

EASY DOES IT



Five-year-old Jett Nyp kept his eyes on his plate as it was piled with delicious pancakes and sausage Sunday. The Warwick Community Hall was full of people as everyone enjoyed the 40th annual Maple Syrup Breakfast hosted by the Warwick Fireman's Association. Proceeds from the breakfast are going to Scarborough's Camp Bucko, a free summer camp for children between seven and 17 years who have experienced burn injuries.

PHOTO CREDIT

Trying to solve the 'life and death' issue of homelessness

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

“Homelessness is an issue of life and death. It is a life sentence,” says the director of Built For Zero Canada and the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness.

Marie Morrison is urging Lambton County officials to use a model called Housing First at a summit focusing on homelessness, housing and addiction Tuesday. It centres on quickly moving people experiencing homelessness into safe, affordable and permanent housing and then providing them additional supports and services including mental health, education, employment, substance abuse treatment, health care and community connections.

Morrison says it costs \$55,000 a year to deal with a homeless person on the street, but if you were to house people instead, it would be a lot less. “It costs more to ignore homelessness,” she said.

Morrison told county officials at gathered at Lambton College homelessness is not a person problem, but is a policy and system problem, caused by poverty, the lack of secure employment, the justice system, colonization and lack of funding of affordable housing.

Lambton County organized the summit as number of people living on the streets in communities across Lambton grows. Right now, county officials say, there are 244 people without homes, up to 50 sleep outside at night.

SEE HOMELESSNESS PG 2

Alvinston subdivision not likely before 2024

Heather Wright
The Independent

It will be at least 2024 before any sod is turned on a new subdivision in Alvinston, if it is approved.

That from Steve and Deb Durham, the Norwich couple working on the first major subdivision in Brooke-Alvinston in decades. The couple were in Alvinston March 16 for a public meeting on the proposal.

The Durham purchased the land years ago and first planned to build

19 single family homes, 30 semi detached homes and 20 townhouses in the Broadway/Lisgar area.

The proposal now calls for 32 single family homes, 14 semis and two seven-unit townhouses on the 12 acre parcel. Steve Durham said they made the change because most subdivisions have at least 50 per cent single family homes.

About 20 community members at the public meeting also heard there will be a one-acre park in the subdivision part of which will serve as a dry pond for storm run off.

In letters submitted to the county’s planning department, some neighbours voiced concern about what was a farmer’s field being turned into housing. Suzanne Upshall said the housing will alter the character of the place forever by transforming a quiet naturalized pretty spot into a barren, busy thoroughfare – precisely the urbanization and commotion I move to Alvinston to avoid.”

SEE ALVINSTON PG 2



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Architects drawing of the new subdivision proposed for Alvinston.

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Alvinston subdivision creates 60 homes

CON'T FROM PG 1

But Durham didn't believe the 60 homes which would be created would cause that much disruption.

“We talking 60 lots, so we’re not talking about 25,000 people moving in and need to get around. At 60 lots it is a fairly small addition to the municipality,” he tells *The Independent*.

There was also concern the housing market in Ontario may be sputtering as interest rates and the cost of inflation remain high. One resident worried the subdivision would be laid out with streets and perhaps one or two houses, but the rest would be vacant land. Durham is confident

there will be a strong housing market if Brooke-Alvinston council gives the go ahead for the subdivision.

"I think housing is going to be strong enough. Like when this gets passed, if it's three years, (before homes are being built) housing is going to be strong enough in three years."

While some residents voiced concern, Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek says the housing development is welcome since it will bring more people to the community which could spark commercial growth in the downtown.

Council still has to give its final approval of the plan.

Enniskillen eyes three per cent tax increase

Blake Ellis

Local Journalism Initiative

Taxpayers of the Township of Enniskillen will likely see a three percent increase to the municipal portion of their tax bill.

Township Clerk/Treasurer Duncan McTavish presented a \$4,398,600 budget Monday to council which requires \$79,320 more in municipal taxes.

While many municipal governments look at increases between five and six per cent, Enniskillen has been able to keep the tax rate down in part because of increased revenues.

The township's gas tax revenue has increased from \$88,700 in 2022 to \$92,550 in 2023 and for the first time in a half decade, the amount received from the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund will increase by \$33,700 to \$300,700 this year.

The 2022 surplus of \$100,000 will also be invested into the 2023 budget.

Among the capital work to be completed will include work on Rokeby Line at the Bear Creek Bridge at a projected cost of \$500,000. This will include moving a section of the road north by the width of one lane while also seeing the construction of swales on both the north and the south side of the road to redirect water into Bear Creek. The waterline is also to be moved so it will not be under the travelled portion of the road.

A portion of Shiloh Line between Tile Yard Road and Marthaville Road was reconstructed in 2022 at a cost of \$97,600. There is \$450,000 set aside in the 2023 budget to dig up some additional soft spots and do some asphalt work on this section of road.

There is also \$70,000 allotted for crack sealing asphalt roads. Part of this work will focus on Rokeby Line from Oil Heritage Road to the Marthaville Road.

McTavish said there would be a large number of drainage projects, which will be completed in 2023. The municipal costs for the drainage assessments have been estimated at \$140,000.

A tractor and backhoe are to be traded in and replaced at a cost of \$7,000 for the tractor and \$21,500 for the backhoe. A roadside mower is also being replaced at a cost of \$13,500.

Two safety trailers are to be purchased at a cost of \$15,000, which will be placed at locations where there have been road closures or where

traffic has to be reduced because of road construction.

Work on the Krall Park washrooms is planned for 2023 at an estimated cost of \$330,000. Grants from the federal and provincial governments amount to \$222,800. The remaining \$97,200 will be funding by the township with \$35,000 coming from the park reserve.

