

Brooke school roof unsafe says engineer

Students learning remotely; plan to use LCCVI panned by parents

Heather Wright
The Independent

“We’re coming back.”

That from Lambton-Kent District School Board’s director of education to worried parents whose children attend Brooke Central School.

The students learning online until Nov. 29 will then move to other schools while the roof of their home school is being fixed.

The Lambton-Kent District School Board met with parents at the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre Monday to explain how engineers preparing for a summer roof project found the roof might collapse under the weight of more than 12 inches of snow. Board also laid out a plan for where the students will be going.

And Director of Education, John Howitt, reassured the school community that this was not the end of the school. Rumours had been circulating that this might be the board’s way to close the rural school.

“We are coming back, I don’t know when, but we are coming back,” says Howitt.

The board planned to bus kindergarten to Grade 5 students to Lambton Centennial where there are empty classrooms. Students in French Immersion from K-6 would go to East Lambton Elementary and all other Grade 7 and 8 students would be using the now vacant third floor of LCCVI until the repairs were complete.

Students have regular bus stops however the time of pickup may be different as may the bus. People whose children use Early Years Childcare after school will be bussed back to the daycare centre daily.

SEE BROOKE PG 3

CHRISTMAS CANDLE



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Rose Redman, 4, was concentrating on creating her very own Christmas candle with her mom, Jenny, at the Oil Museum of Canada. The pair were at the Oil Springs museum for a Christmas open house Friday.

Just 24 per cent of councillors in Central Lambton are women

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

While over half of the people in Canada are women, less than 24 per cent of the seats around the council table are being occupied by women.

The under representation of women comes into sharp focus as the municipal councils in The Independent’s coverage area took office in the last 10 days.

The Independent covers eight municipal councils. Seven have at least one woman, but four councils have two. Warwick Township doesn’t have any women elected to the 2022-2026 council.

With only 11 women on the eight councils which have 46 seats in total, that is 23.9 per cent representation.

Not a single council has a woman leading it this term after former Mayor Jackie Rombouts was defeated in Warwick Township in October.

There is only one head of council in all of Lambton County; Mayor Bev Hand in Point Edward. She’s also the current deputy warden.

Perhaps it’s not surprising only 24 per cent of the people elected were women in Central Lambton considering out of the 76 candidates just 25 per cent were women.

Central Lambton is not alone - although

the lack of women in politics is more acute than in the rest of Ontario. Just over 32 per cent of the people elected Oct. 24 were women according to data compiled by the Association of Municipalities Ontario. This is an improvement; up from 29.4 per cent in 2018.

The lack of women running for office has not gone unnoticed. In Lambton, and across Southern Ontario, women who have been in municipal politics are trying to encourage others to step up. Helen Cole, the founder of the Jean Collective- an initiative to get local women to advocate for change and achieve their political aspirations in Lambton.

SEE WOMEN PG 2



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Women less likely at council

Half the population; a quarter representation

CON'T FROM PG 1

Cole says one of the reasons so few women run for office is they don't feel they are qualified.

This municipal election, Cole helped 20 women within Lambton County. Her assistance was varied for each candidate from being simply a listener to mentoring and advising to helping them to design their campaigns. Six were elected.

"Men get asked to run just once before they make that decision, a woman has to be asked six or seven times before they decide to run," said Joanne Vanderheyden, the past president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities who defeated last month after being mayor of Strathroy-Caradoc since 2010.

The reason why women need to be asked so many times before they decide to become a candidate is because they are juggling so many things in their lives, from work, to looking after the home, caring for children to self doubt, she says.

"I still fight imposter syndrome," said Cole, who served on the St. Thomas City Council for nine years before moving to Sarnia. She launched the Jean Collective in January 2020 after offering an online workshop, the Equal Voice in March 2019.

Lindsay Wilson, is the newly elected deputy mayor in Ingersoll, but her involvement in municipal politics began when she didn't see other women on council. She started an online campaign school in Oxford County. She didn't plan to run, but in the end, she put her name forward as a candidate.

There are a lot of barriers to a woman first deciding to run, said Wilson from needing to adjust your work schedule to finding childcare so you can be involved in your campaign or later your council duties. Social media can also be off-putting, she said

Cole agrees. "It is so easy to be a keyboard warrior," said Cole, noting



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Councillors Debb Pitell and Liz Welsh watch as Brad Loosley is sworn in as mayor of Petrolia Nov. 15. Last term, there were no women on council in Petrolia.

women are more likely to face personal attacks online. "People seem angrier and that anger is appearing in social media."

Wilson's campaign in Ingersoll seems to have worked with four of seven seats occupied by females including women of colour.

And the Ingersoll deputy mayor has some words of encouragement for Central Lambton women considering running for office; four years seems like a long time, but it really isn't, said Wilson. Those considering running for a municipal council should start by getting involved in their community by volunteering or getting on a committee. They could reach out to current municipal leaders in a mentoring capacity and developing a support network, which is needed during a campaign.

The former Strathroy-Caradoc mayor, Joanne Vanderheyden, stressed the drive for better female representation on council can't be about just increasing the number of women on council. She says the right women - with leadership skills, a knowledge of municipal issues and a love of their community - need to step forward.

