

Vol. 10, Issue 12 Newsstand Price \$1.50 per week Thursday, November 17, 2022

# Helping with homelessness close to home

Blake Ellis Local Journalism Initiative

The homelessness crisis has hit close to home for the Petrolia Legion. And now members are appealing to the community to help at least one person find stable housing.

It all started two months ago, when Legion member Alex Billings - who is a veteran and the veteran services officer for Branch 216 - received a phone call about a local veteran who was living in his car in Sarnia. Billings sprang into action first finding his friend on the streets of Sarnia and then obtaining some emergency assistance and to get him a temporary place to stay.

The veteran, who is well known to members of the Petrolia Legion, is in temporary housing. Billings and the legion members have been working hard to find a long-term home for the man.

The situation is difficult, but not unusual in Lambton. County officials counted more than 50 people living "rough" or outdoors in August. The county is organizing a homelessness summit in the coming weeks.

SEE PETROLIA LEGION PG 3

# Independent wins national awards

The Independent

The Independent of Petrolia and Central Lambton has won three national awards
The News Media Canada announced the winners of the 2020 and 2021 Canadian Community Newspaper Awards Monday. Heather Wright won first place in feature writing for an article examining the PSW shortage in long term care homes. The Independent also placed second for editorial writing in 2020. Alex Kurial placed second for spot news photography in 2021 for a photo of a Petrolia crime scene.

"It is an honour to be recognized for excellence in Canadian journalism," said Wright.

# **CONCENTRATING ON THE CHAMPIONSHIP**



Katelyn Nicholson led LCCVI Junior Girls to the Lambton-Kent Jr Girls' Basketball title with a squeaker of a win over Great Lakes. Nicholson had 13 points in the 36-35 win. You can see more photos of Champions Week on page 8.

# Respite cabin for farmers, firefighters moves ahead

**Heather Wright**The Independent

The Bergsma family is one step closer to helping farmers and first responders dealing with mental health problems.

The Dawn-Euphemia family plans to build Three Oaks Cabin - a respite cabin in the woods for farmers and first responders.

The Bergsmas developed the project after their own son, Dalles, died by suicide in Nov. 2020. He was a farmer and a member of the Dawn-Euphemia Fire Department, two professions which are prone to high stress and plagued with mental illness.

The plan has been in the works since early 2021, but the approvals to have the cabin built in a bushlot the family owns were held up because of environmental concerns. The land on Bilton Line was zone for agriculture and Environmental Protected Woodlot.

The Bergsmas had to complete an environmental study before the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority would sign off on the project which would cover just under one acre of land.

On Nov. 7, Dawn-Euphemia council approved the rezoning of the site after that survey found the environmental impacts would be "minimal."

Mayor Al Broad was pleased to see the project move forward, noting the family will still need a building permit before construction parts. "It has been too long of a process...for the benefit it is going to be to our community. It's too long to worry about 200 feet of bush."

Broad said people he talks to in the agricultural field all see the need for the cabin and the help it will provide saying many know people in the industry who have lost a family member to suicide.

Three Oaks Cabin is now a registered charity, Broad added, saying that should help move the project forward, too.



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The new Petrolia council looks on as Petrolia Clerk Mandi Pearson puts the chain of office on Mayor Brad Loosley. Joel Field, Chad Hyatt, Bill Clark, Ross O'Hara, Debb Pitel and Liz Welsh took the oath of office with Loosley Tuesday.

# 'Off we go' Petrolia's new council sworn in

**Heather Wright** The Independent

With some pomp and ceremony and a few words of wisdom from the past, Petrolia's new council began its four years in office Tuesday.

The new council was sworn in at town hall with the sound of bagpipes and a short speech from the Town Crier.

Mayor Brad Loosley urged the new council "work together as a team for the betterment and well being of the community." New councillors, like Chad Hyatt, were eager to begin. "I sit here nervously, but I'm very excited for what I'm going to learn ... And I'm ready to dive right in headfirst."

The longest serving member of council, Ross O'Hara, began his 27th year of municipal service and noted "we've got a lot of things on the plate to deal with and I'm sure we will do well.'

And returning Councillor Liz Welsh said a few brief words of thanks and then invoked the words of her friend, the late Councillor Mary Pat Gleeson; "Off we go."



Mayor David Ferguson, Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek and Councillor Jenny Redick swear the oath of office administered by Hope United Church's Rev. Jim Breen Tuesday at the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre.

# New Brooke-Alvinston council 'the face of the municipality'

Blake Fills

Local Journalism Initiative

The need for more housing and more cash from the province were top of mind as the new Brooke-Alvinston Council was sworn in for service.

Brooke-Alvinston's new Mayor David Ferguson was sworn in along with the new Council at its inaugural meeting on Tuesday. Frank Nemcek was - who received the most votes Oct. 24 becomes deputy mayor with Councillors Don McCabe, Jenny Redick and Craig Sanders, all taking the oath of office and ushering in a new four-year term.

The need for new housing and dealing with the decline in funding from the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund over the last 10 years were concerns Ferguson cited for the new council to deal with in the next four years. He wants

to see a grant writer hired in partnership with other municipalities to bring more funding into municipal coffers.

Ferguson called the council "the face of the municipality" and encouraged members to work with staff for continued success.

'There is nothing but good things happening in the next four years," predicted Nemcek. He hopes to have a new subdivision developed with 60 homes. He hopes that will attract new businesses, like a grocery or hardware store. Nemcek believes a new doctor will be attracted to the community as the medical centre was modernized and with the work that was done on the arena, the municipality has facilities for weddings and stag and does, which now rivals any community.

Redick wants to see the Council developing more activities for seniors, as she heard during the election there are a lot of programs for youth, but not for the elderly.



# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

TOWNSHIP OF WARWICK

# PARKING REGULATIONS

NO PARKING is allowed between November 15th, 2022 to April 15th, 2023 between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on any Township of Warwick streets.

\*In January 2021, Warwick Township Council passed a by-law amendment to change the parking permit period to November 1st until October 31st.