Work on the Marthaville Park washroom project has been completed this winter. Therefore the cost of this project is included in this year's budget. It has been budgeted at \$225,000 with a grant from the Trillium Fund covering \$218,000.

In the operating budget, there is a three percent increase for wages, as administration payroll has been budgeted at \$360,000, an increase from just over \$346,000 in 2022. The renewal of the municipal insurance program has seen the premium increase 13 per cent by \$6,826 to \$59,989.

Policing costs have increased by \$11,409 over 2022, while the township will contribute an additional \$3,000 to the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority. It's budget went up 12 per cent this year or about 49 cents for every \$100,000 of assessment.

The cost of gravel has increased to \$365,000, based on the same amount of gravel and stone used in 2022, while the supply and application of brine has increased to \$85,000.

The budget also includes \$50,000 for asphalt patching and \$30,000 for the shoulders of asphalt roads. Councillor Wally Van Dun questioned whether \$30,000 was enough to look after the shoulders of the roads in the township this year.

And while the township is doing road work this year, one councillor says Enniskillen should have a plan in place. Councillor Mary Lynne McCallum suggested \$40,000 to \$50,000 of last year's surplus be put into a road reserve, as the township doesn't have a reserve for roads like it does for water, sewer and streetlights.

"We are doing as much as we can," said Mayor Kevin Marriott. "We never have enough," he said adding Enniskillen doesn't have any debt.

McCallum suggested the township develop a five year plan in regards to its roads. When Marriott indicated these long term plans often change, McCallum shot back, "It's not in stone or asphalt, it's a plan."

The budget is to be approved at council's next meeting of April 3.

Homeless people 20 times more likely to be hospitalized

CON'T FROM PG 1

Lambton County's Supervisor of Homelessness Prevention Ian Hanney says there has been some success, as 450 people have been able to be placed into permanent housing since the beginning of the pandemic. This can be credited to a coordinated approach with other community agencies.

Hanney said the rate of homelessness could not be explained by substance abuse alone. The longer someone is homeless, as they can become a victim of crime and sexual exploitation.

Acting CEO of the Canadian Mental Health Association of Lambton Kent, Rhonny Doxtator, sees the need for stable housing daily. Doxtator said while maintaining income and housing are two important factors to maintain someone's mental health, finding a place to live is more difficult than ever. The Canadian Mental Health Association has 250 clients across the county living in apartments.

Hannev agrees the rental market has tightened

in the county since 2014. Lambton now has a 2.4 percent vacancy rate. A one-bedroom apartment is now being rented for \$1,200 a month.

But the homeless also face added obstacles with landlords who are being more selective in choosing their tenants, often asked for credit checks and criminal record checks. This is putting the most vulnerable at risk, Hanney said.

And the county also faces obstacles, with long waiting list for geared to income housing. Officials plan to have 75 new affordable unites ready by 2024, but it's just a fraction of what is needed. The county needs to spend \$45 million in the next ten years to build enough housing units to clear the backlog.


While the hurdles are high, the risk to leaving people on the street are greater says the head of the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness.


Those experiencing homelessness are 20 times more likely to be hospitalized and five times more likely to die, Morrison says.

•THE INDEPENDENT


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Editorial

Legal risk

We often decry the decisions of municipal councils on this page and we are tempted to do the same with Plympton-Wyoming’s decision to re-hire a company it had a poor experience with just last summer.

The town is planning to complete the second phase of a street reconstruction in Wyoming. Last year, a construction company hired to rebuild Front Street caused headaches for local businesses which couldn’t get into their buildings in the area for days on end.

The construction also took far longer than expected and only got moving when the town and its engineering firm started going on site and prodding the contractor along.

Just last month, a Wyoming businessman tore a strip off the town for allowing the problems to percolate for so long saying it cost him money in extra gas and the time of his workers to deal with the issue.

The town took its lumps, agreeing the contractor had done a poor job.

Fast forward a month and town council is now looking at the same name as the lowest bidder for the next phase of the reconstruction on Plympton Street. And it is a lot cheaper than everyone else.

Staff could find no legal reason to turn down the tender - so, the contractor will be back this summer. There will be a few more rules and more oversight but time will tell if that will help.

The town is not walking into this contract with blinders on seeing only the cash to be saved. In this case, as in many others, municipalities have to walk a fine line between getting the best deal for taxpayers and making sure they don’t reject a bidder on false grounds and risk being sued.

It’s a ridiculous situation. If a contractor did a poor job on your driveway, you’d never invite them back and that would be the end of it. But municipalities have different rules to follow and have to be aware that there are companies which would pounce if they didn’t get in on a contract without what they figure is just cause.

Could Plympton-Wyoming have made a case to take the next bidder in a court of law; we think so. But it could have cost thousands of dollars to do it. And that’s a risk councillors were not willing to take.

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

Thousands of People.....

HAVE annually visited this spot to enjoy the excellent fishing and boating facilities afforded, but until recently only indifferent hotel accommodations were to be had. Realizing this state of affairs and also that visitors could be attracted with proper and sufficient hotel resources, Messrs. BEDARD & SONS erected a fine brick hotel, now known as the **Hotel Bedard**, and fitted it with all modern improvements and conveniences, the sanitary arrangements being unexcelled. It is elegantly furnished throughout and directly fronts and overlooks the beautiful St. Clair river. It invites the attention of the whole country, including the travelling public, business men, pleasure seekers, and all who wish to seek rest and healthful recreation amid the cool summer breezes, pure bracing air, glide o'er the placid St. Clair, or take the unsuspecting member of the finny tribe from the clear blue depths of this delightful strait.

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A. A. BEDARD, Courtright, Ont.

FROM THE FILES OF LAMBTON HISTORY ROCKS VIA FACEBOOK

This ad is from Hotel Bedford which once graced the St. Clair River in Courtright. The hotel “served thousands of people” according to the ad over the years. In the 1970s and 1980s it was known as the Courtright Tavern and was eventually taken down in 2001 when the turrett on the south side of the building could not be repaired. Today the site is empty.

