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## WAITING TO GO HOME



A Lambton paramedic puts a blanket around one of two tenants from an apartment building in Petrolia to keep her warm as

the Petrolia/North Enniskillen Fire Department were helping the residents who evacuated. The tenants had to stay out of the

firefighters got control of a blaze inside the building across the street Sunday afternoon. Paramedics and the support team from

building for a night as disaster restoration crews cleaned up. Two tenants will be out of their homes for a number of months due to fire and water damage. **SEE STORY PAGE 3**.

# Waylon's home

Mooretown toddler walking two weeks after near drowning

#### **Heather Wright**

The Independent

Gillian Burnett feels like she has her baby back.

Less than two weeks after 21 month-old Waylon Saunders fell into an icy outdoor pool at his Petrolia daycare, he's home again, toddling around with help and playing with his three year-old sister Aberdeen.

On Jan. 24, the Mooretown boy was brought to Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital after being pulled from the pool and worked on by firefighters and paramedics. His heart didn't beat on its own for two hours. His body temperature plummeted to 23 degrees. Doctors gave Waylon less than a 10 per cent chance of survival.

But little by little, Waylon improved. Last week, he was moved out of critical care. Sunday, staff at Victoria Hospital in London took out his feeding tube. Monday, he was holding Burnett's hand, walking around his hospital room. By 5 pm, he was walking through the door of his family's home.

Burnett tells The Independent it is "beautiful to see" her son walking again.

"We feel like we've got our baby back," she says.

**SEE WAYLON PG 2** 

# Developer won't bid for Enniskillen battery storage project

## **Blake Ellis**

Local Journalism Initiative

There won't be an energy storage project near Oil City.

Enniskillen Council will not give a letter of support to a plan by Renewable Energy Systems to build a lithium ion battery storage project less than one kilometre from Oil City. Council turned down the UKbased company's request for a

letter of support by a vote of 4-1 Monday, even though the company proposed a smaller project.

More than 30 residents of Oil City voiced opposition to the project at Monday's meeting. Cullen Hunter of Courtright Line, who lives less than a

because they wanted more information before making up their mind, he told councillors Monday.

Hunter says RES was rushing through the process to get the vote of support from the township.

He called it an "unprecedented project," adding it would be the

The units - which look like construction trailers - were to be placed on 30 acres of rented farmland off Gypsy Flats Road which abuts the Hydro One transmission line.

HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

The storage project would take power from the grid during low use times and feed it back into the system during peak needs. The battery storage operation was planned to be about 700 meters from the homes in Oil City. That worried Hunter. He is concerned this project has the potential to upset the agricultural future of the area adding the municipality's requirements are more stringent for a new livestock barn than with this project. Most new livestock barns need to be 1 000 meters from homes. The proposed project is 550 metres from the nearest house.

kilometre from the proposed presented a petition signed by 106 people who shared his concerns. Only three homeowners in Oil City did not sign the petition

largest energy storage project undertaken by RES. RES originally proposed a 250 Megawatt storage project.

**SEE BATTERY PG 2** 

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# Waylon walking, at home after near drowning

#### CON'T FROM PG 2

The toddler's progress is amazing medical staff and his family.

Doctors initially didn't expect Waylon to live past the first night. When he regained consciousness, they cautioned there was damage to his left side and it might be permanent. Burnett worried he might never be able to ride a bike.

But by Monday, her son was first walking while holding her hand and then toddling around on his own. Burnett says the doctors and hospital are "amazed with all that he's done in the week. They thought he might be a paraplegic.

"He shouldn't be here today and he's blown everybody away."

And while Waylon is doing so much better than expected, he'll still face lots of doctors appointments for a while as the medical community monitors how he's doing.

Burnett says the boy's speech has not completely returned, however he's already calling his sister by name.

"He's not as communicative

as before... he's saying some of his words but not the full amount he normally does yet. "We have another

appointment to reassess how he's doing but I have a good feeling in my heart his speech will be what it was."

And while the family is home again, there is still worry Burnett says it was "relaxing and beautiful" to come home Monday but "my anxiety peaked through the roof because the doctors weren't around. There are so many things that could go wrong... At the hospital, the doctors are right there... You have so many 'what ifs' in your head, and you don't know the outcome. You can only put your trust in God and he'll help you through the rest of the journey."

Burnett says the support of friends, family and absolute strangers has been "heartwarming and beautiful... I'm thankful for every single person."

And Burnett says it will take a while to process all that has happened to her family. "Our life was flipped upside down -



Waylon Saunders, 21 months, walks through the hospital Monday hours before returning to his Mooretown home.

it's been a crazy, overwhelming two weeks," she wrote in a social media post.

"We've had highs and lows but our journey isn't over; really it's just begun."

## HIGHLAND HUGS FOR WAYLON



BLAKE ELLIS / LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Meranda Jansen and her friends cuddle up to some Highland calfs as part of a fundraiser for the family of Waylon Saunders. Jansen organized the event saying "I have little kids, one is just two months older than Waylon," adding she can't imagine what the family is going through. The Sunday fundraiser in Wilkesport raised over \$3,000 to help the family.

# Enniskillen battery project off the table

#### **CON'T FROM PG 2**

Hunter was also concerned with the risk of fire, pointing out a similar battery storage facility in Arizona had an explosion in 2020 due to a manufacturing defect. As of last Thursday, no one has talked to the local fire department about these hazards, he said.

"I can't guarantee it won't catch on fire," said Philippe Abergel, a senior development manager with RES who came to the council meeting. Abergel said there have been 1,000 projects operating since 2018 with 50 fires. He pledged his company will work with the township and the fire departments, while paying for equipment and training.

"I understand I am painted as the outsider who is here to stir up all sorts of trouble," said Abergel. "This is not my intention."

RES planned to explain the project to the community at an open house in Oil Springs on Nov. 30. Abergel called it "an epic failure." Many residents didn't see the open house invitation sent by bulk mail. Only three residents were there along with municipal and county officials.

Many did not know about the proposed energy storage facility until they read about it in *The Independent*.

Mayor Kevin Marriott asked if Abergel would have another open house before council decided but Abergel would not be able to organize it before the bid has to be submitted to Independent Electricity System Operator Feb. 16.



Enniskillen council decided not to support a \$200 million battery storage operation near Oil City.

fund paid out in yearly installments for the municipality to use as it saw fit.

Even with the new proposal the rest of council nixed municipal approval.

"My decision is about you," Deputy Mayor Judy Krall told those assembled at the meeting to oppose the project.

Councillor Chad Burke echoed this sentiment. Councillor Mary Lynne McCallum had told Abergel at the Jan. 16 meeting she was going to dig up dirt about RES at the Rural Ontario Municipal Conference which was held later in January. She admitted she wasn't able to find any dirt, but her vote was still a no.

Meantime, Lambton County councillors have thrown their support behind a bid by Enbridge to build three battery storage operations in St. Clair Township.



## REMEMBER WHO LOVES YOU

A lonely child, she hopelessly, wandered through the street, Born of a harlot, she knew only cursing and deceit. Curiously dabbling, he slide into a drug filled life, Constantly bullied, split parents, he knew only strife.

Does "Praise of self", create a generation that doesn't give?

Empowered by "Me", "My rights", is that how we live? But, the bloodthirsty, unfaithful and violent, continue to soar, Are we doomed to damnation and destruction, for-ever more?