**On-Street Parking Permits,** for residential vehicles, may be obtained at the Township Office during office hours, at the set fee of \$50.00. Parked vehicles without a permit will receive a

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, please call or email: 226-848-3926 or info@warwicktownship.ca

www.warwicktownship.ca





#### TOWNSHIP OF ENNISKILLEN

MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR BEAR CREEK EROSION AT ROKEBY LINE

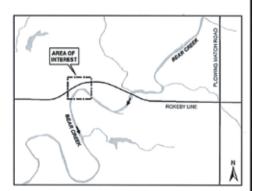
## NOTICE OF STUDY COMPLETION

THE PROJECT:

The Township of Enniskillen initiated a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) process in April 2021 to address an ongoing issue with slope instability adjacent to Rokeby Line and Bear Creek, west of Plowing Match Road. The bank area adjacent to the roadway is showing evidence of active slumping and is threatening the long-term stability of the road. A number of approaches were investigated to address the slope instability and a preferred method has now been identified. The preferred approach is to shift Rokeby Line approximately 3.5 metres north/west, install drainage improvements adjacent to the corridor and continue to monitor the slope. If slope movement continues erosion protection would also be installed at the toe of the slope to provide additional stabilization.

#### THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING PROCESS:

The planning for this project is following the environmental screening process set out for Schedule B activities under the Environmental Municipal Class Assessment process. The purpose of the screening process is to identify potential environmental impacts associated with the project and to plan for appropriate mitigation of any impacts. The process includes consultation with the public, stakeholders, First Nation and Métis communities, and government agencies.



# PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT:

For further information on this project, please contact the project engineers: B.M. Ross and Associates Ltd.: 62 North Street, Goderich, Ontario, N7A 2T4. Telephone (Toll Free): (888) 524-2641. Kelly Vader, Environmental Planner (e-mail: <a href="kvader@bmross.net">kvader@bmross.net</a>), prior to December 9, 2022. Information will be collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record. An Environmental creening Report, documenting the environmental assessment conducted for this p for public review on the Township website at www.enniskillen.ca as of November 9, 2022

Interested persons may provide written comments to the project team by December 9, 2022. All comments and concerns should be sent directly to Duncan McTavish, Administrator Clerk/Treasurer at the Township of Enniskillen. In addition, a request may be made to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for an order requiring a higher level of study (i.e. requiring an individual/comprehensive EA approval before being able to proceed), or that conditions be imposed (e.g. require further studies), only on the grounds that the requested order may prevent, mitigate or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. Requests on other grounds will not be considered. Requests should include the requester contact information and full name for the ministry.

Requests should specify what kind of order is being requested (request for additional conditions or a request for an individual/comprehensive environmental assessment), how an order may prevent, mitigate or remedy those potential adverse impacts, and any information in support of the statements in the request. This will ensure that the ministry is able to efficiently begin reviewing the request. The request should be sent in writing or by email to:

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks 777 Bay Street, 5th Floor Toronto ON M7A 2J3

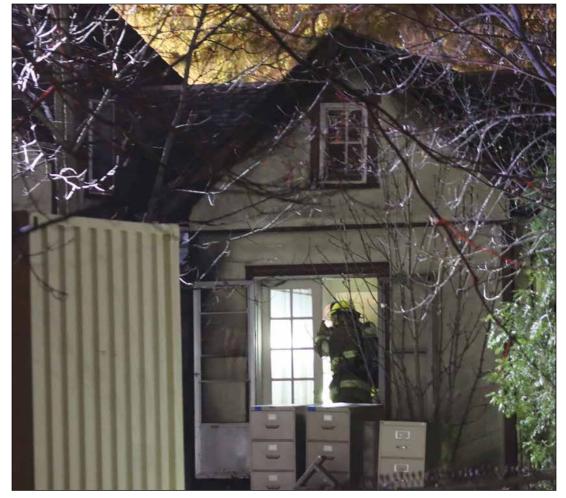
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks & Director, Environmental Assessment Branch Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks 135 St. Clair Ave. W. 1st Floor Toronto ON, M4V 1P5 EABDirector@ontario.ca

Requests should also be sent to the Township of Enniskillen by mail or by e-mail.

Duncan McTavish, Administrator Clerk/Treasurer Township of Enniskillen

minister.mecp@ontario.ca

This Notice issued November 9, 2022



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Petrolia firefighters can be seen inside the law office of Wallace Lang Nov. 9. It was the second time this year the historic building caught fire.

# CUPE keeps up pressure as Bill 28 cancelled

#### **Blake Ellis**

Local Journalism Initiative

Education workers might be back in the classroom but they are still keeping the pressure on Premier Doug Ford and his Progressive Conservative government negotiate a fair collective bargaining agreement for the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)

Dubbed Solidarity Saturday, protests were held at the constituency offices of Progressive Conservative MPPs on Nov. 12. Over 150 were marching in front of the constituency office of Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey on Christina Street in Point Edward.

Parwick

Joining the CUPE members were representatives from the teacher unions, the correctional workers and UNIFOR.

"We are standing by, not standing down," said Michele Lalonge-Davey, president of CUPE Local 1238. The Ford government rescind Bill 28, which imposed a contract on CUPE members and made any strike illegal. It also enacted the notwithstanding clause of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms ending any legal challenges.

Education assistants, early childhood educators, school secretaries, computer technicians, librarians and custodians, went back to work on Nov. 8 after two days.



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

CUPE members and supporters were protesting at Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey's office Saturday.

# Fire at Little Red Bank started outside

**Heather Wright** The Independent

It appears a fire at a historic Petrolia law office started outside.

That's according to Petrolia/North Enniskillen Fire Chief Jay Arns.

For the second time this year, firefighters were called to The Little Red Bank – a building which was moved to Petrolia's downtown from Oil Springs when the oil boom of the 1860s moved

Around 7:30 pm Wednesday Petrolia/North Enniskillen firefighters were called to Oil Street and Petrolia Line to what is now the offices of Wallace Lang. The building has been under renovation recently after a fire in the spring. Lang has been running his law firm from his office in

Witnesses saw flames coming from the back of the building where signs of renovations could be seen including scaffolding around some of the

Chief Arns says there was also dry debris from the eaves and cedar shake shingles on the ground. "The fire started on the exterior and extended underneath the floor," he said.