A lesson in ridicule and audacity from the Fosbury Flop

I hated high jump as a kid. I once faked an injury so I didn’t have to compete in it, although I’m quite sure my Grade 6 teacher saw right through my very poor acting.

I really didn’t pay much attention to the sport until Corunna’s Derek Drouin came on the scene and leaped to a gold medal at the 2016 Olympics.

That’s when I first hear of the Fosbury Flop. My husband, Barry, mentioned it in passing. I laughed thinking it sounded funny but not knowing that Fosbury was Dick Fosbury, the man who revolutionized high jumping.

In the 1960’s, Fosbury was a teen and doing high jump at his high school in Oregon. He figured out he had to change his body position to jump higher than anyone else had using the scissor kick which was popular at the time.

But as he played with the idea at

track meets, he was ridiculed. Even the local paper made fun of his back-first jump. *The Medford Mail Tribune* wrote Fosbury looked like a fish flopping in a boat. The headline read Fosbury Flops Over the Bar.

Fosbury liked it saying “It’s poetic. It’s alliterative. It’s a conflict.”

The criticism didn’t end at high school. While he was at the 1968 Mexico Olympic games, one journalist wrote the technique would lead to “a rash of broken necks” and he wrote Fosbury should stop doing the jump “for the good of young Americans.”

He didn’t. He won gold at those Olympics. By the next summer games, 28 of 40 jumpers were using Fosbury’s technique. The last time a traditional jumper won an Olympic high jump medal was in 1976. Now, people would be ridiculed for kick’n it old school in the high jump pit.

Fosbury’s recent death led me to look up his story and it’s been inspirational. How often do we face people who think what we’re doing is nutty? How often do we face criticism and crumble under the weight of it? How often do we keep our ideas to ourselves for fear of being called silly or far worse? What if Dick Fosbury had done that? Things would have looked a lot different in the sport of high jumping.

We shouldn’t let others’ opinions stop us from our own Fosbury Flop.



Heather Wright

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The Independent

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ROAD-EO HORSES



OPP TWITTER PHOTO

Lambton OPP had to call in some specialized help Sunday after four horses got out of their pen on Petrolia Line near Waterworks Road. A fence collapsed and the horses made themselves comfortable in the neighbours lawns. The OPP were called in and they called for reenforcements. Const. Matthews, seen here with the horses, has experience with the animals and was instrumental in helping Sgt. Josh Hart and Const. Coxon get the animals back home with help of some friendly neighbours.

Road contractor who drew criticism hired again

Heather Wright
The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming has awarded the contract to rebuild Plympton Street to the same contractor who rebuilt Front Street despite major concerns about the company’s work.

Adam Sobanski, director of public works, said H.E. Construction’s bid for the project was \$878,905 - over \$100,000 less than the nearest bidder. The highest bid was about \$1.5 million.

But Sobanski, in his report to council admitted the town had major problems with last year’s work.

“H.E. Construction’s performance on the 2022 Front Street Re-Construction Project caused numerous scheduling issues and unacceptable access disruptions to residents,” he said.

One business owner complained he

was unable to get to his Front Street shop for three weeks, leaving employees to use their own pickups in the construction zone and carry steel out to them before going out to the job sites.

Sobanski and town councillors apologized profusely for the issues at the time and vowed to make sure it wouldn’t happen again.

When the Plympton Street reconstruction came up, H.E. Construction bid again and the town decided to include a \$1,000 per day fee for every day the project runs over the Oct. 15 completion date. There will be some wiggle room for supply chain and weather issues, Sobanski said.

He added the engineering firm will be on site more often and the town will also keep lines of communication open as well.

“Town and BM Ross staff will be on site regularly to monitor the work

to ensure appropriate communication with the affected property owners is ongoing,” he says.

Councillor Mike Vasey was not impressed. “If we have to babysit them and have our staff sitting there watching them work, it is more of a cost to us than the money we’re saving,” Vasey said.

Despite the concerns, Sobanski wrote; “At this time there is no legal grounds for staff to suggest not awarding the contract to the lowest bidder.”

Mayor Gary Atkinson says the town will stay on top of the project.

“I think we’ve learned from the previous years work and things are going to be put in place to have more accountability. And they’re aware that we don’t want an issue to happen like it happened this past year. We both know weather is always a factor, but they understand where we’re at.”

Forty-nine years later, Caughlin’s death still a mystery

Heather Wright
The Independent

Lambton OPP marked the 49th year since Karen Caughlin was killed by again asking for the public’s help to solve the mystery surrounding her death.

On March 15, 1974, the teen and a friend were at the Rose Gardens roller-skating rink in Point Edward from about 7:45 to 11 pm. Caughlin arranged to stay with a friend who lived close to her house on Brock St. South. The girls accepted a ride home and drove away. Just before 1 am, the friends dropped Caughlin off, alone, at

her friends home and drove away. She was never seen alive again. The teen’s battered body was found on what is now Plowing Match Road March 16. For decades, police called her death murder. At one point, Crime Stoppers offered a reward for information about a 1970-1971 Dodge high performance car in the colour “Plum Crazy.”

But in 2017, OPP said forensic evidence showed Caughlin’s injuries were consistent with being struck by a vehicle. Police now suspect her body was moved – likely from Oil Heritage Line – to Plowing Match Road.

OPP Insp. Chris Avery says police

continue to receive tips on the cold case. On the anniversary of her death, the OPP in a news release said they want to hear from anyone who may have discussed attending or hosting a party in Petrolia after going to the Rose Gardens.

OPP are also looking for information about a car crash in the Petrolia area or damage to a vehicle around March 16, 1974. “Someone may have observed damage to a vehicle, or not noticed damage to their own vehicle at the time.”