He who sits in the Heavens, says, "Ask of Me", For there is nothing hidden, that He does not see. Cleanse me Lord, **I** cry, from secret faults and presumptuous sin,

Wally Van Dun was the only councillor wanting to give municipal approval for the project.

"We have got to give it a second chance," he said, adding he was in favour of prolonging a decision until the Feb. 6 meeting after first hearing the presentation.

Abergel also told council he'd scaled back the proposal.

When the presentation was made to council in January, it was a 250 megawatt project taking up 30 acres of land. The company has since resized it at 150 megawatts taking up between 15 and 17 acres. Abergel also estimated it would cost between \$200 and \$300 million to build.

Aside from the tax revenue generated by the project, Enniskillen stood to benefit financially. RES promised a \$3.5 million community

The energy company hopes to build the units on Tecumseh Road, Petrolia Line and Ladysmith Road. Each would generate 200 megawatts of power or enough to power one million homes according to Denise Heckbert, senior advisor on strategy, market strategy and power for Enbridge. St. Clair Township has already given a letter of support to Enbridge.

It faced criticism from some landowners who voiced concern about the storage units being on land which had natural gas pipelines. Enbridge wouldn't give the value of the sites but in the material provided to council said it "would also result in significant new tax revenue."

County council unanimously sending a letter of support for Enbridge's projects. The IESO is expected to award the contracts in mid March.

- THE INDEPENDENT WITH FILES FROM HEATHER WRIGHT

Peacefully, your 'Precious Spirit' forgives and fills me, from within.

You see, For God so 'loved' the world, He gave His Son, for you, Valentine's Day is for mankind, His Love and Promise, for-ever true. Salvation belongs to the Lord; Jesus awaits your call,

For every created soul, "One irrevocable breath", determines all.

#### The Eternal 'Love' Gift:

Lord, I find myself alone; I want to know your `unconditional' love. Please forgive all my sins, I invite you into my heart, to be Lord of all the areas of my life. May your `precious' Holy Spirit guide and lead me, through life's journey. Thank-you for the assurance of an Eternal love and home in Heaven, with you. Amen.

This Valentine message is presented by Grogan, Watford

# **County expects \$500k bill to fix Petrolia apartment's fire damage**

All but two residents return home Monday

#### Heather Wright The Independent

Most of the tenants of a Petrolia building forced to leave their apartments after a fire Sunday are back home.

But it will be a long wait for two tenants who may be out of their homes for more than six months. Around 2:40 Sunday afternoon, Petrolia/North Enniskillen and Wyoming were called to the

Greenfield Street building owned by the County of Lambton. Firefighters were on the scene in

minutes and for a time, only small amounts of smoke were seen.

Later, flames shot through the window on the second storey as thick black smoke came out in billows before firefighters were able to get it under control.

Residents, many without coats, stood in the parking lot or on the sidewalks, sat in cars and ambulances or in lawn chairs provided by the fire department's SORT Team as firefighters from Petrolia and Wyoming fought the blaze.

As firefighters made their way up the stairs and to the apartment, the

man who lived in the unit arrived. He was at the drug store when the fire broke out. He stood talking to police, his shopping bag in his hand, as police tried to determine what might of happened. Petrolia/North Enniskillen

Fire Chief Jay Arns says all of the residents made it out of the building safely - one person with the help of firefighters.

The unit where the fire started is destroyed.

There is heavy water damage to the unit below.

Melisa Johnson, manager of housing services for the County of Lambton, says all but two residents in the affected apartments returned home around 10 am Monday.

Johnson says one tenant will have to go through insurance to find accommodation.

The other tenant has been placed in a vacant county unit for the time being.

Johnson expects it will take between six and eight months to repair the unit and anticipates it will cost \$500,000.

This is the second fire at the geared-to-income apartment building in a year. In June, residents were evacuated after multiple units were damaged in a late night fire.

The reconstruction of those apartments was just complete with people moving back into the units



Petrolia firefighters work inside the Greenfield St. apartment which was destroyed by fire Sunday afternoon.

#### this month.

Residents at the scene told *The Independent* on Sunday, fire alarms did not go off in the building until the superintendent pulled a master alarm.

However Johnson says a resident across the hall from the unit which caught fire heard the smoke detector going off inside. She called the key holder. He went to the unit saw the problem and started telling people to leave the building.

It was only when the door to the apartment was opened and smoke came out did the master alarm in the building go off.

Investigators suspect the blaze started in a couch.



# St. Clair wants light at Petrolia/Kimball

Heather Wright The Independent

St. Clair Township Mayor Jeff Agar wants traffic lights at the corner of Petrolia Line and Kimball Road.

The intersection has been the site of dozens of accidents over the years.

Joleen DeGurse MacDonald started a petition for the county to rebuild the intersection after a gravel truck collided with an SUV in May 2020 killing the transport driver. De-Gurse MacDonald's family has lived at the intersection for generations and she wrote a passionate letter explaining how many people had died and how it had impacted the people who witnessed the crashes.

St. Clair Township championed the idea at the time saying a roundabout is the only way to avoid T-bone accidents. The only other option St. Clair put forward at the time was a set of traffic lights.

County councillors at the time said it would be discussed at budget. Both the 2021 and 2022 discussions were completed without including a long term fix at the intersection. But Agar says something has to be done. "There was talk of a roundabout there a year or two ago... now it will be five or 10 years before its done.

"I've been talking to people involved in serious accidents out there - there have been fatalities. I think it is time we have to do something," he told county councillors Feb. 1.

He's suggesting stoplights be placed at the corner until a roundabout is possible. "A roundabout is a good thing but it is going to be 10 years - how many more people are going to pass away."

County staff said there are a number of issues surrounding the idea including there isn't enough traffic in the area to warrant a stop light according to Ministry of Transport guidelines. There would also have to be land purchased for a roundabout. And, officials said it could be a barrier to a heavy haul corridor for large equipment movement. Bad gums, bad heart....so you better Floss in the Love

Periodontal disease, commonly known as gum disease, has been associated with heart disease. Research has shown that gum disease increases the risk of heart disease, even though science has been unable to pinpoint the true cause-and-effect in this relationship.

Scientists and dentists believe that the inflammation created by gum disease may be the primary reason for the association.

Heart conditions can be exacerbated by gum disease. Some patients are prone to a condition called infective endocarditis and may require antibiotics before a dental procedure. This condition occurs because bacteria from the oral cavity enters the blood stream and causes inflammation in and around the heart. Imagine how these heart conditions are exacerbated by gum disease. Discuss with your dentist how to keep your gums.... and heart, healthy!

Agar says there is a sense of urgency saying "If one little light can save one life, it is worth it to me."

The move will be discussed during the 2023 budget.

## **County backs Petrolia call for election cash**

Heather Wright The Independent

Lambton County is backing Petrolia's call for compensation to run trustee elections.

Petrolia Mayor Brad Loosley brought up the issue at town council recently saying the municipality has always foot the bill for trustee election without any compensation.

And, he points out, in some municipalities, where a council is acclaimed, the community still has to run an election for trustees.

That happened in Enniskillen and Dawn-Euphemia Townships this year.

Loosley suggested school boards should either be compensating municipalities for the service or running their own election if the local council has been acclaimed.

County councillors agreed Wednesday to send a letter to MPP Bob Bailey asking him to advance the idea at Queen's Park. Only Point Edward Mayor Bev Hand opposed the move.



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Thursday, February 9, 2023

# Editorial

# **Conservation needed**

You've probably heard the term 'just transition.' It's a phrase people use when they're talking about how to help those in the fossil fuel industry move out of their current jobs into another industry as we try to reduce our carbon footprint.