Arns says there was some fire damage and some damage from firefighters chasing the flames through the floor boards. He expects it will cost about \$75,000 to fix.

The cause of the fire will go down as undetermined. Arns says it is possible the fire started due to the renovations and he says teens in the community had been seen in the area and could have been involved, but he's not able to make a final determination.

Firefighters were able to put out the flames fairly quickly but stayed on the scene looking for hot spots as smoke occasionally came from the

Arns says the older building is a balloon frame construction which creates a tunnel to rise to the

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

TOWNSHIP OF WARWICK

# **POST ELECTION SURVEY**

The Township of Warwick has launched an online post-election survey to get community feedback on the 2022 Municipal Election process.

Warwick Township residents interested in completing the survey may do so by November 25 by visiting the Survey Monkey link below:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Warwickvote2022

# Petrolia Legion steps up to help homeless friend

**CON'T FROM PG 1** 

It's also not unusual for veterans says Robert White. He's the Petrolia Legion's Poppy Campaign Chair and the zone services officer.

As they return to civilian life, many veterans deal with mental health issues, including post traumatic stress disorder. Both Billings and White said there is a hyper awareness that comes from being in the service. For example, when White enters a room, he is always looking for weapons. "They trained us to fight and they expect us to find peace," said White.

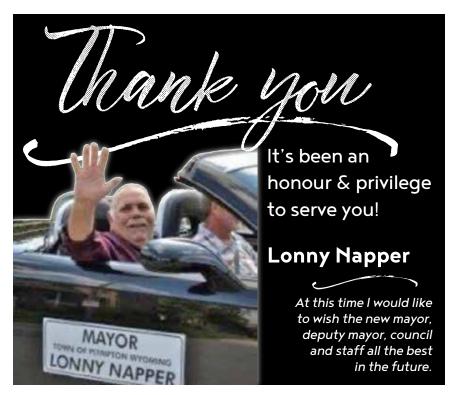
White adds the veteran the Petrolia Legion is helping now "didn't do anything wrong. Guys fall through the cracks all the time."

Billings said a veteran needs that person who understands, who can talk about their experiences. Another veteran, and programs run by veterans, often help.

Donations from poppies around Remembrance Day help veterans, their families and the communities they live in. That includes giving a hand up to veterans who find themselves without a

One of the programs the Petrolia Legion used to help this veteran is Operation Leave the Streets Behind, which was developed 10 years ago by the Legion's Ontario Provincial Command. It has helped 1,043 veterans who were homeless or near homeless. Over \$1 million has been given to these veterans to improve their situations for items such as first and last month's rent, paying past due rent, medical needs such as dental, eyeglasses, transportation to medical appointments, furnishings, food and clothing. And while the Petrolia Legion is accessing all the programs it can to help, it's also raising money to help more directly.

A spaghetti supper is being held on Saturday Nov. 19 at the Petrolia Legion Branch as part of this effort with all the proceeds going to the veteran. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at the Legion's bar or by calling 519-882-1201. Doors open for the spaghetti dinner at 5 p.m. with dinner being served at 6 p.m. The silent auction will close at 8:30 p.m.



# Editorial

# A call to action

The Petrolia Legion is tackling the housing crisis one person at a time, and so should we.

Members of Branch 216 have come together to help a fellow veteran who found himself sleeping in his car in Sarnia. Members tracked him down and set him up with a temporary place to live. Now, they're raising money to give him a small nest egg as they find permanent housing in a market where that is difficult to do.

It all puts a very human face on the issue we normally think of as a big city problem. But it is clear it's not just a big city problem anymore.

Lambton County says over 50 people were living outside in August because they couldn't find an affordable place to live. On any given day of the week, on a walk through Petrolia for example, you can see people who are living outside or rough as people in social services

People have approached us concerned that there are people who seem to be living near the bandshell in Victoria Park or under the bridge at Bridgeview Park. Their calls to mental health advocates were greeted pleasantly, but without any real offers to help those who might be in need.

And while we laud people who have voiced concern, when you don't know the people who are walking down Petrolia Line wrapped in a blanket at 1 am on a cold fall night, you may not turn that concern into concrete action.

While there is a very large need for governments and agencies to step up to provide services, as a community, we have to take the time to reach out and know the people we see who might be in need. And then, when we know their needs, we have to act either on our own or as a group.

It could be something as simple as a few dollars for a meal, a donation to a local group which helps the homeless or a people coming together to start a hot meal program or secure affordable housing.

We live in communities which raise millions for community centres and splash pads for kids or to care for our friends when they're sick; surely we can reach out to our neighbours without a roof over their heads.

# 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, NON 1R0.

The Independent reserves the right to edit letters for brevity

All letters need to be signed and must have a phone number for verification.

# **Our Story**



This 1958 postcard gives a glimpse of the early beginnings of the Oil Museum of Canada. The newly constructed oil derrick was part of the display at the museum. Today, the spot where the first commercial oil well was struck still stands. The museum won an award from the Ontario Museum Association for the recent renovations over the weekend.

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# Opinion

# Marthaville neighbour thanks firefighters, citizen

EDITOR: We wanted to say thank you to the man who came through our front door on Nov. 6 to tell us to get out of the house because our neighbour's house was on fire in Marthaville.

He then came back two more times to see if he could help us more, thank

you. One day if you are passing by, please stop. We would love to get your name and shake your hand.

And to all of the members of the fire departments fighting this fire, we thank you very much for saving our home.

To the support people with the fire

department for seeing us back into our home, thank you.

To our neighbours who lost their home and everything in it, our hearts go out to you both.

Ross and Karen Ringwood Marthaville, ON

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# Petrolia man continues tradition of service

Blake Elllis

Local Journalism Initiative

While Canadians focused on veterans who served in past conflicts, a Petrolia man marked Remembrance Day amid a military exercise far from home.

Captain Joe Anderson of Petrolia is currently involved in a multi-nation exercise in the Pacific Ocean as a member of the Royal Canadian Air Force.

He joined the air force in August 2013, soon after his graduation from Lambton Central Collegiate and Vocational Institute. He grew up on a farm, just outside of Petrolia and first learned how to fly at the Sarnia airport through the Huron Flight Centre. He obtained his private pilot's license when he was 16.