NEW WARWICK COUNCIL



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Todd Case signs the oath of office as he becomes Warwick Township's mayor Nov. 15. Case, Deputy Mayor John Couwenberg, and Councillors Wayne Morris and Joe Manning officially became the leaders of the community with the ceremony. Councillor Jerry Westgate was absent and will be sworn in at a later date.

FIRE UNDER PETROLIA BRIDGE



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Petrolia firefighters were called to the Petrolia Line bridge at Bridgeview Park early Tuesday morning after a passerby noticed smoke coming from beneath it. Petrolia/North Enniskillen Fire Chief Jay Arns says it appeared someone had made a fire to try to keep warm beneath the bridge. No one was found at the scene when firefighters arrived and the smouldering wood was extinguished.

Christmas

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The Town of Petrolia

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SATURDAY, DEC. 3, 2022
10 AM - 3 PM
396 FLETCHER STREET
(BEHIND THE LIBRARY)



OUTDOOR MARKET

Editorial

Roof issues sign of larger problem

Parents at Brooke Central Public School were stunned to learn the roof of their building might collapse under more than a foot of snow.

The Lambton-Kent District School Board sent the parents a letter outlining the problem Friday, saying the children would be moved to nearby schools. By Monday, the board was placing a plan before parents which would see students go to either East Lambton Elementary, Lambton Centennial or LCCVI while the problem was repaired.

We'll give credit to the board for quick action. The idea of moving an entire school as fast as possible must have been a lot to wrap their minds around. And it is clear, they're doing their best in a bad situation.

The parents, also understandably, are upset. This is the third school year their kids education will be up-ended - where school won't be normal. Some parents are concerned about their preteens going to a high school - it's too soon, they say.

But some of the more interesting points the parents raised shed light on the dismal backlog of repairs needed to our aging schools. Roofs in Lambton schools had not been examined in 20 years, even though the building code has changed since then. And the director of education admits that has to change with more frequent monitoring, particularly when rules and weather patterns change.

But we wonder how much will actually be accomplished being more proactive repairing even the most basic and important structures of school buildings. The Lambton-Kent District School Board has 62 schools and in the next five years, the board estimates \$321,003,727 in repairs are needed or \$ 465,884,613 over 10 years. And that's a 2021 estimate.

The province gives \$1.4 billion to all school boards for repairs and estimates there is \$16.8 billion backlog in school maintenance.

Yes, the Lambton-Kent District School Board has to be more proactive about checking roofs - but without more provincial funding, we're not sure they're going to get fixed even if they need it.

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



WARWICK TOWNSHIP PHOTO

In 1833, Arthur C. Kingstone bought thousands of acres of land in Warwick Township in what is now the corner of London Line and Zion Line. He built a home and called it Kingscourt. A community grew up around the area - Kingstone had brought about 30 families to the area to work the land. A school was built in 1855. By 1872, a brickyard was built. By 1883, there was a stove factory, a saw mill, a grist mill, a general store and a barbershop. The next year, the community petitioned for a post office and called Kingscourt. A train station was opened in 1893 and remained opened until 1940 when the section of the railroad from Kingscourt to Glencoe was closed and the rails were lifted. This photo of the train station hangs in the Warwick municipal office.

Start asking women to run for municipal politics

This has been an interesting week for me. I have been to five inaugural meetings as our new municipal leaders take the oath of office and begin their four year term. It wasn't until I arrived at the Township of Warwick meeting, an uneasiness settled over me and I realized what it was. There were no women elected to the council.

This caused me to look back on the other meetings and do a count. Women were being elected, but very few. Among the eight municipal councils within *The Independent's* coverage area, there are 11 women out of a total of 46 members of Council. That is less than one in four. Given that women represent slightly over half of the population, that is a huge discrepancy.

Before coming to Lambton County at the beginning of this year, I lived in Thompson, Manitoba. I served on the

Thompson City Council for a single term from 2014 to 2018. There is a nine member city council and when I served, I had the pleasure to have four women as my colleagues.

One of my colleagues, Colleen Smook, has gone on to be the mayor of the municipality and was just elected last month to her second term. The Thompson council continues to have four women sitting around the table.

Having this representation on your council allows you to better represent all your constituents and brings the different perspectives out in a discussion which allows the council to governing more effectively and land on decisions which can better meet the needs of all the community.

My career has been varied, from newspapers, to public relations and community development. Most of

my bosses have been women. As a rule, they have a different leadership style than men. Women tend to lead by consensus, which results in a lot of discussion and debate. A decision doesn't tend to be made until everyone around the table agrees with the outcome. This can mean many meetings and can be frustrating at time, but it leads to buy in by all of those involved, and is usually the best decision possible.



Blake Ellis

CON'T ON PG 5

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Canada

Opinion

Ellis: More women should be around the council table

CON'T FROM PG 4

In the north, it is recognized that as new settlements were carved out of the wilderness, you needed women to create communities in the true sense of the word. Without women, you just had work camps. Having women in your community led to such things as schools, churches and social organizations, the things that root a

community.

Lambton County has many women who are already leading in some capacity. How many women volunteers are leading on what I would call the front lines of the community to make sure an event or a program is delivered the right way? How many farms would not survive without women quietly doing what needs to be done

behind the scenes?

There are so many women already leading in some capacity. Those leadership skills are transferable to the council table.