It's a big issue with a very big price tag - anywhere from \$1 billion to \$40 billion per year for at least 10 years depending on what studies you read.

That's only one of the costs of Canadians reducing our carbon footprint in an effort to cool the planet and halt some of the crazy weather we've seen.

While smarter minds than us weigh the pros, cons and costs, we've been thinking about something a little different - conservation. It's a concept you don't hear a lot of governments talking about.

Many people will recall hearing parents tell them to turn off lights or put on a sweater instead of turning up the heat. Those are simple actions that actually do make a difference.

And there are others; in Petrolia, Councillor Liz Welsh has been actively promoting the town making backyard composters great again as a way to reduce food and yard waste from being trucked all over the province.

And in St. Clair Township, 210 homeowners have completed a very interesting pilot project where they recycled food waste into a dry odorless dust which can be used for compost. The vast majority loved it and put less trash out at the curb. A win all the way around.

We're glad to see these small steps, but governments at all levels have to lean into the idea of conservation to help improve our planet. Why aren't there more programs for energy-saving renovations or ground source heat pumps to lessen our reliance on fossil fuels? Shouldn't there be tax incentives to buy electric vehicles again?

All would improve the environment for likely less than \$40 billion a year.

Call us cynical, but we expect those sort of programs aren't offered as much as they used to because big companies - donors to political parties - would likely end up losing money in the long run. If that's the case, it's a pretty poor excuse.

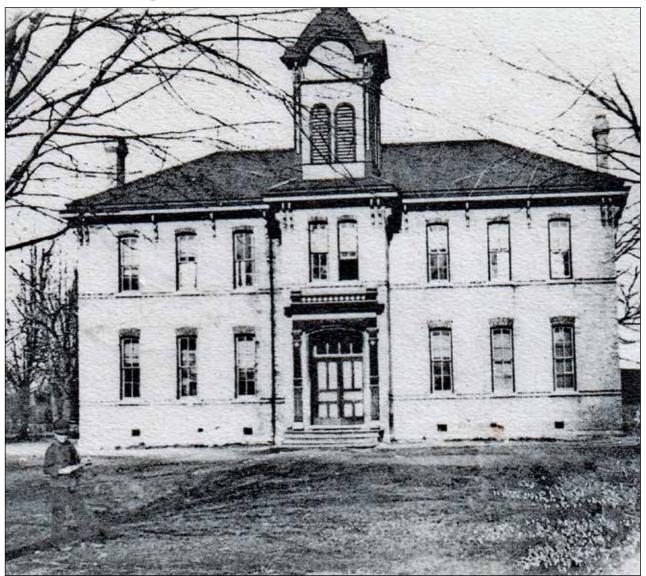
# Letters to the Editor

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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

# **Our Story**



This postcard shows the Alvinston Public School in 1909. The postcard was printed by a hometown company, PA M'Diarmid & Son of Alvinston.

# Word of Waylon walking is truly good news

I've been smiling for most of the day, despite the fact it is the busiest day of the week and I'm still typing away an hour past deadline.

Why you ask? The joy of what is truly good news - the miraculous recovery of Waylon Saunders. The Mooretown toddler was pulled from an icy Petrolia pool and doctors feared he wouldn't make it through the night. But he did. It was rough going at first, but nearly a week after it hap-

pened he opened his eyes.

hospital room in London before he was sent home.

The look in his little joy-filled face just made me smile for joy at the recovery of this little boy I've never met before.

Over the years, I've reported on lots of horrible things. Some of them stick with you, particularly when little kids are involved. Particularly when you are a parent. And I've reported on lots of things people want to herald as "Good News" usually for political purposes.

Waylon's mom, Gillian Burnett, says the community surrounded her family with love and prayers and God protected her son.

That's also something I'd call good news. And I'm sure

this smile will

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

Sunday, he was well enough for doctors to remove his feeding tube. And Monday, he was toddling around the

But the story I have been able to write about little Waylon is the real deal - really good news.

reappear every time I think about Waylon walking.

Heather Wright





# Small libraries needed now more than ever: reader

#### **EDITOR:**

RE: Merge, close small Lambton libraries. After reading the consultant's report regarding small libraries, I can't help but feel this will only hinder children, teens and adults from reading less than they already do.

My grandmother worked as a librarian assistant at the Shetland library for years in a space 16' x 25'. I would go sit with her on Saturday evenings - it was open 3 evenings a week then - which is probably where my love of books and reading started. I was amazed at the amount of books for such a small space. The library was an institution just as the community church and general store were.

The report indicated that accessibility improvements would be needed in many libraries. I currently live in Camlachie and the Canada Post Office (a federal building) just received wheelchair access in the last year. It is a small building but needed for the area, just as a library is needed in the same area.

Did the consultant provide any opportunities for federal, provincial and/or community grants such as The Enabling Accessibility Fund (EAF) or the Enabling Change Program grant in Ontario?

In a world where social media, smart phones and tablets are controlling our younger generation, wouldn't it be plausible to not only maintain the libraries that we have, but make them more accessible with better hours, access and potentially more space?

> Michelle (Dobbyn) Bidner, Camlachie, ON





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## Dawn-Euphemia to look at report recommending closures

#### Heather Wright The Independent

A consultant's recommendation that some of Lambton's smaller libraries be closed or merged with others is drawing some concern.

Lambton County councillors recently got a first look at a study of the area's libraries.

Anand Desai of Monteith Brown Planning Consultants said many of Lambton's libraries are located in buildings which were not first libraries and are undersized. He pointed to the Shetland Library as an example. And, Desai says, many libraries don't meet current accessibility standards and can't provide a full range of services because they're undersized.

Desai suggested Shetland be closed and replaced with an "express library service point."

The report also calls for the service points in Port Lambton and Wilkesport.

The suggestions raised concerns on social media.

"How much was spent (on the consultant) which could've gone into those smaller libraries to keep them open?" said Bob Bressette who added the consultant was only making recommendations.

"They don't have to be put into motion. I recommend the County of Lambton to not close these satellites for the betterment of the communities in which they serve."



FILE PHOTO

The Shetland Library is one of three small community libraries a consultant recommends be replaced with "Express Library Service Points."

Others said they loved their little libraries because of the people who work there. "Half the reason we go to our library is because our librarian is amazing. She makes programs that are interesting to us and is super helpful when my kids get interested in weird thing," said Melissa Lussier.

While the county is in charge of programming and staffing at Lambton libraries, each municipality owns the buildings they are housed in. The communities are responsible for the upkeep of the buildings.

Dawn-Euphemia Mayor Al Broad recognizes the Shetland Library is small and not accessible to everyone in the community. "We know we've got a bit of a problem there. To have it fully accessible, with no barriers, that will be very difficult to do with a small building like that."

Broad says it would likely only happen if the township could purchase land to expand the building. He says they have been talking to local landowners, but so far, there has not been a deal.

Broad adds the municipality invested \$2 million in the Florence Community centre several years ago and it is one of the newest libraries in the county.

Dawn-Euphemia council is expected to review the consultants report and talk about what could be done in the future.

## Hundreds of students getting extra help post pandemic





#### Blake Ellis Local Journalism Initiative

"Don't get caught up in a number," said Director of Education Scott Johnson.

He said this after hearing 200 students at the Catholic school board are getting extra help to catch up on their reading a math skills.