Joining the air force was something, he always wanted to do, said Anderson. "Training on and flying high performance aircraft, getting to live in different parts of the country and seeing the world was always very appealing to me," he said. "The fact I could all of this while serving by country was a major draw."

He is currently stationed on a ship and can be at sea for up to six months at a time. "It is a bit of surreal experience," he said about his time aboard the ship. "The normal concerns of everyday life kind of disappear and everyone quickly settles into their daily routines."

There isn't a lot of privacy on board, as the living conditions are quite tight and space is at a premium, Anderson said. You get very familiar with your crew mates and he has made a lot of good friends.

Staying in touch with family can be challenging. Anderson is currently contending with a time difference of 12 hours, no cell service in the middle of the ocean and varying work schedules. "I am lucky I have a strong support network back home that understands and we can work around it," he said.

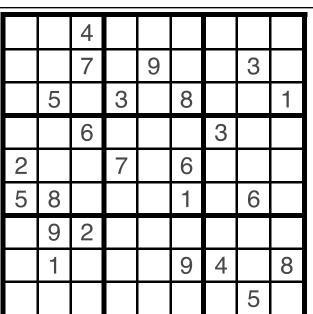
He did his basic training in St. Jean, Quebec, as since has been posted in Trenton, Portage La Prairie, Moose Jaw, Toronto, Halifax and Victoria. He had the opportunity to train in Arizona and Washington State. He has been deployed twice on ships, which took him to Hawaii, Alaska, South Korea, Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Cambodia, Thailand and Japan.

"It has been a difficult and rewarding experience," said Anderson. Often the demands on the Canadian Armed Forces means we often seem to be



SUBMITTED PHOTO Captain Joe Anderson from Petrolia

stretched, he said. "I am trained, able and ready to respond to these demands and I am in a organization which is capable of making a difference when called upon."



Here's How It Works:

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

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# **SCROOGED AGAIN**



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

The Petrolia Community Theatre didn't waste much time in getting people into the Christmas spirit, as it staged The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge. One year after Ebenezer Scrooge was visited by the three spirits he is suing his dead business partner Jacob Marley, and the three ghosts of Christmas for attempted murder and the infliction of emotional distress. Some members of the cast include, from left, Jeffrey Winter, Christina Bradley, Gillian Johnston, Glynn Cole, Emily Syer, Doug Wright, Steve Carapiet and Elizabeth Walton. Brian Burns is hanging over the railing.



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# Provincial plans cause environmental concerns

**Heather Wright** 

The Independent

The head of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority is sounding the alarm about changes the province wants to make to speed up development.

Recently, the provincial government introduced Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan which changes to the Conservation Authorities Act and the Planning Act in a bid to speed up housing development.

Ken Phillips, the general manager of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority says under the plan, municipalities won't be able to ask their local conservation authorities to comment on environmental issues - including on wetlands - for new developments

"The province is now saying that we can no longer comment on any of that. We have to strictly stick to flood hazard management, planning around flood hazards only."

Phillips is concerned how that will affect wetlands in particular. "People don't understand the importance of wetland for flood storage. People don't understand they're not, just to use a phrase...a swamp. It's literally a place for ecologically sensitive environment for both flora and fauna. From our perspective, it's really the flood storage; and once these are gone, you're losing that extra storage area...so it bides your time from before the water gets to our man made structures."

Phillips recognizes there has been criticism in the past about the length of time residents have to wait as the conservation authority evaluates their building plans. There were several instances last year where some Lambton homeowners waited a year for the proper approvals. Phillips says they recognize the service wasn't good enough and a study recently showed the authority needed three more people to make the approvals system timely. He hopes the municipalities which fund the conservation authority will approve the 2023 budget which will bring two new staff members on.

The GM says they will be needed. Not only is the province trying to fundamentally change its role with development planning, the proposed legislation will also cut

the time they have to make decisions on development in floodplain areas. If the approvals aren't in place in three months, conservation authorities will have to refund the fees they charge.

"It's now going to fall squarely on the shoulders of the taxpayer to pay for development. Because we can't increase our fees to increase the costs that we're incurring. There's only one source for the difference. That's true both for municipalities and conservation authorities."

Phillips is also concerned about a section of the legislation which requires conservation authorities to take inventory of their land and put any which is suitable for housing development up for sale. Phillips says that would be unlikely in Lambton, since the authority owns very little land that would fit that category.

Phillips says conservation authorities want the province to step back and re-evaluate the plan.

"We recognize the need for expedited development to address the housing shortage in Ontario," Phillips says, "but it should not come at the expense of the environment and the protections in place to reduce the risk to life and property from natural hazards."

Ken Melanson, the director of planning for Lambton County agrees. He's concerned about the changes.

"I think it runs the risk that our natural hazards systems are going to be impacted," he tells The Independent.

"And we're in a time of recognizing climate change so that could be very detrimental because we want to make sure that we're designing communities that are not flooding or wiping out the systems that are vital to the proper functioning of our of our environment."

Parts of the Ontario Housing Supply Action plan are now in a consultation period on the Environmental Registry of Ontario. The plan will change eight pieces of legislation. Comment periods range from one to three months. And while there has been wide public concern about some of the changes, the Conservatives have a large majority government and can pass the legislation without changes.

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# **EDUCATOR RETIRES**



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A familiar face at the St. Clair Catholic School Board of directors has retired. Carol Bryden has been a trustee for South and East Kent, Dawn-Euphemia and St. Clair Township for 16 years. She served as the board's chair for a number of years and had been a teacher for 34 years with the board. "Carol has devoted a lifetime of service to Catholic education," says Scott Johnson, Director of Education. "Her steadfast commitment to our students, families and staff will be missed at the board table." Bryden will be succeeded by Jann Tooshkenig, who was acclaimed.



# Development charges not off the table says planner

**Heather Wright** 

The Independent

Petrolia - and other Ontario municipalities - won't be banned from implementing development fees under proposed changes to the Development Act.