It is said that it takes a woman being asked six or seven times before they decide to run in municipal politics. We should find those capable women and start asking.

Petrolia may remove second chance for public comment

Heather Wright
The Independent

Changes are in the works as the new Petrolia council begins its term - including removing one of the opportunity for public comment at regular council meetings.

Monday, the new council got together to learn about all the facets of local government. Each department head spoke about the issues in their department. The fire chief and the Inspector of Lambton OPP as well as the town's auditors also made a presentation .

And Mayor Brad Loosley outlined some of the changes he is suggesting for the next four years.

Loosley told members of council a new procedural bylaw would be com-

ing to council Nov. 28. It's reviewed every term.

Currently, there are two opportunities for the public to speak at council meeting without advanced notice. Loosley is suggesting one be removed because it is "after the meeting decisions have been made."

The last time council suggested removing the opportunity for questions from the public was in 2018 when John McCharles was mayor. There was a large outcry and the second question period remained. It was a tradition the last council continued.

Loosley is suggesting an alternative way for the public to raise their concerns. "We're going to have a town hall meeting twice a year," said Clerk Mandi Pearson "They're not docu-

mented, they're not meeting minutes, (the public) will come and speak and interact with council. So when we have open opportunity, those decisions will be made very informal here at town hall...they'll be able to come forward and speak without any debate or discussion."

Loosley is also proposing a new system of pay of councillors. They'll receive a base amount but will be docked pay if they miss the meetings of the committees they are assigned to attend. The amount the pay would be docked was not specified Monday.

In 2020, the mayor was paid \$26,046.65 and councillors \$13,643.06 yearly and get health benefits of \$3,000. They can also claim for mileage and conferences expenses.

Elderly Corunna woman struck by OPP cruiser

The Independent

The Special Investigations Unit says an 82 year-old woman who was walking was injured after being hit by an OPP cruiser in Corunna.

Around noon Nov. 16, an OPP officer was traveling west on St. Clair Blvd in Corunna. The car hit the woman

while turning south onto the St. Clair Parkway. Officials say the woman was taken to hospital with serious injuries.

The SIU, which is an independent body which investigates when there is a death, serious injury, sexual assault or the discharge of a firearm with police, has been talking with four members of the OPP after the incident.

Two investigators and one forensic investigator are looking into the accident to determine if the police committed any offences.

"The SIU is urging anyone who may have information about this investigation, including video or photos, to contact the lead investigator at 1-800-787-8529," officials said in a news release.

OFFICIAL PHOTO



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Plympton-Wyoming's new council posed for a photo after the swearing in of the members. Mayor Gary Atkinson urged the new council to work as a team to make the community better for all. Atkinson becomes mayor after the retirement of Lonny Napper and defeating two former councillors for the position Oct. 24.

CORRECTION

In the Nov. 17, 2022 edition of *The Independent*, in the page 5 story *Petrolia man continues tradition of service*, the serviceman was incorrectly identified. He is Captain Joe Anderson. *The Independent* regrets the error, and the confusion it may have caused. The story was also corrected at www.petrolialambtonindependent.ca

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Three arrested for stolen trailers

The Independent

Lambton OPP are giving few details, but officials say three people face dozens of charges after \$240,000 in stolen items were recovered.

Nearly a month ago, the OPP concluded a stolen property investigation arresting three people in Petrolia and laying 86 charges according to OPP Spokesperson Const. Jamie Bydeley in a news release.

Nineteen trailers and a utility vehicle were recovered valued at \$240,000.

The three arrested have been charged with trafficking in stolen goods, using/ dealing in forged documents, making forged documents, destroying vehicle identification numbers and fraudulent concealment.

Police haven't named the three saying they're protecting the integrity of their investigation.

All three were released from custody and will be in court "at a later date" according to the news release issued 27 days after the arrests were made.

Two taken to hospital after cooking fire

The Independent

Chicken fingers being cooked in an air fryer started a fire in Petrolia.

Two people were taken to Petrolia's CEE Hospital after a fire on Henderson Drive Nov. 16.

Petrolia/North Enniskillen firefighters were called to the home just before six.

Chief Jay Arns says an air fryer – which was sitting on a stove – was being used to cook some chicken fingers when it caught fire.

"The fire extended to the cabinets and the walls. The kitchen was involved when we got there."

Arns says the firefighters were able to put out the fire fairly quickly – spending only about a hour on the scene. But the damage was quite extensive in the kitchen with smoke and water damage extending to the basement. Arns says about \$100,000 damage was done.

Two people in the home were assessed at the scene for smoke inhalation and sent to CEEH as a precaution.

Corunna hit by second earthquake

Heather Wright
The Independent

People near Corunna may have felt the earth move under their feet Sunday.

Earthquakes Canada says around 11:30 am pm Sunday, they monitored a tremor. Social media posts say it was felt by some residents of St. Clair Township.

Officials say originally said the earthquake was about three kilometers from Point Edward and five kilometers under the earth. It measured 2.5 in magnitude.

They later revised the information to say it was five kilometers west-northwest of



Corunna

It is one of six earthquakes felt in Ontario in November. In all, there have been 362 registered since Nov. 1 with the majority under two in magnitude.