Officials laid out their plan to help students who fell behind during the pandemic during the Jan. 31 meeting. The goal is to improve the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) testing numbers for testing Grade 3, 6, 9 and 10 students.

The plan provides in-school help for 200 students in 23 schools.

0

"You have to greet them where they are and help them along," said Johnson.

Literacy and numeracy is a focus of the St. Clair Catholic School Board since the Ontario government introduced its Plan to Catch Up.

Additional funding was received from the provincial government, which St. Clair Catholic used to buy different math programs. The Symphony Math program allows for students to have a 15 minute lesson, three times a week. But there is limited space for tutoring because of staffing and budget restraints, says Johnson. Only the student who is identified

as needing more help are given this opportunity. There is a mixture of face-

. . .

to-face and virtual tutoring available. To accommodate many students who are bussed to and from school, tutoring sessions are offered virtually after school.

Tutors are post-secondary school students who are paid for their services.

Trustees heard it has been found a few students have made it to Grade 9 without knowing how to read and they questioned how that could happen. Johnson said it could be for a variety of reasons from suffering from trauma, having vision problems, or hundreds of other reasons why.

- THE INDEPENDENT

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## Insurance, gas and inflation drive up DE taxes

**Heather Wright** The Independent

Dawn-Euphemia's tax bills are headed up 5.9 per cent.

And while Mayor Al Broad isn't happy about the increase, he says inflation and increasing insurance costs are among the things making it difficult to keep costs in line this year.

This year, Dawn-Euphemia's insurance rates are up 17.6 per cent. That's more that \$33,000 on the \$190,000 bill. Treasurer Mark Seguin says that alone drives up the municipal tax rate 3.5 per cent.

The township also is putting about \$950,000 in the budget to buy gravel for the roads. Councillor Mark McGuire suggested if council wanted to drive down the tax rate, it could cut back on how much gravel it purchases. But he added "if you cut it this year, we'll have to make it up the next year."

McGuire added because of the increasing cost of gravel, the \$950,000 won't buy as much as last year. "We're paying 30 per tonne," said Public Works Manager Paul Dalton, adding that's much more than years past.

And he says, the township had to increase the fuel budget for public works by 35 per cent - to \$135,000 this year - because of rising gas prices.

Broad says council did not resort to cutting reserves to bringing down the tax increase, mostly because there are larger projects coming down the line which can't be paid all in one shot.

Councillors agreed to put \$80,000 per year for the next eight years so a new pumper truck can be purchased. Right now, they cost about \$600,000.

It' also put away \$100,000 to help purchase a new salt truck in 2026. Another \$10,000 has been placed in reserves to help purchase a new generator for the Dawn-Euphemia Community Centre in 2026.

Broad says councillors are satisfied in a time of rising costs, this is a solid budget for the community.

"A lot of communities are pulling money from reserves to keep the taxes down. I don't think we should do that. And I don't know where else we could cut.

"As much as I don't like a 5.9 per cent increase...that increase won't even cover the cost of gravel and the insurance increases.

'We are not exempt from inflation and in a \$4.4 million (operating) budget a 5.9 per cent increase is a lot different than an increase of three per cent on a \$10 million budget." Broad added, "I'm never go-

ing to be happy sitting here with a 5.9 per cent increase.'

Councillors agreed. Paul LeBoeuf says councillors could find more savings

" but in five years when you need money, then what do you do? It's better we have a small increase now.'

McGuire added as it stands the budget is "pretty lean" already.

BY THE NUMBERS  $\sqrt{$4,443,806}$  total budget  $\sqrt{\$950.000}$  - the amount of money spent on gravel in 2023 for Dawn-Euphemia roads

 $\sqrt{135,000}$  - the amount of cash set aside for fuel in the public works department  $\sqrt{100,000}$  - the amount

which was set aside last year  $\sqrt{\$70.000}$  - the amount cut from the community centre budget. It was to buy a new sound system. The township is looking for a grant instead

 $\sqrt{\$19,000}$  - the cost of a new stove for the community centre  $\sqrt{30,000}$  - the amount of

money set aside to buy land around the Shetland library for expansion

 $\sqrt[7]{$188,000}$  - the amount of cash council socked away for future projects such as a new fire pumper

 $\sqrt{$50,000}$  - the cost for testing Florence septic systems in 2023  $\sqrt{20,000}$  - the amount set aside last year

 $\sqrt{$628,087}$  - the amount Dawn-Euphemia received in grants in 2022

 $\sqrt{429,500}$  - the amount estimated to be received this year. that's \$198,587 less than in 2022.

## MEETING SPARKY



Issac Martens, 3, was excited to meet Sparky the Fire Dog Saturday at

Petrolia's Home Hardware. The store and the Petrolia/North Enniskillen

smoke detectors on every floor of the home and urging to replace them

every 10 years. Martens was joined by Logan Pool, 12.

firefighters were hosting a fire safety day emphasizing the need for working

PHOTO CREDIT

charged after about 100 kilograms of cocaine - worth about \$6 million - was seized at the Bluewater Bridge.

Police say customs agents found 89 bricks of suspected cocaine in a commercial truck.

Canadian Border Services agents arrested the Vikram Dutta, 44, and Gurinder Singh, 61, both trafficking.



# **Owen Byers Passes Leadership Torch to Mark Braet**

After many years of dedicated service, Owen Byers has retired from his role as Board Chair of Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital (CEEH) Foundation to take a well-deserved vacation. But he's not guite ready to retire altogether – upon his return, the former politician will be taking on a board member role. Owen's passionate advocacy for CEEH of Bluewater Health has touched many



RCMP seize \$6M of cocaine at Bluewater Bridge RCMP have charged two Brampton have been

driver and passenger and seized the cocaine. of Brampton have been charged with importing cocaine and possession for the purpose of



~celebrate love~

This valentine's

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>

**ROSES | FRESH CUT FLOWERS | PLUSH** 



www.alwaysinbloom.ca 4174 Petrolia Line, Petrolia

in the community, and his leadership over the years has been admirable – a special thanks to Owen for his many contributions.

Mark Braet, who first joined the CEEH Foundation in 2017, has stepped into the role of Board Chair, and his vision for the future includes upgrading the foundation's website and online presence.

Born and raised in Petrolia, Mark is a lifelong philanthropist and well known in the community for his volunteerism. For 30 years he was a volunteer firefighter, joining the rotary club after retiring from his post. "I've always enjoyed doing volunteer work in the community," he says, adding that when he was approached to join the board in 2017, the decision was easy.

By January 2018, Mark took on the role of treasurer, with his first order of business focusing on shifting their banking process from paper to completely electronic.

Since then, Mark says they have welcomed a handful of new board members and began collaborating with Bluewater Health Foundation on events like Owen Byers former Board Chair and Mark Braet new Board Chair

the Dream Home Lottery and local golf tournaments. These elements are key in continuing to evolve and grow as an organization.

"The board really understands the importance of the foundation locally," says Mark. "We appreciate all of the support from the community that surrounds us."

**#PetroliaProud** 

# Alvinston egg farmer named to Ag Hall of Fame

The Independent

An Alvinston woman who was the first woman elected chair of the Egg Farmers of Ontario will

be inducted into the Ontario Agriculture Hall of Fame. Carolynne Griffith learned of the hon-

our Feb. 1 when the 15 inductees were named by the provincial body.

In a news release, officials say Griffith has a "has a long history of making significant contributions to improve Ontario's egg and pullet farming sectors. She has dedicated years to advancing the interest of Ontario's egg and pullet farmers locally, provincially, nationally, and internationally."