The province wants to "freeze and reduce government charges" to spur new home growth in the new Ontario Housing Supply Action Plan. That includes municipal development charges which cover the capital cost of future growth caused by development. They pay for things such as water and sewer as well as services like libraries and firefighting equipment which are needed because of growth. Critics say the fees are simply added onto the cost of a home, making them less affordable.

Petrolia is one of the few communities in southern Ontario which does not charge fees, however the last council had discussed spending \$25,000 for a study of the concept. That decision has been left to the newly elected council.

Mayor Brad Loosley, in an interview with The Independent last week, wasn't sure how the proposed changes might affect that decision.

But Ken Melanson, the manager of planning and development for Lambton County, says while the government is looking to spur housing growth, local municipalities will still be able to enact development fees if they don't have them under the proposed legislation.

"Part of the legislative changes is any municipality that starts to create development charges can't put them in at 100 per cent from the get go... it would be a phased approach," he says. "The bill doesn't strike development charges at all. What it says is that any municipality that wants to invoke them...it can't come into full effect in terms of the cost. It's a phased approach. But yes, they could still put them in place if they wanted to."

# VPP ready for 50th anniversary

Victoria Playhouse Petrolia is gearing up for its next season. The local summer theatre released its 2023 season offering Tuesday.

The 50th anniversary season will look back at the year the VPP opened with the original production Yesterday Once More - 1973. It's one of three original productions. Jesse's Country Jubilee and Mark Payne's Kitchen Party Leftovers is the other. The VPP is also offering Jonas and Barry in the home by Norm Foster and two musicals; Lerner and Loewe's Camelot and Where the Heart Is. Tickets are on sale now.

# **AWARD WINNING UPGRADE**



The staff at the Oil Museum of Canada have been recognized for redesign of the Oil Springs museum. Christina Sydorko, Deanna Bullard, Donna Barnes, Erin Dee-Richard, Laurie Webb, Andrew Meyer accepted the Award of Excellence in Exhibitions at the Ontario Museum Association Conference over the weekend. The museum reopened this year after a longer-than expected pandemic renovation. Last year, the museum was recognized for its programs by the same organization.

# Public board changing pay for knowledge keepers

**Blake Ellis** 

Local Journalism Initiative

The Lambton Kent District School Board is changing the way it pays Indigenous knowledge keepers when they speak to students.

The Office of Indigenous Initiatives of Queen's University defines traditional knowledge keeper as someone who holds traditional knowledge and teachings. They have been taught by elders and senior knowledge keepers to care for these

teachings and when it is and when it is not appropriate to share this knowledge with others.

Student Trustee Kobee Soney says pay to the knowledge keepers are smaller than others because of their lack of university degrees.

That means many knowledge keepers are choosing not to attend when teachers make invitations to teach their traditional knowledge. "We understand why," said Director of Education John Howitt.

Howitt told members of the board

Nov. 8 that the board has worked out a new criteria for payments to Indigenous knowledge keepers who teach traditional knowledge in local classrooms.

This is to be put in place in the next few weeks.

"This is a significant concern of ours," said Howitt.

"This has affected our relationship with elders and knowledge keepers. After the new criteria are put in place, the next job of the school board is to rebuild those relationships.'

-THE INDEPENDENT



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ABBREVIATED AD Pursuant to Municipal Tax Sale Rules Section 5(4)



# **SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER**

# THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF OIL SPRINGS

**Take Notice** that tenders are invited for the purchase of the lands described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on November 24, 2022, at the Oil Springs Municipal Office, 4591 Oil Springs Line, Oil Springs, Ontario

## **Description of Lands:**

1. Roll No. 38 18 000 010 21200 0000; 4590 Oil Springs Line,

Oil Springs; PIN 43498-0130 (LT); File 21-01;

Minimum tender amount: \$69,617.91

2. Roll No. 38 18 000 010 11907 0000; RICHMOND ST;

PIN 43499-0369 (LT); File 21-02; Minimum tender amount: \$7,055.93

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to or any other matters relating to the lands to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers. This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. A full copy of the tax sale advertisement and further information about this matter is available online at www.OntarioTaxSales.ca or www.oilsprings.ca or you may contact Martha Gawley, Clerk-Treasurer, The Corporation of the Village of Oil Springs, 4591 Oil Springs Line, PO Box 22, Oil Springs, ON NON 1P0, Phone: 519-834-2939, Email: clerk@oilsprings.ca



Twin Creeks Environmental Centre

Warwick Public Liaison Committee (WPLC)

# **NOTICE OF WPLC MEETING**

The next WPLC Meeting will be held:

Date: Wednesday, November 23, 2022

Time: 6 p.m. Meeting

Place: Twin Creeks-Office Boardroom

Please RSVP to: amclachl@wm.com

1. Call to order – Chair Mary Lynn Metras

2. Approval of/Additions to Agenda 3. Acceptance of September 21, 2022, Minutes

4. Business Arising

**AGENDA** 

a. Full Time Inspector from MECP i. Letter sent to MECP dated 10/20/22 complete as per Sept. Meeting

Subcommittee (dist. 110822)

b. RWDI: Q3 2022 Exceedances and Monitoring & Q4 Correspondence i. Complaint report as per 11.3

ii. TSP Log
iii. Q4 Precip Event Letter of Notification dated 11/02/22

:. TRT: 2022 Annual Review of WM Twin Creeks Landfill-2021 Reporting Year New Business

a. Review of WPLC Contact Information

neports

a. MECP Inspector – Review of MECP Inspection Reports
b. Twin Creeks Landfill Operational Report from John McDonald i. Tonnage reports (September, October) ii. TCEC TOR Update

8. Next Meeting Date/Agenda a. Wednesday, February 8 or 15

Adjournment

# Champions

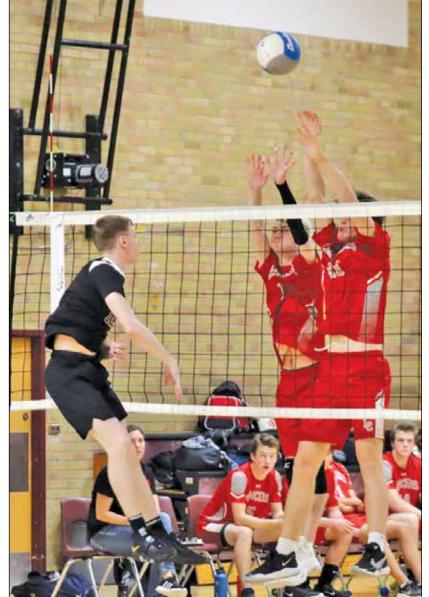
Lancers Jr Girls win LK basketball crown Sr, Jr Boys fall in finals during Champions Week

HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS It was a day to remember as the Lancer Jr. Girls's Basketball team claimed the Lambton-Kent title in Sarnia. Katelyn Nicholson (top left) Sarnia. Katelyn Nicholson (top left) had 13 points to lead the Lancer to the title in a 36-35 nail biter. Hannah Daniels racked up several points and Olivia Minten (top right) added six. The LCCVI Jr Boys Lancers kept it close, but fell to Great Lakes in the volleyball final Thursday. The Lancers, 2-9 on the season, won one of four sets and stayed within two in two others in the AA final against Great Lakes. Zac Colborne (middle left) blocks a shot in the match. Sr Boys rallied in the second half of

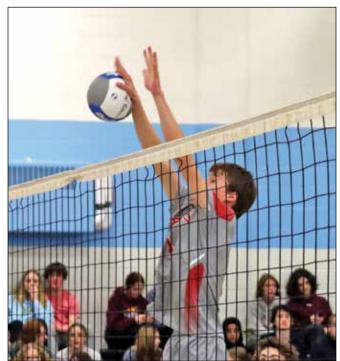
blocks a shot in the match. Sr Boys rallied in the second half of the AA volleyball final, but it wasn't enough as the John McGregor Panthers took the senior Lambton-Kent title Thursday.

The Panthers – who were 10 – 4 on the year – dominated in the first two sets, 25-12 and 25-13 before the Lancers came back to take the third set 25-19 before losing the final set 25-20. Tyler McGrail (bottom right) spikes the ball in the game while some of his teammates (bottom left) cheer on the team.

cheer on the team.













# Flyers have back to back games

**Barry Wright** The Independent

The Flyers travel to East Elgin Wednesday for a contest with the Spitfires in Aylmer.

It's the third meeting of the season between the two teams with each previously winning in the other teams

Petrolia, coming off a 3-0 home ice loss to first place Thamesford Nov. 10, is 2-11-2 on the Yeck Division season. Aylmer is 2-14.

In the game against Thamesford, Maddox Nazwaski made his Flyers debut in net with 33 saves. He was recently signed after being acquired from the GOJHL's Strathroy Rockets.

The Flyers have also signed 18 year-old forward Caleb Roberts. The Strathroy native had a goal and four assists in eight games with Lucan this

The Flyers return home Thursday for a game against Lucan. Puck drop at Greenwood is 7:30.

The Irish has a Lambton County component to its roster which includes captain Hunter Monkhouse of Kettle Point and assistant captain Owen Peters of Thedford.

Monkhouse has nine assists in 13 games while Peters has 10 goals in 11 games this season, including hat tricks in three of his last six games.

# Flags coming home to Mooretown

**Barry Wright** 

The Independent

After spending the first two months of their home season at Walpole Island, the Mooretown Flags are scheduled to return to the friendly confines of the Moore Sports Complex this Saturday against Amherstburg.

The Flags were forced to play their first six home games on the road waiting for renovations to the MSC to be completed.

Prior to coming home, the Flags take

on the Kings in Dresden on Friday night. It's the first of four games in six nights, including roads games in Essex and Wallaceburg next Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

Mooretown is tied for fourth place in the Stobbs Division with a record of

Meantime, Gavin Black of the Flags was called up last week to play for the GOJHL's Chatham Maroons for a game against the Legionnaires in



CHRYSTAL BRESSETTE/KILLER BEES PHOTO

Cam Welch tipped in the winner in overtime to give the Alvinston Killer Bees a 4-3 win over Elora in Western Ontario Super Hockey League action Welch, Watford's Cam Rombouts and Petrolia's Carson Perry all had a goal and an assist on Hockey Fights Cancer Night where the Bees raised a little more than \$4,000 for a children's cancer camp. Alex Cunningham had the other goal. For his efforts, Welch was named the second star of the week by the league. Nolan DeKoning made 27 saves in the Alvinston cage. The Bees are now 2-4-1. Alvinston takes on the Lakers in Plattsville Sunday.

The County of Lambton is an urban-rural area in southwestern Ontario that is home to over 126,000 residents. The Corporation's

seven divisions operate programs and services for the residents of Lambton County such as land ambulance, provincial offences court, three Long-Term Care Homes, 25 library branches, two museums, an art gallery, archives, local roadways, public health services, housing

Lambton County is a community dedicated to economic growth, environmental stewardship and an enhanced quality of life

through the provision of responsive and efficient services and collaborative efforts with its municipal and community partners.

# Tough weekend for Petrolia Squires

The Petrolia Squires went 0-for-2 in Western Ontario senior hockey.

The Squires lost 3-1 to Seaforth on Friday at Greenwood with the league leading Centenaries avenging an overtime loss to the Squires the

Saturday, the Squires lost their first

the Royals in Tavistock.

The Squires, now 5-4 on the campaign, take on the Thundercats in Durham on Saturday. The Cats are 3-3-1. Petrolia's next home game is Friday, Dec. 2 against Milverton at

# road game of the season falling 5-2 to

Operator Infrastructure & Development Services Group

## **Job Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Operate assigned equipment as directed in a safe and efficient manner
- Safely operate "All Inclusive Snow Plough Equipment" during the winter season and a tandem truck for the remainder of the year • Operate the line stripper and portable line stripper on County Roads and local municipal roads maintaining accurate records
- · Responsible for upkeep of equipment, keeping machinery clean, refuelling, performing minor maintenance (i.e. greasing, oil changes) and repair, keeping the mechanic/equipment supervisor informed of the overall operating condition of the equipment
- Accurately communicate road conditions by radio to the supervisor, make periodic onsite decisions on sand and salt distribution as dictated
- by weather conditions • Operate as a member of a crew or alone
- Assist in any other capacity, i.e. erecting snow fence, operating a chainsaw, pothole patching, grass cutting, etc.

services, social services, building services and planning and development services.