COLD SANTA



It was a bit cold - even for Santa - as the Brigden Optimist welcomed the Christmas season Saturday. Vendors were set up outside the Optimist Hall and Santa made a visit to flip on the lights for the community.

BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

AUXILIARY HELP



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Branch 216 Legion Auxiliary President Susan Laker pulls some dessert out of the oven at the Petrolia Legion during a fundraiser for a veteran without a home. The members of the branch held a dinner to raise some money to get the man back on his feet after living in a car for some time. Officials are still assessing how much money was raised.



This Month In Lambton

November 2022

[f](#) [t](#)



Warden Kevin Marriott
@LambtonWarden

OMC receives OMA Award

The Oil Museum of Canada, National Historic Site has been presented the Award of Excellence in Exhibitions, by the Ontario Museum Association (OMA).

The OMA presents awards in several categories, celebrating museums across the province that demonstrate outstanding contributions to the Ontario museum community.

The Award of Excellence in Exhibitions focuses on new and innovative exhibitions, and recognizes the Oil Museum of Canada's recent renovation project that transformed the exhibition space, improved accessibility, and replaced end of life equipment and building systems.

The project enhanced key areas to improve visitor's comfort and experiences with interactive components.

You can experience the exhibit during operating hours on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Upcoming JNAAG events

Join the Judith & Norman Alix Art Gallery this month for one of their upcoming events. Learn more and see a full list at [jnaag.ca](#).

Future Community Blueprint

December 2, 2022 – March 31, 2023

Beginning this December, we invite you to collaborate on a blueprint for our community's future. Submissions will be integrated into an augmented reality visualization, being revealed in May 2023.

Cozy Candle Making

December 3 & 17, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Drop-in on December 3 and 17 between 1 and 3 p.m. to create a beeswax candle through a wax dipping method.

This activity is free and fun for all ages. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Treats and hot chocolate provided.

Looking Ahead

9 a.m., Dec. 7, 2022 - Warden's Election Agendas, minutes and links to meeting live stream videos can be found at [www.lambtononline.ca/meetings](#).

To read more, go to [lambtononline.ca](#)



Office of the County Warden
519-845-0801 | 1-866-324-6912
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Sports

SWOSSAA SWOOP



Elle Morningstar launches a shot during LCCVI's Jr. Girls SWOSSAA basketball game against Kingsville Thursday. The Lancers lost the regional title 63-29 at home. Hannah Daniel was LCCVI's top scorer with nine points.

HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Petrolia Flyers top Lucan at home

Barry Wright
The Independent

Peyton Armitage's power play goal at 14:23 of the third period proved to be the game-winning goal in a 2-1 win by the Petrolia Flyers over the Lucan Irish Thursday night before a season-

high crowd of 412 fans at Greenwood.
Colby Ackworth had the other Petrolia goal and Elijah Grant made 26 saves.
The Flyers have won two straight and are now 4-11-2 on the season and just two points behind Port Stanley for seventh

place in the PJHL's Yeck Division.
Petrolia is off for the remainder of the weekend. Their next games are next Saturday and Sunday in Port Stanley and Aylmer respectively.

Flags back in Mooretown, notch a win

The Independent

Jace Dupuis scored twice and added an assist to lead the Mooretown Flags to a 4-1 win over Amherstburg in PJHL action Saturday before 269 fans at the Moore Sports Complex.

it was Mooretown's first home game of the season at its home rink. They had played their first six home games at Walpole Island as renovation were being completed to the MSC.
Ethan Kerry and Brody Genyn also scored for Mooretown.

John Chartrand was the winner between the pipes stopping 22 of 23 shots.
Mooretown is now 9-5 on the season. They play the division-leading 73's in Essex Tuesday. The 73's have won 14 straight games and are 15-1.

Killer Bees sting Plattsville on the road

The Independent

Bayly Fryfogle scored twice and added an assist and Carson Perry had four assists to lead the Alvinston Killer Bees to a 6-2 win over the Lakers in Plattsville in Western Ontario Super Hockey League action on Sunday.
With the multiple assist game, Perry is now ninth in league

scoring with 14 points in seven games.
Tyler Winkist, Derek Shaw and Cam Welch all had a goal and an assist for the Bees with Cam Rombouts adding the other.
Nolan DeKoning stopped 35 shots for the win between the pipes.
Alvinston is now in sixth place with a record of 3-4-1.

They are just a point out of fifth and just three points back of fourth place.
The Bees take on the Thunder in Tilsonburg this Saturday. Their next home game is Farm Appreciation Day on Dec. 3 against the first place Tilbury Bluebirds.



Petrolia Oiler U18 teams win big

The Independent

Two Petrolia Oiler U18 teams were big winners this weekend.
The U18 AE Team claimed the regional Silver Stick Championship in South Huron with a 3-0 victory over Strathroy in the final.
The Oilers lost to Strathroy 6-2 in the round robin play. Petrolia went into the semi finals with a record of two wins and that single loss.
They beat Ilderton 2-1 in the semi-finals and then avenged their earlier loss to Strathroy with the 3-0 victory for the Silver Stick.