Griffith played an important role as an

"effective advocate in defending the interest of Canadian egg farmers, the broader industry, and supply management during historic trade negotiations."

Griffith worked with her late husband, Art, on their farm in Central Lambton and in 1975 became involved with the Egg Producers of Ontario as a zone councillor. By 2002, she was the chair of the board. She continues to be a director of the Ontario Egg Producers Marketing Board.

Griffith has also been active in politics, serving as a municipal councillor in Brooke-Alvinston in the late 80s and early 90s and as the president of the Lambton-Kent-Middlesex Federal Liberal Association.

Griffith and her peers will join 245 others in the Ontario Agricultural Hall of Fame in June.

Officials say the group was chosen "based on their lifelong commitments to Ontario agriculture.

## YOU WOKE ME UP FOR THIS?



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Heaven's Wildlife's Harvey saw his shadow heralding six more weeks of winter. Harvey – who lives at Heaven's Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre near Oil Springs – is one of dozens of groundhogs around the world who rise from hibernation to get a look at the weather. Peggy Jenkins of the centre says Harvey saw his shadow and so there will be six more weeks of winter. Harvey's prediction is in line with the legendary Punxsutawney Phil. However Wiarton Willie is predicting an early spring this year.

# Plympton-Wyoming aims for rental bylaw before summer arrives

#### Heather Wright The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming's mayor is hopeful the town will have a bylaw to limit some of the rowdy parties at Airbnb's in the community before they arrive this summer.

The town's planner, Sarah Baldwin, estimates there are about 54 homes - 24 along the lakeshore - which are for rent. The short-term rentals have been a problem for some time with Blue Point residents sending a petition in 2020 to council, asking they be banned. The residents underscored that the bylaw doesn't permit people to rent their home out unless they are also at the property.

Carolynne

Griffith

But short-term rentals have become big business with online platforms like Airbnb making it easy to find a place to stay. Some of the Plympton-Wyoming rentals are run by local residents but Mayor Gary Atkinson says there are companies buying up homes to rent out - some with off-shore interests.

Recently, council approved a plan from Baldwin to try to pull together a bylaw to regulate the

industry by this summer.

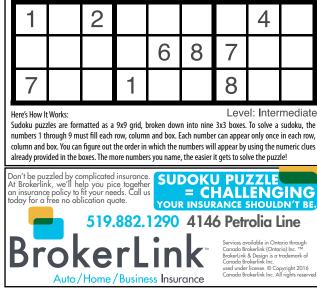
The plan sees staff looking at other municipal bylaws - including one from nearby Lambton Shores which limits the number of people and cars at a residence.

"We want to look at everything around us and see what they have but we don't just want to adopt someone else's plan," he says noting Lambton Shores is still working out problems with its bylaw. Baldwin hopes to bring a review of the bylaws to council this month. There will be a an open house in March and a public meeting in June to get public input on the proposed bylaw.

Atkinson admits it is a tight timeline but he's optimist there will be new regulations by the time summer arrives.

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





Saturday, February 11th + 11:00am - 5:00pm Tuesday, February 14th + 3:00pm - 6:00pm



## **CHILLI COOK-OFF**



Clara Smith tries to get into the action as her sister, Lillian, finds the fixings at the Lambton 4-H Chilli Cook-Off Friday in Wyoming. The Alvinston girls were with Christine McKinlay and were part of the 4H club and will be trying to raise a calf this year. The event also featured a silent auction to help raise money for the program.

# PW approves allows ag land for housing

#### The Independent

Southside Construction has passed the first hurdle to build houses at Hillsboro Road and Townsend Line.

The land is on the very edge of Plympton-Wyoming and has been farmed for decades. But there was some confusion about what the owners could actually build on the land.

The land was designated for agriculture in the past but in 1988, the then Plympton Township council zoned it residential.

Plympton-Wyoming's zoning bylaw and Lambton's official plan also recognize it as residential land - but the official plan of Plympton-Wyoming still listed it as agriculture.

Southside Construction, which owns the land, wants to build single family homes on the four acre parcel in the future and had to have the official plan changed first.

And while planning officials say it is clear the land was designated for housing, some neighbours voiced concern about placing housing on prime agricultural land.

"Once prime agricultural land is gone, it can't be recreated. There are other parts of Ontario that can support farming – but the trade-off isn't equal," said neighbour Adam Dawson in a letter to council.

"Why are we allowing the development of active farmland? Developers are chipping away at a resource that we use to grow food. It's not easy to convert back to farmland," added Matt MacGillivray.

Mayor Gary Atkinson says once planners explained the developer is planning single family homes, it seemed to ease many of the fears and council approved the change to the Official Plan.

# Meadowview resident celebrates 100 years

It was a milestone moment for Naomi Burkhart.

The resident of Lambton Meadowview Villa - formerly of Bright's celebrated her 100th birthday Jan. 25. Burkhart grew up in Michigan and attended Mennonite College in Indian where she played violin in a symphony. She also played piano by ear and loved to sing. She Met her husband, Orvie, when she was visiting cousins in Elmira. She married him on her birthday. They celebrated their 74th anniversary on her 100th birthday, says her daughter, Becky Woolvett. "Naomi supplemented Orvie's income as a lead carpenter, by taking in ironing and making meals for a couple of senior neighbours, along with cooking and doing laundry for the 9 members of her family," she says. The couple, Woolvett says, lived a quiet life of faith, helping others when they were called upon.



## St. Clair food waste pilot reaps big rewards Heather Wright said that their awareness of how much food

The Independent

It's like they took a dozen cars off the road for a whole year.

That's the result of a pilot project recycling food waste in St. Clair Township.

In May 2022, families were offered a low-cost Foodcycler - a unit which sat on the kitchen counter and turned food scraps into dry, odorless byproduct that doesn't attract pests.

The township agreed to subsidize the cost by paying \$100 for each unit purchased.

Jason Hanlon of the Foodcycler program told St. Clair councillors Monday 210 homes diverted 44.7 metric tons of food waste from the landfill in the 12 week project.

"This is equivalent to preventing 58 metric tons of C02 equivalent when you compare it to disposing of food waste in the landfill," he told council.

MIT's Climate Portal says that's equivalent to taking about a dozen mid-sized cars off the road for an entire year.

And Hanlon says there was another upside to the pilot project.

"The overwhelming majority of people

said that their awareness of how much food they're wasting changed," He says.

"When people are managing the food waste at home, they become more aware of how much they're wasting in the first place and we always say that the most effective waste diversion strategy is to just not generate any in the first place."

Most of the users cut down their garbage at the road by a bag per week.

Hanlon says 90 per cent of the people who bought into the pilot project are still using it today.

But the study also showed people are concerned about how much the units cost. Most people with the Foodcycler said they would not have paid the full \$500 retail price for it but almost 80 per cent would pay between\$150 to \$250 for it if government would pick up the tab for the rest of the cost.

There were some complaints, usually that it was too small. Hanlon says a new, larger unit has been developed.

He's asked the municipality to consider offering the Foodcycler to its residents at a reduced cost. He'll be talking with township staff about the possibilities, including grants which might be available.



Naomi Burkhart



# Sports Petrolia Squires down two in playoff series with Ripley

#### **Barry Wright** The Independent

A power play goal late in the second period ended a Squires comeback attempt and propelled Ripley to a 9-4 win over Petrolia.

