features such as functional pocket doors and an authentic, updated water closet under the stairs. Recently renovated throughout, the list of updates is long and includes: new kitchen and upstairs bathroom '19, brick repointed '21, new eaves '21, new shingles '14, electrical '22, basement insulation '19, hi-efficiency furnace '19 and main floor laundry '22. This is a must-see home.

new price
\$419,900

MLS#22019162

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Leo Shanahan Sales Representative
Direct: 519-878-5981 • leo@shanahanrealty.com • Fax-519.849.6683

Rentals

Wyoming Lions Club RECEPTION HALL RENTALS - 554 Main Street, Wyoming. Fully licensed by AGCO, up to 150 seating capacity and wheelchair accessible. Now With Wifi. Book for your upcoming wedding, anniversary or business meeting. For bookings and information call 519-845-0020 or 519-845-3333.

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.



**Come & Join Us
at the Lions Hall**

Wednesday
Oct 12
Doors Open @ 6pm
BINGO @ 7pm
Refreshments Available
Information 519.882.8728

Notices

ANNUAL BLESSING OF ALL PETS on Friday, October 14th 6:30pm-8pm at St. Paul's United Church front steps – bring your pets! All are welcome whether Baptist, Catholic, Presbyterian, United, Pentecostal, Atheist, Agnostic, etc. Feel free to bring a donation for the Community Pet Pantry!.

Community Pet Pantry


St. Paul's United Church Official Board has given approval to implement this program this fall and use St. Paul's as a donation location. This initiative will work together with the Petrolia Community Refrigerator. So many pets have been displaced and surrendered at an alarming rate in the last couple of years. Shelters are overrun and these animals are in need. Our goal is to help support our community families that need help to keep their fur babies cared for and support local organizations that help animals. We are reaching out to our community for item donations and financial support. Anyone can drop off items as well as monetary donations of cash, cheque (payable to St. Paul's United Church with Pet Pantry on the memo line). Our address is 4169 Petrolia Line, Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0, or e-transfer and be sure to indicate Pet Pantry. Tax receipts will be provided. We are The Big Red Church on the corner across from Tim Horton's. E-transfer is available at the email below. If you have any questions, please call 519-882-1390 or email office@stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net. Until an outdoor drop bin is available at the church, please drop off donations Monday-Friday 9am-3pm (call ahead, rear entrance, just ring the doorbell).



Donation Item Suggestions:
Dry dog food, dry puppy food, dry cat food, canned cat food, clumping cat litter, gently used items such as leashes, collars, food dishes, pet beds, pet toys. If you have other items that are not listed, please call 519-882-1390 and we will let you know if we will take your item(s).

If you would like to become a volunteer please call 519-882-1390

In Memory





Thanksgiving Sunday has not been the same. It's been 18 years since our loving Mom, Grandma and Great Grandma passed away, October 10, 2004.

Helen Johnson

*There is not a day,
That we do not think of you.
Loving and kind in all your ways,
Sincere and true, in your heart and mind,
Beautiful memories, you left behind.*

Loved & Missed by
Elaine, Len, Kathy, Linda & Larry
& Families

Celebrations



**Happy 90th Birthday
Lois
Dennis!**

Akela! dib..dib..dib..dob..dob..dob..

Love the Dennis family and all your friends!



You're warmly invited to a
**90th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
OPEN HOUSE**

Honouring
**DONALD
METCALFE**

**Sat Oct 15, 2022
1:00 - 4:00 pm**

Join family and friends
for a special afternoon
Celebrating the wise, loving,
and generous 90 year old!

**Wyoming Lions Hall
554 Main Street**

ADVERTISING POLICY

The publisher of this newspaper, *The Independent of Petrolia and Central Lambton*, reserves the right to clarify or refuse any advertisement based on its sole discretion. The publisher reserves the right to reject, discontinue or omit any advertisement without notice or penalty to either party. Liability for errors or non-insertion is limited to the amount paid for the cost of space occupied by the error. Claims of errors must be made prior to the next publication date.