Other local teams also claimed Silver Sticks at the South Huron Regional tournament. Mooretown captured the U15 banner with a 2-1 win over the host club in its championship game, Lambton Shores blanked Mt. Brydges, 1-0 in the U13 final and Ilderton got by East Lambton in the U11 final.
And the U18 Petrolia Oiler Rep Team beat the hometown Thorold Blackhawks to claim the Beaverloch Farms Tournament on the weekend. The Oilers had a record of two wins one tie and a loss heading into the finals. They took on first place Thorold and Petrolia triumphed 3-0.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Petrolia Oiler U18 AE claim the South Huron Regional Silver Stick title.

WARWICK COMMUNITY PLANNING OPEN HOUSES

The Township of Warwick is seeking input from residents about evolving land use issues and holding public open houses to gather thoughts / issues / concerns surrounding:

- Commerical – Industrial District (CM) permitted uses
- Surplus Farm Dwelling Serverances
- Additional Dwelling Units (garden suites, suites inside/attached to dwellings)

Planners will be available to answer questions and the format is drop-in style (no formal presentation).
Attendees will be encouraged to complete a questionnaire.
An online version of the questionnaire can be completed at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LW5GHQB>



NOVEMBER 21 & 28 – 1 - 6:30 PM • DECEMBER 8 (Moonlight Madness) – 5 - 7 PM

at The Township of Warwick Municipal Office - 5280 Nauvoo Road, Watford

For more information, contact Luis Esteves or Ken Melanson by phone at 519-845-0801 or by email at: planning@county-lambton.on.ca



HAYTER HOCKEY



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS

Firefighters from around Ontario are in Alvinston this weekend for the Hayter Memorial Hockey Tournament. The tournament honours Jim and Mary Louise Hayter. The Alvinston couple were very active of the community and passed away in 2017. Jim Hayter was fire chief in Alvinston for 15 years. The tournament has raised over \$50,000 for Camp Bucko – a summer camp for kids with burns. Lily Hayter drops the puck for her dad, Pat, and Petrolia firefighter Tim Jacklin at the beginning of the Memorial Tournament named in her grandparents honour. And below, it was the Battle of 79 – Watford against Alvinston – for the first game of the Hayter Tournament. Watford won 7-0. The Warwick Watford team won the tourney - claiming the Hayter Cup.



Squires in Durham against Thundercats

Coming off a bye week, the Petrolia Squires head to the snow belt this weekend and game with the Thundercats in Durham. Petrolia is on a mini two-game losing slide and 5-4 on the Western Ontario Athletic Association season. The Squires’ next home game is against

Milverton on Friday, Dec. 2 at Greenwood at 8:30. Jesse Ferguson leads Petrolia is scoring nearing the halfway point of the campaign with nine points. Isaac McLean has eight and Kraig Wright, Corey Pawley and Ryan Fraser are tied for third with seven points each.

Legion on six game skid

The Sarnia Legionnaires host Chatham in GOJHL action Thursday looking to snap a six-game winless streak. Game time at the Pat Stapleton Arena is 7:30. Last week, former Flyer Landon Marcy scored a power play goal for Sarnia in a 6-3 loss to the Vipers in LaSalle and Plympton-Wyoming’s Ryan Richardson extended his point scoring streak to five games with two assists in a 5-4 loss to the Rockets. William Hull of Oil Springs and Petrolia’s Andrew Jaques both scored for the Rockets against the Legionnaires. Strathroy’s next home game is Saturday against St. Marys.

Eagles soar at Silver Stick

East Lambton won the U13 and U15 crowns at the Twin Centre Rep Classic Minor Hockey tournament on the weekend in St. Clements, near Kitchener. The Eagles blanked Six Nations, 2-0 in the U15 final and East Lambton downed Wellington Centre, 9-2 in the U13 championship contest.



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THE ROTARY CLUB of Petrolia

Dinner of the Month Lottery Winners 2021-2022

Congratulations to this year's winners!

Oct – Jarrod Munro, Corunna
Nov – Ray & Ev Levasseur, Oil Springs
Dec – Tony May, Dorchester
Jan – Tony D’Arne, Sarnia
Feb – Shelley Waller, Sarnia
Mar– Mary Jo Bryce, Watford
Apr – Dennis Regnier, Petrolia
May – Koert & Marjo Nieuwenhuis, Wyoming
Jun – Juliette McDonald, Petrolia
Jul – Judy Wilson, Sarnia
Aug – Roy Snyder, Petrolia
Sept – Doris Struthers, Wyoming

Thank you to everyone who supported our annual fundraiser. With your help, we are able to support a wide variety of community projects.

STAY STANDING THIS Winter!

Slippery sidewalks, driveways and icy parking lots can be risk factors for falls in winter. Avoid a bad fall with these top tips!

WALK LIKE A PENGUIN
The penguin waddle helps you keep a centre of gravity over the front leg as you step, instead of split between the legs. Short strides also help keep your centre of gravity, which help avoid falls. Don't keep your hands in your pockets! Walk slowly, with short strides and try to land your steps with a flat foot.

KEEP WALKWAYS CLEAR
Shovel snow and scrape ice as soon as possible. Liberally sprinkle ice melt product or sand onto walkways to provide foot traction and to make sure surfaces don't turn to ice. This is not only protects you and your family, but also postal carries and others when they're walking around your property. Where possible install or use handrails for extra support.