The win in the midwestern Ontario community Sunday opened up a 2-0 lead in the Western Ontario Athletic Association senior quarter final series for Ripley.

Petrolia rallied from a 4-0 deficit on goals by Brendon Merritt, Adam Arsenault and Curtis Helps to cut the gap to one goal before the home team scored on the man advantage with less than two minutes to play in the second period.

Isaac McLean added a third period tally for the Squires.

Connor McKinlay took the goaltending loss.

In the opener on Saturday at the Greenwood Recreation Centre in Petrolia, Ripley broke open a 1-1 game after 20 minutes with a pair of unanswered goals in the second period and three more early in the third for a 6-1 victory.

McLean had Petrolia's lone goal. Brandon Campbell was the losing goalie.

The opening game was originally scheduled for last Friday in Ripley but was moved to Sunday when the Squires could not make it due to road closures from inclement weather.

Game three is scheduled for Ripley Friday with the Squires hosting the fourth game Saturday at 7:30.



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO Brendon Merritt powers toward Ripley's net Saturday during the first of two playoff games over the weekend.

# Flyers fall to North Middlesex Stars in Petrolia

The Independent

The Petrolia Flyers scored the first and last goal of the PJHL game at Greenwood but the North Middlesex Stars scored a half dozen times in between for a 6-2 win over the Flyers last Thursday night.

Dylan Campbell, with his fourth of the season, and Nathan Clatworthy, with his third of the campaign, scored for the Flyers.

Elijah Grant took the loss with 25 saves.

It was the third time the two teams have played in the past three weeks

with the Stars having won the previous two. The same two teams play Thursday night at Greenwood. Game time is 7:30. Petrolia visits Thamesford on Friday. After this weekend, the Flyers play three of their final four regular season games on home ice.

Mooretown was scheduled to take on

the Sharks in Wheatley Tuesday night

but the score was not available prior to

Last Wednesday in Mooretown, the

Flags beat Amherstburg, 6-1. Tristen

The Flags host Lakeshore on

Konrad led Mooretown with his

second career PJHL hat trick.

# Mooretown rallies to home ice victory over 'Burg

#### The Independent

The Mooretown Flags rallied from 2-0 and 3-1 deficits to eek out a 4-3 win over the Wallaceburg Thunderhawks Saturday night at the Moore Sports Complex.

Jace Dupuis and Masen Flett scored in the final 40 seconds of the second period, including the equalizer at 19:59 before Dupuis won it with his second

of the game with just 74 seconds left in regulation time.

Dupuis equalled his season high of four points with two goals and two assists. Brody Genyn had the other Flags goal and added two assists.

Dupuis has now registered points in four of his last five games.

Sarnia's Jacob Trudgeon took the loss for the Hawks with 45 saves as Mooretown outshot Wallaceburg, 49-

37.

our press time.

Saturday at 7:30.

# Lady Lancers clip Eagles The Independent

LCCVI improved to 5-0 in LKSSAA girls' hockey action with a 5-0 win over the North Lambton Eagles in Forest Monday.

Ella Jackson led the Lancers with two goals and an assist and Tessa Jackson had a goal and two assists. Amelia Hover and Tanner Mimbi-Powell also scored for LCCVI. Felicia Park had two assists.

North Lambton is now 3-2-1 on the season. The boys hockey team hosts North Lambton Wednesday at 2:30 pm, the senior girls volleyball squad is home for a tournament in the Petrolia gym Wednesday beginning at 4:30, the junior girls volleyball team plays at Great Lakes on Wednesday at 4:30 pm.

The boys basketball teams take on the Wolfpack in a charity game doubleheader at Great Lakes on Thursday. Game times are 5:30 and 7 pm.



At Lambton Audiology Associates, we believe that providing exceptional audiological care should be the rule, not the exception. That's why we work extra hard to provide the highest level of patient care and customer support in our community. After all, We're here to help YOU hear better!®

# Petrolia's Jaques leads Rockets to win in Sarnia

The Independent

Andrew Jaques opened the scoring with a first period power play goal and added two assists to lead the Strathroy Rockets to a 6-4 win over the Legionnaires last Thursday night at the Pat Stapleton Arena. Former Legionnaire Matthew Balloch had two assists for the winners and Sting draft choice Dylan Grover made 35 saves for the goaltending win. Sarnia rallied from a 5-1 deficit in the third period to make the score 5-4 but the visitors iced the game with their

fourth goal on the man advantage with just under seven minutes to play in regulation time.

Watford's Ty Moffatt, and Corunna's Dylan Dupuis were among the goal scorers for the Legionnaires. Former Petrolia Flyer Tyler Richardson made his goaltending debut for Sarnia and made 37 stops. The Legionnaires lost 5-0 to the Vipers in LaSalle last Wednesday. Wyoming's Austin Harper was unsuccessful on a penalty shot for Sarnia in the third period. The Legionnaires take on the

Lincolns in St. Marys Friday and entertain Leamington Saturday night at 7:10.

Meantime, Jaques and William Hull of Oil Springs both registered assists on Sunday as the Strathroy Rockets doubled the Kings, 8-4 in GOJHL action in Komoka, Lambton Jr. Sting grad Ethan Mathews scored his first of the season for the Kings. On Saturday, Jaques drew an assist for the Rockets at home in Strathroy in a 4-2 loss to St. Thomas. Jackson Dobbin had a goal and an assist for the Stars.

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# Petrolia Oilers U9's win championship banner in Niagara Falls

The Petrolia Oilers won five straight games to capture the U9 MD division title at the Winter Breakaway Challenge in Niagara Falls last weekend.

The Oilers beat Orillia, Vaughan and Northumberland in the preliminary round then defeated Oakridge, 3-2 in the semi-finals and Bradford, 5-1 in

the final. Overall, the Oilers outscored their opposition, 32-5. Meantime, the Oilers U9 HL team also reached the final but lost to Thorold in the championship contest. They had beaten teams from Mt. Brydges, West Niagara, Nobleking and Port Stanley to each the final. Meanwhile, Lambton Shores

reached the finals but fell just short by a score of 2-1 to the host White team in the U13 championship game at the Kinsmen Cup last Sunday in Dresden. Petrolia was 1-1-1 in pool play in the U11 division and lost 6-1 to Dresden in the semi-finals and East Lambton was winless in three games in U9 play and did not qualify for the playoffs.

**Classified Deadline:** Monday @ 12 noon

#### **Real Estate**



Direct: 519-878-5981 • leo@shanahanrealty.com • Office: 226-848-6684

#### **For Rent**

HOUSE FOR RENT NEAR WAT-FORD Three Bedrooms. References Required. Call 519-384-4590.

#### Notices

The United Way of Sarnia-Lambton is partnering with Coffee Lodge for the first ever **THANKS** A LATTE fundraiser on February 11th 2023. \$1 from each latte sold at all Coffee Lodge locations will be donated to United Way of Sarnia-Lambton.

#### **For Sale**

FRIDGES and STOVES for Sale. All in good working order. Call **519-882-0608**.

#### 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.

#### ADVERTISING POLICY

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

#### **Employment Opportunity**



**TOWNSHIP OF WARWICK** 

Student Summer **Employment Opportunity** 

#### **Customer Service Assistant**

Position will be responsible to assist with customer service at the Township Office, take payments and provide support for general reception. Work will also include various administrative duties such as research, filing and records management to support operations.