If you have information about Caughlin’s death, contact the OPP at 519-882-1011 or Crime Stoppers.

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Request for Quotation

RFP – FA – 01/2023

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The Town of Petrolia is seeking Quotations for the provision of Washroom Renovations at the Petrolia & North Enniskillen Fire Department Station.

Sealed submissions will be received at the Petrolia Municipal Office, 411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia, Ontario until 2:00 p.m. local time on Monday, April 24, 2023

The primary objective for this RFP is to obtain proposals for the renovations as identified through a Facilities Condition Assessment, for the staff and public main floor washroom at the Petrolia & North Enniskillen Fire Department Station 1.

Sealed RFP’s must be submitted in conjunction with the prescribed forms. The RFP document is available by contacting the Municipal Office, by telephone 519-882-2350, by email lbelan@petrolia.ca or by visiting www.town.petrolia.on.ca

Late submissions will not be accepted. The Town of Petrolia reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. The lowest or any proposal will not necessarily be accepted.

Dated this 8th day of March, 2023

Mandi Pearson
Clerk / Operations Clerk

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Film still from *Women Talking* (2022)



Dust Storm, Durango Colony, Durango, Mexico, 1994
LARRY TOWELL

ART CANADA INSTITUTE GRAPHIC

The work of Dawn-Euphemia photographer Larry Towell helped shape some of the scenes in Sarah Polley’s Oscar winning film *Women Talking*.

Towell’s role in Oscar winning film

Heather Wright
The Independent

Over the years, award winning photographer Larry Towell has had plenty of young photographers say he’s had an influence on their work.

But having a filmmaker who has now earned the top prize in the business saying his photographs helped form her work is something new.

Sarah Polley won an Oscar for the Best Adapted Screenplay for her film *Women Talking* recently. She based the film on Miriam Toews’ best selling novel. But Polley also credits the Dawn-Euphemia Magnum photographer for some of the moments in the film.

Polley first saw Towell’s work at a Toronto art gallery. She purchased one of the photographs from his work on The Mennonites. Towell started photographing the Mennonites who came to Lambton County for work and began a lengthy project photographing 23 Mennonite communities over a period of years.

When Polley decided to adapt Toews’ book, she went to Towell asking if she could use the work to influence the look of the film.

Towell thought about it and admits being a bit surprised by the offer. “Look, you don’t really have to credit me; you don’t have to pay me.” Towell told her. “But she’s a professional so, she called my agency and bought the rights to - how do you say - to be influenced by my work with the Mennonites... in a way she reconstructed some of the photographs in the film.”

The Art Canada Institute recently posted some of the photographs Polley drew inspiration from with stills from the Orion Film so people can see the similarities.

Towell tells *The Independent* he is pleased his friend has been recognized for her work but he downplays his role in the film.

“I was just an influence on the visual part,” he says adding Toews’ novel was the larger influence.

That along with Polley’s talent and the stellar cast she was able to assemble made the film an Oscar winner.

Applied English courses end in September

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

Starting next school year, Grade 9 students will all be in the same type of English class.

The Lambton Kent District School Board has been destreaming classes - that’s a process which takes classes which used to be labelled either applied or academic and merge them into one course for everyone.

The provincial government announced in 2021 it would eliminate academic and applied courses in Grade 9 and create new curriculum.

Ontario is the only province in Canada, which had de-streams Grade 9 students with all of the other provinces doing it in Grade 10.

Mary Mancini, superintendent of education for student success, secondary and continuing education in Lambton-Kent said the de-streaming of Grade 9 has been in place for many years in Ontario, and over time the curriculum in the applied courses

have become less rigorous.

Provincial data shows most students who take applied courses are Indigenous, Black, with disabilities or other special education factors or from low income families.

It also found that students in the applied courses were more likely to fail.

Using the statistics from the graduating class of 2021, it was found 93 percent of students in the academic stream graduated, while 68 percent of students graduated in the applied stream while 44 percent graduated in the local/workplace stream.

Aside from racialized and disabled students being sent to the applied classes, Mancini said there was a significant negative impact on choosing so early for students.

She says Grade 9 is often too early for students to make decisions of this magnitude.

Delaying this decision for students keeps their options open longer, she said.

• THE INDEPENDENT

Broadcaster, politician Larry Gordon dies

Heather Wright
The Independent

The voice which many Lambton County residents woke up to has fallen silenced.

Long-time radio newsman Larry Gordon passed away March 17 at the age of 71 of Glioblastoma the same illness renowned Canadian singer Gord Downie had.

“Just like he dealt with all experiences in life, Larry managed his illness with strength and grace, and wanted to spend as much time with his loved ones as possible,” wrote his family in his obituary.

Gordon was a broadcaster for 40 years joining the CHOK Newsroom in the 1970s. The radio community mourned his death.

“Larry was the consummate journalist and taught me everything I knew,” wrote Lee Michaels, who worked with Gordon for her entire career.

“Never get too big for your britches, weave a story that the listeners will understand, don’t be in a hurry to break an untrue story but get the facts right first, work hard, don’t make excuses, do your profession good, be a dog with a bone when it comes to the story, build a solid source base, never burn bridges behind you...I owe my entire career to Larry Gordon who hired me and put up with my hijinks for 35 years.”



Larry Gordon



PHOTO VIA FACEBOOK

Larry Gordon before his 2013 retirement from CHOK Radio with reporters, Stephanie Chaves, Melanie Irwin and former reporter Jennifer Meharey.

Rick Burrows, who went to school with Gordon and later worked with him at CHOK, echoed Michaels saying “What a consummate professional and great news director and friend - the best of the best.”

After his career in broadcasting, Gordon took up a new challenge as a councillor in Point Edward. Flags were lowered to half staff in the village he served for eight years where according to his fellow councillors he was always well read and ready with questions at council meetings.