TAKE ALL PRECAUTIONS
Be extra cautious walking after a storm. Tap your foot on partially icy areas to see if it is slippery. Hold a railing while walking on icy steps. Stay steady by wearing proper winter footwear. lightweight boots with a thick, non-slip tread sole will provide good traction on ice. If a sidewalk is icy down the missile, walk on the snow beside it to avoid slips.

Lambton Chiropractic Centre

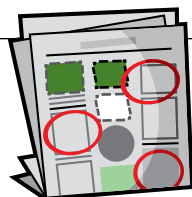
431 King Street, Petrolia | 519-882-1880

Dr. Derek Martyniuk

Dr. Kevin Storozyuk

www.lambtonchiropractic.ca

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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



243 Warwick St., Watford



Beautiful, yellow brick home on a large corner lot, minutes from downtown Watford. This 3 bdrm, 1.5 bathrm home is renovated throughout and is ready for you to move in and make your own. Lots of natural light throughout the home, an open kitchen w/exposed brick wall & butcher block, main floor laundry, large living & dining room for family fun and entertaining and stunning staircase to the upper floor. The large back yard has lots of room for kids and pets to play and is partially fenced-in. High-speed unlimited fibre optic internet available to work from home. Close to Hwy 402 access, 30 min. to both London & Sarnia

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Wotton Bassett Horticultural Society's

**Christmas
Open House
and Craft
Sale**

Saturday
November 26, 9-4

Sunday
November 27, 10-4

at the Horticultural Centre
5306 Nauvoo Rd, Wotton

A graphic with a black background. At the top, the words "Public Notice" are written in a large, bold, white sans-serif font. Below this, the words "Annual Meeting" are written in a smaller, white, italicized sans-serif font. Underneath that, "Wyoming Community Foundation" is written in a white sans-serif font. The date and time, "Wednesday, December 7th, 2022, 5:00 p.m.", are in a white italicized sans-serif font. Below that, the location, "Wyoming Lions Hall, 554 Main St., Wyoming", is in a white sans-serif font. A line of white text reads "Members of the public are very welcome to attend." At the bottom, the name "Caroline DeSchutter, Secretary" is in a white italicized sans-serif font, followed by the email "cdeschutter123@gmail.com" and the phone number "519-330-5978" in a white sans-serif font. In the top right corner, there is a graphic of two pushpins: one orange and one yellow, both with silver rings, pinned to the black background.

Coming Events

Tuesday December 13, 2022 – 7p.m. Lambton Branch, Ontario Ancestors Meeting – MEMBERS SOCIAL: Share your genealogy stories and highlights from the last three years. Attend In-Person at LDS Church, 1400 Murphy Rd., Sarnia, Ontario, or on-line by registering for Zoom Meeting at lambton.ogs.on.ca Meetings are free and open to the public – all welcome. For more information email lambton@ogs.on.ca

CHRISTMASFEST CRAFT & GIFT SHOW: St. Paul's United Church, Petrolia. **Saturday, November 26 10am-3pm.** Free Admission, door prizes. A very exciting one day shopping event of handcrafted, homemade, home baked, one of a kind treasures made by local talent. Kitchen open for food and drink, desserts and other items for sale.

Antiques, Art & Collectibles

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.

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 estates.

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

Notices

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.petroliia.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.

Optimist Club of Lambton Central - Petrolia **ANNUAL ANGEL TREE**
Our Angel Tree Lighting Ceremony and Ready of the Names will be held **on Friday, December 2** during the "Christmas in Victoria Park" event. If you wish to have an angel placed on our tree, in memory of a loved one, you can pick up a form at Heidi's YIG, BrokerLink or from Optimist members. Completed forms along with donations, can be dropped off at BrokerLink via mail slot or by going in, or given to Optimist Pam. Following the evening's events, the tree will be on display in the window of BrokerLink, 4146 Petrolia Line. If you have any questions please contact Optimist Pam: pam_core@hotmail.com Submission deadline: Tuesday, November 29th. All proceeds will be donated to Petrolia Food Bank and Community Life Centre.

Step into our magical display of unique items for your home or find the perfect Christmas gift at Watford Warwick Horticultural Society **OPEN HOUSE & CRAFT SALE on Saturday, Nov 26 – 9a-4p; Sunday, Nov 27 – 10a-4p.** Come visit our WWHS elves in their workshop, 5306 Nauvoo Rd., Watford. For more info, visit our FB page <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100071073251927> or call Holly 226-4002-0116.

**Have an event
advertise it in the
classifieds!!**

Rentals

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

The logo of the Lions International organization, featuring a blue shield with a yellow border. Inside the shield, the word "LIONS" is written in yellow at the top, a large white "L" is in the center, and the word "INTERNATIONAL" is written in yellow at the bottom. The shield is flanked by two yellow lions' heads facing outwards.

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call: (519) 466 7806 or 845 3333

A black silhouette of a person in a wheelchair, indicating accessibility.
A black icon of a signal tower with three curved lines above it, representing a wireless network.
The official logo for WiFi, consisting of the word "WiFi" in white inside a black circle.



Fundraiser Lunch

Cost: Donations Welcome!