#### **REQUIREMENTS ARE:**

- Strong computer skills in Microsoft Office suite (Word and Excel)
- Experience with customer service in person and over phone

#### Upcoming Events

Classifieds



Britannia Chapter No. 34, Order of the Eastern Star is pleased to announce that tickets are available for our... ROAST BEEF SWEET-HEART DINNER - Saturday, February 11 • 5-7 pm at Wyoming United Church, 730 Second St, Wyoming. Tickets \$18 and \$10 for children 10 and under. Contact Pam 519-854-0503 or Kim 519-328-6823 or buy them from a Star!

THE DEMENTIA - FRIENDLY CANADA PROJECT - Sunday, February 26 with The Alzheimer Society of Sarnia-Lambton at Christ Church, 414 Oil St., Petrolia following our 10 am service (approx 11am). 519-882-1430

Mar 15) at the Petrolia Legion. Lunch 12noon-1pm \$10.00 pp. Music 1-4pm by donation. ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES - February 22 2023 at Christ Church, 414 Oil St., Petrolia -Church Services at 10:30 am and an Evening Service at 7:00 pm

ST. PHILIPS CARD PARTIES - Fri-

days, Feb 3, 10, 17 & 24 and Mar

Philips Hall. \$5.00 pp. Light Lunch.

Wheelchair accessible. Call 519-

**COUNTRY SOFT ROCK JAMBO-**

REE - 3rd Wednesday (Feb 15,

882-4840 for more info.

10, 17, 24 & 31 @ **7pm** at the St.

Answers to this week's	9	3	1	6	8	4	2	5	7
Sudoku		6	5	2	7	3	1	9	4
	4	2	7	5	9	1	6	8	3
Brought to you by:	5	7	9	4	1	6	3	2	8
519.882.1290	2	1	8	3	5	7	4	6	9
4146 Petrolia Line	6	4	3	8	2	9	5	7	1
Petrolia	1	8	2	7	3	5	9	4	6
Prokovi ink	3	5	4	9	6	8	7	1	2
BrokerLink	7	9	6	1	4	2	8	3	5

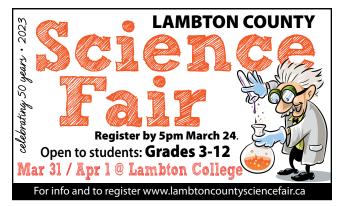
## Monday, February 20, 2023



#### Thursday, February 9, 2023

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

#### Upcoming Events



SHROVE "PANCAKE" TUESDAY February 21 2023 at Christ Church, 414 Oil St., Petrolia from 5-7pm (while quantities last). Good Will offerings accepted with all proceeds to Lancer Locker. Everyone is Welcome!. For more info call 519-882-1430

**PANCAKES & SAUSAGE SUPPER** - February 21 from 4:30-6:30pm at the Camlachie United Church. All you care to eat - Advance Tickets Only: Adults \$10, Child 6-10 \$5, Children under 5 eat free. 226-776-1222 or Doug 519-869-4727. camunitedevents@gmail.com.

## **PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE** YOUR HOUSE IS 🌞

Support the local businesses that keep your community and its newspapers thriving.

> **Death Notices** January 31 - February 6, 2023

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

MALTAIS, Noah Rory Smith Funeral Home

Janet (n Brims)

D.J. Robb Funeral Home SCHMITT, Marvin Age 86, of Glencoe

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1 BORG, Helena Dirkje

**BENTLEY**, George Firman

McKELLAR, Dorothy Jean Age 62, formerly of Glencoe Gilpin Funeral Home PLAIN, Norien Yvonne Age 67, of Aamjiwnaang First home website listing family member stay home for as long as possible!

JONES, Ann Doreen Age 90, of Petrolia VanHeck Funeral Home SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

**CALHOUN**, Ernie Age 75, of Petrolia Needham-Jay Funeral Home

(n Dragosavac) Age 74

#### (n Wijnacker)

Age 67 Denning's of Forest

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

GEORGE, Earl "Chub" Bruce Age 78, of Kettle & Stony Point This information is provided as a community service For detailed information, please refer to the funeral Let me help your

Age 83

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 31** BOUMA, John (Jan)

Smith Funeral Home

**RIGBY**, Beatrice "Betty"

Age 95, of Sarnia

VanHeck Funeral Home

Age 95 Smith Funeral Home

**HOEY**, James Ernest

**OCHOSKI**, Robert Steven "BobO"

Age 76, of Dresden Badder F.H. & Reception Centre

VILICH, Bojana

Smith Funeral Home WALSH, Pauline Marie

Age 79 Smith Funeral Home

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

**COONE**, Magdalena

Age 101, formerly of Bothwell Badder & Robinson Funeral Home

WESTON, Douglas Bennett

- Self-starter, dedicated to independent task completion
- · Full time student in the past academic year and returning to full time studies in the fall of 2023
- Completed their 2022/2023 school term
- A valid Ontario driver's license (Class G of G2) preferred
- Be between 15 and 30 years of age,
- Canadian citizens, permanent residents or have refugee protection status under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act
- · Legally entitled to work in Canada
- · Will not have another full-time job.
- Be able to work days during May/June to August 26th (Dates subject to change)

#### Application Deadline: 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Written resumes for all positions will be received until 4 pm on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 and should be addressed to: Township of Warwick, 5280 Nauvoo Road, PO Box 10, Watford, Ontario, NoM 2So.

E-mail submission of resumes and questions on positions can be submitted to the Township of Warwick at messelment@warwicktownship.ca or 226-848-3926.

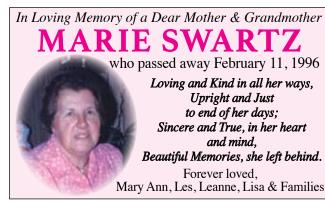
www.warwicktownship.ca

Thursday, February 9, 2023

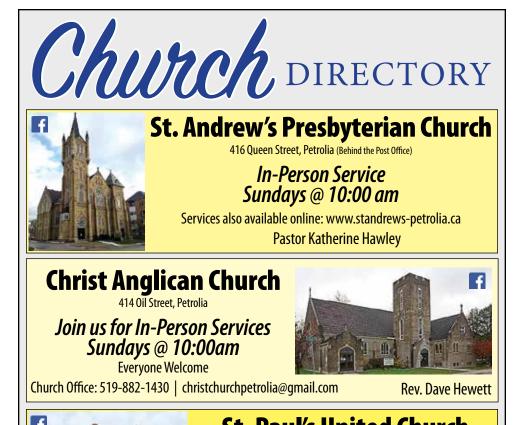


#### Celebrations





Classified Deadline: Monday @ 12 noon





Lambton Branch, Ontario An-cestors Drop-In & Chat - Zoom Webinar - February 27, 2023 2-3:30 pm. Working on your Lambton County Genealogy? Have questions? Meet with others to discuss obstacles or exciting new discoveries. For a link to the meeting visit lambton.ogs.on.ca or email lambton@ogs.on.ca

Watford Warwick Horticultural Society presents Horticulturist Jessica Bos-Landry speaking on "STARTING SPRING SEEDS, WHEN AND HOW", Thursday Feb 16, 2023 at 7 pm. Join us at the Horticulture Centre 5306 Nauvoo Rd Watford. Cost for non members \$10.00. Members free. For more info, visit our FB page https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100071073251927 or call/text Holly 226-402-0116

Lambton Branch, Ontario Ancestors Meeting - February 14, 2023 – 7 pm. Speaker: Donna Bjore- "My 2022 Irish Palatine Trip-Never Give Up the Search". ON-LINE ONLY. Register 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

### WARWICK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL ARE LOOKING FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES/BOARDS

ALL application forms must be submitted by 4pm on Thursday, Feb. 9th, 2023 They can be addressed to 5280 Nauvoo Road, PO Box 10, Watford, ON NoM 2SO

Appointments for Township committees will be for staggered terms between one (1) year and four (4) years; and members shall be a resident and/or ratepayer in Warwick Township. Appointment to the County of Lambton Seniors' Advisory Committee is for a term of two (2) years.