- Be on call for emergency work, normally during the winter operations season
- Receive complaints, concerns, etc. from property owners and the public in a professional and timely manner and refer to immediate Supervisor for action
- Maintain a daily diary of work activities as well as maintain equipment log and diary books as required by Provincial legislation and County policy

## **General:**

• Incumbents must keep up-to-date on all relevant legislation, collective bargaining agreements, County Policies and Procedures, etc. ensuring that these are implemented as prescribed

• Incumbents must possess the physical ability to meet the duties and responsibilities of the job description and/or the requirements identified within the position's Physical Demands Analysis. These describe the general nature and level of work being performed by incumbents in this classification. They are not an exhaustive list of all job duties in the classification. Other duties may be assigned.

## **Required Education**

- Secondary School graduation or equivalent in education and/or experience
- Current valid Province of Ontario Driver's licence minimum Class DZ Experience
- Previous operating experience in construction or a road system is preferred
- Most functions are based on skills learned on the job A valid Ontario driver's license and use of a vehicle

## Posting closes November 20, 2022. Please apply at www.lambtononline.ca/jobs and search for posting J1122-0114.

The County of Lambton is an equal opportunity employer servicing our diverse communities. The County of Lambton is committed to providing accommodations for people with disabilities. If you require an accommodation, we will work with you to meet your needs. This information is available in an alternative format upon request, to accommodate individuals with a disability. Although we appreciate all applications, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Personal information required by this posting/advertisement is collected under the authority of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 1990, CHAPTER M.56, as amended. The treatment, storage and handling of personal information is governed by the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER M.56, as amended and will be used in reviewing applications. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Corporate Manager, Human Resources, County of Lambton, 789 Broadway Street, Box 3000, Wyoming, Ontario NON 170. Phone 519-845-0801 or Toll-free at 1-866-324-6912.

> To see other employment opportunities with the County of Lambton. please visit: www.lambtononline.ca/jobs

Find us on Facebook [fig. (Facebook: /CountyofLambton)

# previous week.

Wyoming's Jackson on the road to Utah Core Jackson is taking his talents west.

The Wyoming native has signed with the University of Utah. Last season the middle infielder played at the University of Nebraska. He had a stat

line of .210/.322/.315 in 44 games with the Cornhuskers with six doubles, two triples, a homer and 21 RBI. He also stole six bases. Utah was 10-20 last season in conference play and 26-27-1 overall.

# ambton players lead Rockets to win

Oil Springs' William Hull had a career high three points on a power play goal and two assists as the Strathroy Rockets beat Komoka, 5-4 in GOJHL action Sunday.

Petrolia's Andrew Jaques had a goal and an assist for the Rockets. The same two teams played in Strathroy on Tuesday; the score was not available

prior to press time. Hull has three goals and seven assists on the season, while Jaques has four goals and five assists in 17 games. He has three goals in his iasi iive games.

After a trip to Sarnia Thursday, the Rockets play their next home game on Saturday. They host St. Thomas at

# Camlachie defender, Mac eliminated at nationals

Sean Ross of Camlachie and his McMaster Marauders lost on penalty kicks to the eventual champions from Kamloops, BC in quarterfinal action at the U Sports national soccer championships.

Ross played 44 minutes for the Hamilton school in the opener.

MacMaster lost 5-nil to University of Quebec at Trois Rivières in the consolation semi-final and were eliminated.

# Jr Sting hosting Face Off tourney this weekend

The Lambton Jr. Sting U16's, with several players from Central Lambton on its roster, host the Alliance Hockey Face Off tournament this weekend at

the Progressive Auto Sales Arena in

They open against Cambridge on Friday at noon.

**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**



#### 591 Ontario Street Watford

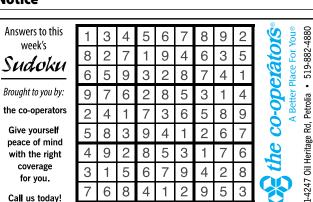
one of watrords landmark nouses is available! While retaining its elegance & charm of yesteryear, enjoy the comfort of today! modern amenities in perfect harmony. This 4 bed, 2 bat stunning home is superbly renovated, tastefully decorated and has so much to offer. Gorgeous entryway, spacious room throughout, wide baseboards & trim, high ceilings, captivating kitchen w/sland, main floor laundry, formal diming room grand stairway leading to 4 big bedrooms, your own private space in the Master bedroom w/ ensuite. See stars at night or the walk-out balcony, Large double lot whigh privacy fence back vard ideal for children and eets to play. In additionar

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#### **Notice**



#### Antiques, Art & Collectibles

#### **BUYING ANTIQUES, VINTAGE ITEMS, ESTATES**

Buying anything old: signs, pottery, toys, comics, knives, Coleman lanterns, lighters, advertising, razors and much more! Single items, contents of attics, garages, barns and entire

Call Chad 519-639-9102 chadnlyndsay@yahoo.ca

#### Rentals

Wyoming Lions Club RECEP-TION 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 519-466-7806 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

ALSO, will pick up scrap bikes.

**DECEMBER 15TH DEADLINE** - The Petrolia Community Garden is a partnership between the Town of Petrolia and the local Rotary Club. The plots are located on the west side of Centre Street, beside the Town of Petrolia Public works Yard. Petrolia residents are invited to apply for a plot. Forms are available at the Town of Petrolia website. town.petrolia.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Community-Garden-Plot-Application-Form-Fillable pdf All applications received by December 15th will be entered in a lottery to award the plots before the end of December 2022. Application also available on Petrolia Rotary Club's Facebook page.