Area politicians also paid tribute to Gordon. “Man of integrity and balanced reporting. Absolutely a gentleman,” wrote former Petrolia Mayor John McCharles.

“What an awesome gentleman. He will be missed,” added Dawn-Euphemia Mayor Al Broad.

Inwood

..a caring community

The Inwood branch of Lambton County Library Services is more than just a small village book nook – it’s an interactive experience! Community members of all ages are welcomed through the doors to inquire about eLibrary services or to participate in free and continuously changing programs, clubs, challenges and activities. Emily and Vanessa work tirelessly to maintain a stimulating environment where visitors can connect to information and to one another. When community members express particular interests, Emily and Vanessa are happy to facilitate practical follow up. It’s important to them that library services provide opportunities for visitors to feel part of community life.

Emily and Vanessa are excited to join in the festivities of Inwood’s 150th anniversary this June. They are hosting events at the library to reflect on and celebrate Inwood’s history. The Drawing Club will meet on June 6 for an evening of Drawing Ancestors. The Writing Club will compose a collection of short stories. The kids in the community will be painting ghost buildings of structures that previously existed in the village. A green screen will be coming to the library with the capability to place pictures of present - day community members into historical photographs of Inwood.



Emily (on left) and Vanessa (on right)

Recently, The Lambton County Archives provided a program at the library that attracted so many community members the floor space was completely filled. Emily and Vanessa are optimistic that the library’s role will remain useful in enriching and supporting the needs and ties of the Inwood community.

This community ad made possible thanks to:

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SYRUP SEASON

Part One of the annual Maple Syrup Festival was held at A.W. Campbell Conservation Area near Alvinston on the weekend of March 18 and 19. On Saturday, Myra Spiller, a conservation education and community partnership technician with the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority led one of three tours held throughout the day going through the process of tapping a tree, collecting the sap and boiling it to produce the maple syrup. The Indigenous people and pioneers of the area perfected many of the techniques she demonstrated. Cold, damp and muddy conditions may have kept many away on Saturday. It was also the first time in three years, the maple syrup festival because of pandemic restrictions. The Alvinston Fire Fighters Association usually holds its pancake breakfast on the same weekend, but due to a scheduling conflict, the fire fighters will be holding its pancake breakfast on the weekend of March 25 and 26. The maple syrup festival has been a tradition since the 1970s.

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PETROLIA Community THEATRE

Presents a Canadian comedy about wedding rituals

Stag and Doe

By
Mark Crawford



Image by
Shawn Richison

Directed by
Carol Graham
& Jean Simon

Two brides-to-be, one rental hall. What could go wrong?

Bonnie & Brad are having a party to raise money for their upcoming wedding, the cost of which has secretly gotten out of control. Their Maid of Honour, Dee, is about to come face-to-face with the ex who left her at the altar. Mandy & Rob are getting married today, but their wedding tent blew away in last night's storm. In addition, the caterer has lost his entire staff! Can things get any worse?

Thursday
Mar. 30
7:30 pm

Friday
Mar. 31
7:30 pm

Saturday
Apr. 1
7:30 pm

Sunday
Apr. 2
2:00 pm

on stage at **Victoria Hall, 411 Greenfield St., Petrolia**

Tickets available at VPP **Box Office** - Call **519-882-1221** or **800-717-7694** toll free
online at <https://tickets.thevpp.ca> (\$5 charge for online orders)

More info at www.petroliatheatre.com

Adult Theme
Mild Cussing

Produced by permission of the Playwright and Marquis Literary (Colin Rivers) www.MQlit.ca

Sports

Lancers still in the playoff hunt at OFSAA

Barry Wright
The Independent

LCCVI were to play a school from Timmins Wednesday for a chance to advance to the playoff round at the OFSAA Boys A/AA high school hockey tournament in St. Catharines. The Lancers opened the 16-team tournament Tuesday with a 5-3 loss to

the host school but rebounded for a 5-4 win over Roland Michener from South Porcupine later in the day. Meantime, at the girls tournament in Stratford, LCCVI lost to the host school, 2-1 Tuesday morning and then skated to a 3-3 tie with Napanee. The girls play Dryden Wednesday with a chance to advance to the playoff round as well. The scores were not available at our press time. Despite unbeaten regular season and regional championships, the LCCVI boys' and girls' hockey clubs were seeded low heading into the tournament. The girls are seeded 11th of 16 teams while the boys are seeded 13th of 16 teams.

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EYE ON THE PUCK



BLAKE ELLIS / LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Under 18 C Petrolia Oilers Goalie Ryder Stokes eyes the puck before a save with Tyler Dumont (5) defends the space in front of his goalie. The Oilers defeated the St. Thomas Stars 7-5 in front of a hometown crowd on Saturday.

Fryfogle likely to return to Petrolia Flyers’ bench

Barry Wright
The Independent

Chris Fryfogle has yet to speak with Petrolia Flyers General Manager Dennis Meston about returning for a second season as head coach of the PJHL’s Petrolia Flyers. But when the conversation does take place, it will likely be a short one. “The job is his, if he wants it,” said Meston in a recent year-end interview with *The Independent*. If Fryfogle returns, he says there’s plenty of work to be done for the Flyers to take the next step in the


team development. “Expectations were high this season,” said the coach prior to exit interviews with players this week. “We underachieved.” The Flyers finished eighth in the nine-team Yeck Division with a record of 10-26-4 before losing in four straight games in the first round of the playoffs to the regular-season champion Mt. Brydges Bulldogs. Fryfogle says the Flyers got great goaltending and the team was responsible defensively but simply could not put the puck in the back of the net. Petrolia scored just 82 goals in 40 games this season, the exact same number of goals it scored in 32 games last season while allowing almost a goal less per game. With only Peyton Armitage and Colby Ackworth graduating from this season, the Flyers have 21 players from its 23-man roster eligible to return for the 2023-24 campaign. The coach also tipped his cap to the local fans for supporting the Flyers to the tune of just under 300 spectators per game. “One of the greatest things about Petrolia is that they support their teams,” said Fryfogle.