Church DIRECTORY

Christ Anglican Church
414 Oil Street, Petrolia
*Join us for
In-Person Services
Sundays
@ 10:00am*
Everyone Welcome
Rev. Dave Hewett
Church Office 519-882-1430
christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com

**St. Paul's
United Church**
4169 Petrolia Line at Centre Street
*In-Person Services
Sundays
@ 10:30 am*
Rev. Carol Ferguson
Church Office: 519-882-1390
www.stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net

First Baptist Church
418 Greenfield Street, Petrolia
**IN PERSON
CHURCH SERVICE**
Sunday Mornings
@10:30 am
Pastor: Alex Craig
Church Office 519-882-2480
email: fbcpetrolia@gmail.com
www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca
Find us on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia

**Wyoming United
Church**
730 Second Street, Wyoming
*In-Person Services
taking place
Sundays @ 11 am*
*Those attending will be physically distanced,
must wear a mask and be fully vaccinated.*
Rev. Steven Longmoore
Church Office 519-845-3963
FIND US ON FACEBOOK

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

PARK PARTY



After two years of fundraising and several months of construction, a new accessible playground is open in Petrolia. Four local mothers formed Parents for Parks and began fundraising for the playground. The Petrolia Lions Club and the Petrolia Enniskillen Agriculture Society were major contributors of cash and land for the \$300,000 investment. The Town of Petrolia also contributed \$75,000. It officially opened Sept. 27

PW plow operator one of the best in Ontario

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

Plympton-Wyoming has one of the best snowplow operators in the province.

Greg Atkinson claimed fifth in the Provincial Safety Truck Rodeo competition, organized by the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors, held in Napanee on Sept. 28.

This is the third time he has competed in the provincial event, coming in the middle of the pack the first two times. He qualified after he came in second in the Lambton County

regional event on Sept. 9. The first-place finisher couldn't make it to the provincials so Atkinson stepped in to represent Lambton. "I just didn't want to come in last," said Atkinson. "It is just a fun thing to do." It is a good place to network with others who work in public works departments across the province, he said.

"Anybody that plows snow for a living should do it." Atkinson said. He has worked for the public works department with the Town of Plympton-Wyoming for the past 12 years. He is proud and honoured to represent the

municipality.

The competition is to promote safety, courtesy and driving skills. Atkinson said each driver starts off with full points before they enter the obstacle course, designed to replicate what drivers have to go through everyday. Each time a mistake is made or a cone is hit as they maneuver the equipment around the course, they lose points. Atkinson finished with 308 points out of a possible 370 score.

Ben Kipp of the Township of Mississippi Mills in Lanark County won with 322 points. Twenty-eight drivers participated.



Greg Atkinson of Plympton-Wyoming participates in the Ontario Safety Truck Rodeo.

Lambton 'best location' for new business

The Independent

The Sarnia-Lambton area has been recognized among a group of 20 regions as one of "Canada's Best Locations" by Site Selection Magazine.

This is the fifth time the Lambton has been recognized as Canada's Best Locations.

The region is celebrated as a top choice for site selection based on significant investment and facility expansions

at existing companies as well as new company arrivals including large active investments by NOVA Chemicals and Origin Materials, Diageo distillery, and the Enbridge Gas expansion.

"This acknowledgement is a high-profile endorsement of the region's successes, that can be leveraged to build the global profile of the Sarnia-Lambton area," said Dan Taylor the CEO of the Sarnia Lambton Economic Partnership adding it will "strengthen the investment pipeline and support economic growth."

OPP ready for street racers in Lambton

Lambton OPP say they're ready to respond to any street racing in the community.

Over the last couple of weeks, OPP across the province have been dealing with large street racing rallies. Over 190 charges were laid after a car rally in Wasaga Beach in late August. Last weekend, over 1,000 cars converged on the beach town for another day of burning rubber and speeding through

the streets.

The OPP and London Police have also been dealing with the problem in the Forest City.

Lambton OPP warn they are on the lookout for any unsanctioned car rallies here saying police are "prepared to deploy resources swiftly and effectively to deal with such drivers if they attend any of our communities."

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