# Immediately Needed Items



- soda crackers
- peanut butter



4156 PETROLIA LINE, UNIT 1 (REAR) • 519-882-3950 • MONDAY 9-11:30 AM & 4TH WEDNESDAY 6-7:45 PM

# LAMBTON YOUNG THEATRE PLAYERS

# Robin Hood and The Queen

Starring... **Emily Adams** Alexis Bacon Ruby Core Jagger Eastman Xander Hewitt Matilda Holbrough Jacobie Jamieson Sam Johnston Spencer Klompstra Cora Knapp Chase Kwarciak Tavyn Legomski Farrah Maheu Kali McDonald Wynter McLean Emilie Misner Evangeline Misn Blake Morrison Matthew Stek **Gwen Towriss** 

Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine is at odds with her son, nasty King John. She escapes his dungeons and seeks refuge with Robin Hood, and his gang of merry outlaws, in Sherwood Forest, Robin must work quickly to help the Queen safely to France, but the hunt is on, and King John and the Sheriff of Nottingham are in hot pursuit. Can clever Robin save the good Queen, or will she end up back in the dungeons?

# **Public Performance**

Friday, Dec. 2, 7:00 PM Students: \$10 • Adults: \$18

@ Sarnia Public Library Theatre

#### **School Matinees**

Wednesday, Nov. 30, 10:00 AM & 12:30 PM Thursday, Dec. 1, 10:00 AM & 12:30 PM

Tickets: 0-45 students \$10, 46+ students \$8 Show length: One hour, Suitable for grades 2 and up.

For more information, or to book tickets call: 226-932-7262 | www.lambtonyoungplayers.com











# **LOCAL MATTERS.**





Remember that time when Amazon sponsored your church fundraiser?



Remember when **Facebook** bought a case of Girl Guide cookies to support your daughter?



Remember when **Google** provided free pizza to your child's soccer team when they won the championship?

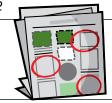
## **Neither do we!**

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





#### **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

#### **Coming Events**

Watford Warwick Horticultural Society is offering a CHRIST-MAS CRAFT NIGHT at their ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on Wed. Nov 16, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. The event will take place at the New ELCC (Watford Arena) and includes Pizza dinner plus treats. Cost is \$10.00 for members, \$20.00 for non members (which includes membership to WWHS). Please RSVP by Nov 11 to our FB page or Lucy 519-636-1161 or Holly 226-402-0116..

FUNDRAISER TO ASSIST A HOMELESS VETERAN – Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction with all proceeds to assist the Veteran. Hosted by: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 216 Petrolia and Ladies Auxiliary on Saturday November 19 2022. Doors open at 5 pm and Dinner served at 6 pm. Silent Auction closes at 8:30 . pm Menu: spaghetti, garlic bread, Caesar salad, dessert all for \$20 per person. Join us at the Petrolia Legion - 4129 Glenview Road, Petrolia. Tickets available at the bar or please call 519-882-1201 to arrange purchase.

# UNIQUE CHRISTMAS GIFTS Saturday Nov. 19 Sunday Nov. 20 Many handcrafted items; home decor, knitted items, yarn rovings, quilts, oven mitts, farm fresh honey, bake table 5177 Courtright Line Oil Springs Ontario

#### **Notices**



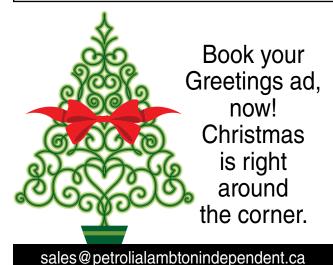
Waste Management

Twin Creeks Environmental Centre

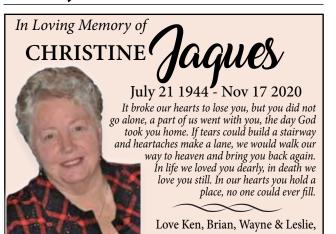
WE ARE CLOSED Saturday, November 19

#### 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



#### **In Memory**





#### **Obituary**

#### **WILSON** Lawrence Raymond "Ray"

Unexpectedly on **November 1, 2022**, at C.E.E. Hospital of Bluewater Health, Petrolia, Lawrence Raymond "Ray" Wilson passed away at the age of **75**. Survived by his loving son Chad Wilson and his son Tristan. He is survived by his sons Tyler Olsen and his children Drew Olsen and Rebecca Olsen and Dwayne (Sheri Jolly) Wilson, and his son Devon Westby (Michaela). Also survived by his grandchildren Ashton, Davton, and Cora. Ray will be dearly missed by his brothers



William (Iola) Wilson of Portland, Oregon, and John (Judy) Wilson of Sarnia, and his sister Delores (Ron) King of Sarnia. Predeceased by his son Brian, his parents William and Mary Wilson and his siblings, Bloss (Lillian), Ilene (Gordon) Holmes, Stanley, Ron, Marion (Ken) Taylor, Zel (Bill) Lamb, and Lola (Jack) Ryan. Also predeceased by his nephew, the late Wilson (Judy) Morningstar. He will be remembered by many nieces and nephews.

Ray was a member of the Local 663 Pipefitters, Sarnia for 56 years. He was a very skilled tradesman, with a strong work ethic and was respected by many colleagues. He was often seen sitting on the benches in Petrolia, talking to numerous local friends. A fisherman who also loved hunting with various family members, Ray cherished his time spent with his son Chad and grandson Tristan.

A funeral service took place on Monday, November 7, 2022, at the Wyoming Chapel of Needham-Jay Funeral Home with visitation prior to the service. Cremation to follow. A private interment will take place in Hillsdale Cemetery at a later date.

As an expression of sympathy memorial donations to the Canadian Mental Health Association (https://cmha.ca/) of the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

#### In Memory



# JUUCU DIRECTORY

and loving you always.

Claire and Family

# **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

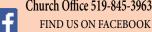
■ Find us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia

# **Wyoming United** Church

730 Second Street, Wyoming

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

Rev. Steven Longmoore Church Office 519-845-3963



# 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** 

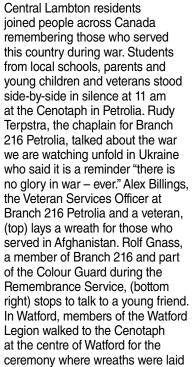


# **Central Lambton** Remembers









Over 100 people gathered at the Alvinston cenotaph. Veterans, politicians and citizens laid wreaths. (top right and centre left) Unseasonably warm weather drew many people to Corunna to mark Remembrance Day. St. Clair Mayor Steve Arnold (bottom left) was among the dignitaries laying wreaths at the Corunna Square.

(centre right).











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