Mooretown Flags enter round two against Essex

Barry Wright
The Independent

The Mooretown Flags have begun the team’s round two quest against the regular-season champion Essex 73’s. Wednesday, the Flags hosted in game two of the best-of-seven Stobbs Division semi-final series. The teams played the opener last night in Essex, but the score was not available prior to our press time. Game three is in Essex on Saturday,

followed by the fourth game on Sunday in Mooretown. The Flags reached the divisional final four with a six-game series win over Blenheim in the first round and Essex advanced with a four-game sweep over Wallaceburg. The Flags clinched its series with the Blades with a 6-2 win at Mooretown Saturday. Meantime, Brody Genyn and Jace Dupuis of the Mooretown Flags have both won yearend awards in the PJHL’s Stobbs Division. Genyn was named the most valuable player while Dupuis was chosen as rookie of the year and most sportsmanlike player. The Wallaceburg product led the division and was tied for 15th overall in scoring in the province with 27 goals and 62 points in 38 games. Dupuis, from Corunna, tied for fourth in the province in goals by a first-year player with 26. He had 40 points in 40 games and only picked up six minutes in penalties.



FORM 6
SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER
Municipal Act, 2001
Ontario Regulation 181/03, Municipal Tax Sale Rules

SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER
THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF DAWN-EUPHEMIA
Take Notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the land described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on April 13, 2023, at the Dawn-Euphemia Municipal Office, 4591 Lambton Line, Dresden Ontario.
The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day as soon as possible after 3:00 p.m. at the Dawn-Euphemia Municipal Office, 4591 Lambton Line, Dresden.
Description of Land:
Roll No. 38 06 009 030 25900 0000; 714 MCCREADY RD., BOTH- WELL; PIN 43366-0137 (LT); W 1/2 LT 17-18 CON 10 EUPHEMIA; S/T EU14214; DAWN-EUPHEMIA; File No. 21-01
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is \$1,573,000.
Minimum tender amount: \$166,495.53
Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit of at least 20 per cent of the tender amount, which deposit shall be made by way of a certified cheque/bank draft/ money order payable to the municipality.
Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to, crown interests, or any other matters relating to the land to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers. Any interests of the Federal or Provincial Crown encumbering the land at the time of the tax sale will continue to encumber the land after the registration of the tax deed. The assessed value according to the last returned assessment roll may or may not be representative of the current market value of the property.
Pursuant to the Prohibition on the Purchase of Residential Property by Non-Canadians Act, S.C. 2022, c. 10, s. 235 (the "Act"), effective January 1, 2023, it is prohibited for a non-Canadian to purchase, directly or indirectly, any residential property, as those terms are defined in the legislation. Contraventions of the Act are punishable by a fine, and offending purchasers may be ordered to sell the residential property.
The municipality assumes no responsibility whatsoever for ensuring bidders/tenderers comply with the Act, and makes no representations regarding same. Prospective bidders/tenderers are solely responsible for ensuring compliance with the Act and are advised to seek legal advice before participating in this sale.
Transfers of properties that contain at least one and not more than six single family residences and are transferred to non-residents of Canada or foreign entities, are subject to the Province's Non-Resident Speculation Tax (NRST).
This sale is governed by the *Municipal Act, 2001* and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and any taxes that may be applicable, such as a land transfer tax and HST.
The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser.
A copy of the prescribed form of tender is available on the website of the Government of Ontario Central Forms Repository under the listing for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.
For further information regarding this sale contact:
Marc Seguin, CPA
Treasurer
The Corporation of the Township of Dawn-Euphemia
4591 Lambton Line, RR #4, Dresden ON N0P 1M0
(519) 692-5148 Ext. 22
treasurer@dawneuphemia.on.ca
www.dawneuphemia.ca

Forest’s Vanos wins NCAA gold

The Independent

Forest’s Johnny Vanos climbed to the top of the podium in the hammer throw to open the NCAA outdoor collegiate track and field season at the Hurricane Invitational in Florida last Friday.

The St. Pat’s grad unleashed a winning

throw of 61.40 metres on his sixth and final throw.

He had set personal bests on two of his previous throws at the same event.

The win follows a recent 11th place finish at the NCAA indoor track and field championships and a second-place finish at the Big Ten championships,

Fryfogle outstanding nominee for Bees

Bayly Fryfogle of the Alvinston Killer Bees is the team’s nominee for most outstanding player in the Western Ontario Super Hockey League.

The 21 year-old Petrolia minor hockey grad was among the top scorers by defencemen in the league this season with nine goals and 16 points in 23 games.

Watford’s Scott Case is Alvinston’s nominee for the league’s leadership award. The awards will be handed out during a virtual presentation at a date to be announced later.



Bayly Fryfogle

BRUSH A LION



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Joining Kylee Shortt and Ava Thompson, Riley Brush is the latest member of the Wyoming Wranglers program to commit to Lambton College women’s softball. Brush, from Wyoming, is in her senior year at LCCVI in Petrolia. “I’ve been playing softball my whole life,” said Brush in a statement announcing her commitment Monday. “Playing at the college level is something new and I’m really excited for the opportunity.” Lions coach Greg Shortt has coached Brush in Wyoming and knows what she brings to the table. “She’s got a rocket for an arm. She’s always played third base for me over the years, and she’s rock solid at what’s a challenging position on the diamond.”

Local teams win big at Little NHL tourney

Teams from Walpole Island are home with three championship wins from the Little NHL (Native Hockey League) tournament by the Nipissing First Nation in Mississauga.