#### WARWICK TOWNSHIP CEMETERY BOARD (3 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC)

The Warwick Township Cemetery Board is responsible for providing advice and input on Cemetery services and assisting in the management of all cemeteries within Warwick Township. (Watford Cemetery, Bethel Cemetery, Warwick Cemetery plus several 'inactive' cemeteries)

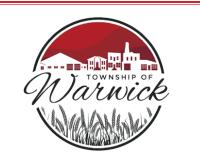
#### COUNTY OF LAMBTON SENIORS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE (1 MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC)

The County of Lambton is recruiting a resident from Warwick Township for the Seniors' Advisory Committee. The role of the committee is to promote interests and identify seniors' issues and address them at a County level. Questions regarding this committee can be directed to Anita Trusler at Lambton Public Health by calling 519-383-8331 ext. 3646 or emailing anita.trusler@county-lambton.on.ca. Application forms are available at the Township Office and on the Township website.

For further information on Township committees, or to receive a copy of the Terms of Reference or an application form, please contact: Amanda Gubbels, CAO/Clerk, at agubbels@warwicktownship.ca Heather Willemse, Deputy Clerk, at hwillemse@warwicktownship.ca or by calling 226-848-3926.

Application forms are available at the Township Office or on the Township website and must be submitted by the above date to the Clerk's Department.

www.warwicktownship.ca



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING **DEVELOPMENT CHARGES BY-LAW** AND BACKGROUND STUDY

On Monday, February 13, 2023, the Council of the Township of Warwick will hold a public meeting, pursuant to section 12 of the Development Charges Act, 1997, as amended, to present and obtain public input on the municipality's proposed development charges (D.C.) by-law and underlying background study. All interested parties are invited to attend the Public Meeting of Council and any person who attends the meeting may make representations relating to the proposed D.C. by-law and background study. The meeting is to be held:

#### Monday, February 13, 2023



## St. Paul's United Church

4169 Petrolia Line at Centre Street

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

Church Office: 519-882-1390 www.stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net

**Rev. Carol Ferguson** 

## **First Baptist Church**

**In Person Church Service** Sunday Mornings @10:30 am

Pastor: Alex Craig

418 Greenfield Street, Petrolia | Church Office 519-882-2480 email: fbcpetrolia@gmail.com | website: www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca Find us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia



#### 4:15 p.m. **Council Chambers, Municipal Office** 5280 Nauvoo Road, Watford, ON N0M 2S0

In order that sufficient information is made available to the public, the background study is being made available online at the municipality's website (www.warwicktownship.ca) on December 20, 2022. Copies of the proposed D.C. by-law and the background study are also being made available as of December 20, 2022 from the municipal Clerk at the above location.

Interested persons may express their comments at the public meeting or in writing, addressed to the municipal Clerk, at the above address prior to noon on Thursday, February 9, 2023. All written comments received will be placed on the meeting agenda for Council and public information.

The agenda for the meeting will be available on the Township's website at www.warwicktownship.ca.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, contact the Township Office at 226-848-3926 or info@warwicktownship.ca.



Mike White - centre - of Wyoming, won gold at the **Brampton Cup** 

## White wins gold **Barry Wright** The Independent

Mike White has won his weight class at the Brampton Cup boxing event for the second year running.

The Wyoming fighter won the gold medal in a walkover over a boxer from Brantford on the weekend. White had advanced to the final with a first round TKO against a fighter from Kingston.

White, the son of former Canadian champion Frank White, is now 8-1 in his young career with four knockouts.

He trains with the Bluewater Boxing Club in Sarnia.

# Black heading to worlds

Forest's Conner Black been named to Team Canada for the World Athletics Cross-Country Championships later this month. The North Lambton alumni and Northern grad and Sarnia native Andrew Davies will both wear the maple leaf at the event in Australia on Feb. 18.

And there is another Lambton connection to the team; St. Christopher grad Hilary (Edmondson) Stellingwerf is one of the head coaches for Team Canada. She is currently the head coach at the University of Victoria.

## EYE ON THE PUCK



CHRYSTAL BRESSETTE/ALVINSTON KILLER BEES PHOTO

The visiting Stratford Fighting Irish scored four times with the man advantage in a 6-3 win over the Killer Bees in Western Ontario Super Hockey League action last weekend. The Bees had power play goals by Cam Welch and Joe Capirichio and a shorthanded marker by Dawson Winchester in its final home game of the regular season. The Bees are now 5-16-1, a point back Erin for seventh place after the Blitz beat Delhi, 8-3. Alvinston visits Erin this Sunday.

# PW's Watson wins silver

Declan Watson won a silver medal in his weight class at the Winterlift Open weightlifting event in Burlington on the weekend.

His 103 kg snatch and 126 kg clean and jerk bested his previous personal best total by 2 kg.

The 15 year-old Northern student from Errol Village will next compete at the Arnold Fitness Festival in Columbus, Ohio in early March.

## Camlachie runner cracks top 10

Kaitlyn Handy of Camlachie placed seventh in a tightlybunched field in the women's 800 metre race at the Jud Logan collegiate track and field event in Ashland, Ohio.

She crossed the finish line in a time of 2:18.10, less than a second shy of a top-three placing.

Handy, a first-year nursing student at the University of Windsor is a former Lambton Kent track champion from Northern. St. Pat's grad Zion Webb, also a member of the Windsor Lancers track and field squad, finished seventh in the men's shot put at the same event.

# Textbooks open window to Central Lambton's past

#### The Independent

Charlie Fairbank is giving Lambton County a glimpse of life in schools when the Oil Heritage District came to life.

The Oil Springs man has donated Ontario and Canadian textbooks that have publishing dates as early as 1887. He found them in his family's collection of hundreds of books which he is currently sorting through.

"Literature needs to be preserved," said Fairbank when turning them over to the Lambton County Archives. "These textbooks speak of the shared experience because all students had the same textbooks." Many of the books have the names of generations of Fairbanks. John Henry, Charlie's great-grandfather, was a founder of Petrolia arriving one year before it became a village in 1865.

Some of the textbooks underline how much attitudes have changed over the years. One 1928 Canadian history book speaks of Indigenous people in terms which are considered derogatory today. The same textbook talks in patriotic terms about Canada's progress made during World War One.

Among the tomes is a 1934 textbook for

Canadian agricultural high schools. Fairbank says not only has the content of the books changed, their prices have as well with a 1910 Ontario reader priced at nine cents. By 1924, an Ontario reader had

jumped to 14 cents. Officials at the Lambton Archives were happy to receive the collection. "Often in older textbooks, we see signatures of names, doodles or notes that share more insight about the children who used them," says Nicole Aszalos, supervisor at the archives.

"It's a fascinating glimpse to the past," Aszalos says.



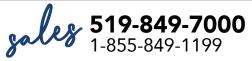
Charlie Fairbank with Nicole Aszalos



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