Donations can be made by:
CASH or CHEQUE only
(made payable to Christmas For Everyone)

DECEMBER 6th & 7th, 2022

11am - 1pm

Scheduled Curbside Pick-up at Petrolia Lions Hall
451 Huggard Street

CHOOSE YOUR SOUP

- Beef Barley
- Italian Wedding
- Cream of Broccoli
- Turkey Vegetable



CHOOSE YOUR SANDWICH

- Turkey
- Egg Salad
- Roast Beef
- Salmon Salad

DESSERT INCLUDED

Please contact Connie 519-312-8815 (10am to 7pm)
Orders must be received by Wed., Nov. 30th








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 **Rev. Carol Ferguson**
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Pastor: Alex Craig
Church Office 519-882-2480
email: fbcpetrolia@gmail.com
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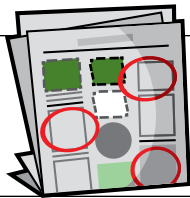
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Services also available online:
www.standrews-petrolia.ca

 Pastor Katherine Hawley

Classified Deadline:
Monday @ 12 noon



Classifieds

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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

Celebrations

Congratulations
on your **90th Birthday**

Bertha-Rose Park

December 2, 2022

May your birthday be just as special as you are.



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Obituary



COKE
Wesley John

Jul 16, 1943 – Nov 19, 2022

Passed away peacefully at his home in Petrolia, Ontario with his family by his side on **Saturday, November 19, 2022** at the age of **79**, following a courageous three year battle with cancer. Predeceased by his beloved parents Cecil and Hilda Coke. Loving husband to Patricia, much loved and cherished father to Debbie Coke, and stepdaughters Shari Young and Shauna Young. Devoted and loving brother to Marilyn (the late Jack) Druett, Aretta (Mike) Morgan, Madeline (the late Kerry) Davies. Wes will be sadly missed by his niece, nephews, and extended family. Following in his father's footsteps, Wes enjoyed a successful career for more than 50 years in the standardbred horse racing industry. Upon his retirement from driving and training horses, he went on to become a respected judge for the Ontario Racing Commission for several years. Wes will be remembered as a kind, generous and Loving man with a great sense of humour who enjoyed fishing excursions, family road trips to Florida, and overnight getaways to Windsor Casino and being a collector of Coke memorabilia, coins, stamps, artwork, and hockey and baseball cards.

A private graveside service will be held in Hillsdale Cemetery. As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to the Ontario Standardbred Adoption Society (www.osas.ca).

In Memory

IN MEMORY OF
TJ Dusko Minten
March 6, 2018- November 28, 2020



You are still my first thought in the morning,
and my very last before I fall asleep,
and I wouldn't mind if it stayed that way forever.

Love and miss you always.

Love Daddy, Mommy & Siblings: Ted, Vanessa, Max & Iris Minten
Pa & Baba: Dusko & Margaret Bojkovic
Opa & Oma: Ted & Mary Lou Minten

In loving memory of
Sylvia Edgar




We miss your hugs,
We miss your smile,
We miss your laughter,
We miss YOU.


Always in our hearts.

Mike, Mike, Dave, Sarah and families

Card of Thanks

Thank you 

About the 17th of October I had an episode with my heart and had it not been for the amazing ambulance attendants and the fast skillful care of our wonderful emergency at C.E.E. Hospital, I would not be here. The doctors and nurses at our outstanding little hospital are second to none. Overworked and underpaid, their professionalism is beyond reproach. Integrity, respect and good old fashioned caring was how I was cared for. I so humbly thank you for saving my life, stabilizing me to be sent to the I.C.U. in Sarnia, you were astounding. I am forever grateful. Thank You. When I got to Sarnia, the care was exceptional also. I was so well looked after with that same skilled caring and those doctors and nurses are overworked also. No one missed a beat in my care, Thank You Sarnia I.C.U. I was in the hospital 8 days, and although treated so well, I was really glad to get home. Here is were I need even more thank yous. My gratitude is humbling and overwhelming to my neighbours who had helped look after my husband and now the two of us. Mary & Greg Colley, Jim & Marg McDonald, Karen & Brian Cooper have sent over apple sauce and full gourmet meals. All the friends have been so kind, Thank you. Lois & Ray McNabb, Dekeyser family, Martha Johnston, Lil Dupuis, Nancy & Doug Post & Leslie, The Steve Mailloux family, Arn Campbell, Pat Oakley, Dick & Janet Bradley and all the folks at Lambtonian Apartments, Sharon Stonehouse, and I know I've missed some people, I really care for. The last really big thank you goes to our families they have been here for us all the way...

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You.
Beverly Maitland 

 **NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

soda crackers • peanut butter • jam • ready-to-serve soups • kraft dinner sidekicks • rice & pasta • brown beans • kidney beans • canned stew flakes of chicken • flakes of turkey • salmon • social crackers • cheezwhiz taco kits • boxed potatoes • boxed stuffing

Any items not listed are accepted, if you use it in your home our clients will use it in theirs

 **Death Notices**
November 15 - 21, 2022

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

FREER, Shirley Delores Muriel
(n Mills)
Age 88
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

GOOD, Lori Anne
(n Smith)
Age 61
Smith Funeral Home

PARKER, Robin Leanne
(n Walker)
Age 73, of Point Edward
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