They captured the U11A, U13A and U13B banners. The U13B final was a 1-0 win over

Kettle and Stony Point, while Kettle and Stony Point lost 4-1 to Walpole Island in the U13A semi-finals.

Kettle and Stony Point captured the U18A division and Aamjiwnaang made it to the U11B championship game but lost to Six Nations.

North Lambton alumni heading to hall of fame

One of the most prolific scorers in the history of Lambton College men’s basketball will be inducted into the OCAA college basketball Hall of Fame.

Forest’s Mike Lucier of North Lambton

was among 32 athletes and builders named to the hall this week.

The induction ceremony will be held in Windsor on May 1.

DiMuzio resigns from Legionnaires

Barry Wright
The Independent

After a challenging GOJHL season, Derek DiMuzio has resigned as head coach of the Sarnia Legionnaires.

Assistant coach Darren Rogers, assistant goalie coach Steve Bryce and Chris Guthrie have also stepped down.

“Derek has been a staple in the local hockey world and especially in the halls of the Pat Stapleton Arena, always finding time for a chat with the fans prior to games,” said the Legionnaires in making the announcement.

“Through the years, Derek has built strong bonds with his players and staff, and we are convinced those strong relationships will continue for many years to come.”

The club went on to thank DiMuzio “for his time and dedication to our hockey club.

“Complete commitment is an understatement to describe Derek’s role as he unconditionally supported his team on and off the ice.”

After earning points in 13 of its first 18 games during the 2022-23 campaign, the Legionnaires suffered a 21-game losing streak and won only twice in its last 36 games.

That included a four-game first round playoff exit at the hands of the Leamington Flyers.

Meantime, the Legionnaires will hold a spring prospects camp on May 12-14. Information can be found on the Legionnaires website.

Notice of Public Information Session



Proposed Renewable Natural Gas Facility Twin Creeks Environmental Centre

March 30, 2023 | 4 - 7 PM

Twin Creeks Site Office

5768 Nauvoo Road | Watford, ON N0M 2S0

WM Canada (WM), the owner and operator of the Twin Creeks Environmental Centre (TCEC) in Watford, Ontario, will be hosting a **Public Information Session** to discuss the development of a Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) facility at the TCEC. The community is welcome any time from 4 - 7 PM to learn more.

We value your engagement and look forward to discussing the project with you.

- John McDonald, WM Senior District Manager
jmcdon10@wm.com
- Luiza Adsett, WM Public Affairs Manager
lfurtado@wm.com
- Larry Fedec, HDR Corporation Program Lead
larry.fedec@hdrinc.com

This **Public Information Session** is being held to answer the following questions:

- Why is WM undertaking this project?
- What is Renewable Natural Gas?
- What is the design of the RNG facility?
- What are the potential environmental effects of the RNG facility?
- What approvals are required?



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Vol. 10, Issue 30

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Thursday, March 23, 2023

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Monday @ 12 noon

Classifieds



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Stop in at the office 9am-3pm Monday-Friday
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Wed., May 10, 2023
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@ Windover Nurseries

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& DeGroot's Nursery
Available for Mother's Day
May 14, 2023

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Wendy 519.882.2073 | Dawn 519.882.4919
Please no calls after 9pm

Coming Events

WYOMING LIONS

**BREAKFAST**

Good Friday
April 7
8:00 am - 12 noon
at the
Wyoming Lions Hall 554 Main St.
Adults \$15; Kids 10 & under \$10
Proudly supporting the local community!



Shiloh-Inwood United Church

Invites everyone to attend

**Euchre Card Party**
Tuesday, March 28 @ 7 pm
Inwood United Church
Fundraiser for: Canadian Foodgrains Bank
Light Lunch - 3211 Inwood Rd, Inwood

48TH ANNUAL

**Pancake Day**
2023

in WATFORD
Saturday
Apr 1
8AM - 2PM
Come & Enjoy!
Pancakes & sausage hot off the griddle with local maple syrup - \$9
Pancakes and syrup - \$7
Watford Fire Hall,
520 Ontario St

Rentals

Wyoming Lions Club **RECEPTION HALL RENTALS** - 554 Main Street, Wyoming. Fully licensed by AGCO, up to 150 seating capacity and wheelchair accessible. Now With Wifi. Book for your upcoming wedding, anniversary or business meeting. For bookings and information call 519-466-7806 or 519-845-3333.

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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.

Classified Deadline: Monday @ 12 noon

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Calendar

PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Events are listed FREE for non-profit groups in Petrolia and Lambton County (space permitting).
To be included in this listing email the required information to office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca Subject: FREE EVENT LISTING.

CLUBS AND REGULAR EVENTS

DAY	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
Mon	7p	Watford	Darts @ Watford Legion	519-876-2360
Tues	7p	Watford	Euchre @ Watford Legion	519-876-2660
Tues	7p	Petrolia	Petrolia Toastmasters @ Petrolia Lion's Hall	519-381-4910
Wed	6:30p	Oil Springs	Legion Open - cards, pool, darts - 6:30-10pm	519-834-2537
2nd Wed	7p	Petrolia	Bingo @ Petrolia Lion's Hall	519-882-8728
3rd Wed	7p	Samia	Monthly Meeting @ Horticultural Society	519-332-5837
3rd Thurs	7p	Oil Springs	Optimist Meat Bingo @ Youth Centre	519-834-2152
Fri	7p	Brigden	Pool Night @ Brigden Legion	519-864-1395
Fri		Watford	Meat Raffle, 50-50, CTA @ Watford Legion	519-876-2360
Sat	12p	Petrolia	Lunch 12-3 or until sold out @ Petrolia Legion	519-882-1557
Sat	2p	Petrolia	Meat Raffle @ Petrolia Legion	519-882-1557
Sat	3:30p	Forest	Meat Raffle @ Forest Legion	519-786-5357
Sat	6p	Alvinston	Catch The Ace @ Alvinston Legion	519-898-2100
		Brigden	NEW LEGION HOURS: Thurs 6-9p; Fri 6-9p; Raffle Saturdays 4-8p; Non-Raffle Saturdays 6-9p	