GARIEPY, Paul Joseph
Age 71, of Sarnia
Knight Funeral Home

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

COOK, Thelma May
(n Dudley)
Age 90
Badder F.H. & Reception Centre

GRANT, Eleanor Marguerite
(n Toombs)
Age 92
Smith Funeral Home

HOULIHAN, Patricia Diane
(n Harris)
Age 89, of Sarnia
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

JOHNSON, Joseph Ambler
Age 64
Smith Funeral Home

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

DILLON, Donna Diana
Age 60
Smith Funeral Home

ENGLESON, Mina Margaret
(n Geerts)
Age 68, of Thedford
Smith Funeral Home

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

ATCHISON, Linda
(n Veley)
Age 66
Smith Funeral Home

COKE, Wesley John
Age 79, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

TREMBLAY, Caroline
Age 61
McKenzie & Blundy Funeral Home

WARD, David Angus
Age 74, of Corunna
Knight Funeral Home

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

KOVACS, Andrew "Andy"
Age 88, of Town
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

MCFADDEN, Donald Allan
Age 89, of Tupperville
Badder F.H. & Reception Centre

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

LAMBTON YOUNG THEATRE PLAYERS

Robin Hood and The Queen

Written & Directed by Nancy Keys

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 Misner
Blake Morrison
Ava Sanders
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

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.

@ Sarnia Public Library Theatre

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

DAWN-EUPHEMIA OATH



MARIANNE VANDERSPEK PHOTO

The members of Dawn-Euphemia council take the oath of office together at the Florence Community Centre Monday. Four members of council, Mark McGuire, Ann Gray and Jason Myer and Mayor Al Broad are incumbents. Paul Leboeuf is the newest member of council, however he has served on Dawn-Euphemia council in the past.

Seniors to learn about common frauds

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

Frauds targeting seniors are too common. That is why the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre will be holding a workshop in Petrolia on Dec. 1. Terry Rogers, coordinator of the Sarnia-Lambton Coordinating Committee on the Violence Against Women, said some of the most common frauds are telephone scams. A senior answers the phone and told they are speaking to a representative of the Canadian Revenue Agency and they owe money to the government. They are told to buy gift cards from companies like Apple and Amazon and send the money that way. “That is a tell tale sign that is a fraud,” said Rogers. Another scam involves a

person pretending to be a grandchild, saying they are in trouble and need money sent to them. Seniors are often targeted because they are more trustworthy, said Rogers. Younger people will just hang up on people when something isn’t right, something that seniors may not do as readily. Seniors may also be lonely or isolated and are more apt to talk to someone on the phone. In a romance scam the callers search obituaries and look for someone who has lost a spouse. They would contact the victim and start a relationship build ing trust with the victim. They will have excuses about not meeting with the victim in person, said Rogers. Then they will ask for money. Other scams can find their victims online with an investment fraud. They

can harass the victim with phone calls or text messages once they have their contact information. They may even send you statements like the money has been legally invested. If it is suspected, either yourself or a loved one is a victim of fraud, call the police first, said Rogers. Seniors will often be embarrassed if they discover they have been a victims of fraud. You can also call the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501 or at www.antifraudcentre.ca. The workshop will be held on Dec. 1 between 10 a.m. and noon at the New Life Assembly in Petrolia. You can register by calling Rogers at 519-786-4053 or by email at ccvawsarnialambton@gmail.com.

- THE INDEPENDENT

Two face drug charges

Two Thedford man are facing charges after police seized over \$14,000 in drugs and stolen property. Nov. 3, the members of the Lambton and Elgin-Middlesex OPP went to Anne Street with a search warrant. They found cocaine, fentanyl, methamphetamine, lorazepam and stolen items – the total value was about \$14,000. Andrew Bartlet, 45, and Shawn Smith, 47, face multiple charges including possession for the purpose of trafficking.

OIL SPRINGS OATH



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Oil Springs Mayor Ian Veen was one of four returning members of council taking the oath of office at the first municipal council meeting Monday. Councillors Larry Wagner, Connie McFadden and Adam Veen are the incumbents. Jordan Newport will take the fourth council seat in the 2022-2026 term.

Rural homes may soon have apartments under Bill 23

Heather Wright
The Independent

You may see more apartments in homes in rural areas. It’s one of the changes the provincial government is suggesting with Bill 23 - the Build More Homes Faster Act. And it is an issue Warwick Township is looking at during a community open houses. Ken Melanson, the manager of planning and development services with Lambton County, says the province will allow up to three units on one property as long as there are no addi-

tions to the building “What the additional dwelling unit rules talk about is this sort of internal conversion of your existing home. So you’re not changing the footprint or any exterior appearances,” he says. The practice is fairly common in urban centres, but if the bill is passed, rural homeowners on a septic system will be able to convert their homes into three units. “Additional dwelling units are typi- cally a more urban form of additional or more gentle density. And here’s some recognition that we should en- able them on a rural basis under certain

circumstances. So what Bill 23 will do is, provide some overarching policy that may enable them on a rural lot.” The owners would have to make sure the septic system would handle the waste of three units and follow the same rules already in place. While Melanson says there hasn’t been a huge call for apartments in rural homes, it could help some of the hous- ing issues being faced today. “Perhaps the, the younger generation takes over the family home... having an additional dwelling unit above a garage or in a basement might allow a multi generational home.”

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