Deadline for submitting free events is Friday @ 12 noon

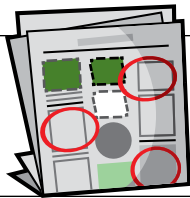
To have your event included in the above Calendar of Events the following information is required:

Date: _____
Time: _____ Town: _____
Event Title: _____
Phone # / website: _____
You can drop this off at our office or email the info to us at office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
Mar28	7pm	Inwood	EUCHRE CARD PARTY @ Inwood United Church	519-844-2588
Apr1	8a-2p	Watford	Watford Fire Dept PANCAKE BREAKFAST @ Watford Fire Hall	
Apr1	4pm	Oil Springs	MEAT RAFFLE @ the Oil Springs Legion	519-834-2537
Apr1	7pm	Brigden	CARDS @ the Brigden Legion	519-864-1395
Apr4	1pm	Wyoming	EUCHRE @ Wyoming Fair Building	519-312-0578
Apr5	7pm	Wyoming	Wyoming Lions MEAT BINGO @ Lions Hall, doors open at 6pm	
Apr7	8a-12p	Wyoming	Wyoming Lions BREAKFAST @ Lions Hall	
Apr8	4:30pm	Brigden	MEAT RAFFLE @ the Brigden Legion	519-864-1395
Apr11	7pm	Online	Lambton Branch Ontario Ancestors Meeting: Speaker BOB ALLE-BONE - Manitoba G.S. Membership Benefits and Resources - get link to zoom meeting at lambton.ogs.on.ca	
Apr12	7:30p	Samia	Samia Concert Association presents JAZZY VARIATIONS - Joe Trio	519-344-7469
Apr15	4pm	Oil Springs	MEAT RAFFLE @ the Oil Springs Legion	519-834-2537
Apr15	7pm	Brigden	TRIVIA @ the Brigden Legion	519-864-1395
Apr16-23		Online	FACEBOOK AUCTION - St Paul's United Church fundraiser - 519-312-6505 www.facebook.com/groups/908539857129026/	
Apr18	1pm	Wyoming	EUCHRE @ Wyoming Fair Building	519-312-0578
Apr22	4:30pm	Brigden	MEAT RAFFLE @ the Brigden Legion	519-864-1395
Apr24	2-3:30p	Online	Lambton County Branch, Ontario Ancestors Drop-in & Chat - Zoom Webinar - link to meeting lambton.ogs.on.ca	
Apr29	4pm	Brigden	ELIMINATION DRAW @ the Brigden Legion	519-864-1395
Apr30	1-3pm	Petrolia	IT'S TEA TIME @ the Petrolia Legion	519-882-1201

Classified Deadline:
Monday @ 12 noon



Classifieds

Death Notices March 12 - March 21, 2023

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

WILSON, Julia Leigh
(n Vokes)
Age 48
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

MONDAY, MARCH 13

SAVIGNY, Shirley Elizabeth
Age 101, of Petrolia
Gilpin Funeral Home

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

BAXTER, Iain William Macarthur
Age 89
Smith Funeral Home

BUESCHLEB, Monika
Age 88
Smith Funeral Home

OOST, "Lammy" Lamke
(n Gjaltema)
Age 94, of Chatham
John C Badder Funeral Home

VIDLER, Doris Lenore
(n Willimot)
Age 88, of Courtright
Knight Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

AUTRY, Gene Cameron
Age 71, formerly of Dresden
Badder F.H. & Reception Centre

BELL, Erika
Age 82
Smith Funeral Home

BOS, Daniel "Dan" Christopher
Age 51, of Petrolia, formerly
Bothwell
Badder & Robinson Funeral Home

POWELL, Charlotte Phyllis
Age 13 days
Smith Funeral Home

ROWELL, Allison
Age 87
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

BABCOCK, Paul Sr.
Age 82
Smith Funeral Home

FREEMAN, Theresa Anne
Age 74, of Dresden
Badder F.H. & Reception Centre

LESTER, James "Jim" Edward
Age 79, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home
McMICHAEL, Larry "Wayne"
Age 77
Smith Funeral Home

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

FARQUHARSON, Kevin James
Age 71, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

Gark, Janet Isobel
(n McRae)
Age 83, of Sarnia
Smith Funeral Home

HOFFMAN, Judith Lynn
(n Root)
Age 74
Smith Funeral Home

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

KISSLING, T Ronald
Age 81
Smith Funeral Home

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

McCALLUM, Leona Elizabeth
Age 87, of Dresden
Badder F.H. & Reception Centre

SIM, Chris
Age 37, of Petrolia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

THOMPSON, Larry
Age 75
Smith Funeral Home

MONDAY, MARCH 20

LAST, Given Names
(n Name)
Age 00, of Town
Funeral Home

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

GORMLEY, Fern Caroline
(n Dixon)
Age 94, formerly of Corunna
and Courtright
Knight Funeral Home

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

Obituary



WILSON
Julia Leigh

It is with broken hearts that we announce the sudden passing of **Julia Leigh Wilson (nee Vokes, 48)** on **Sunday, March 12, 2023** at C.E.E. Hospital of Bluewater Health, Petrolia. She was the cherished and devoted wife of Steven Wilson, and the loving and dedicated mother of Heath, Shea, Cheyenne (Tyler), Madelyn, Angus and Clara. Dearest daughter to Janice (Bill) Rumming and the late Robert Vokes (1981), and loved sister to Allison (Jeremy) Weir, Joseph (Sandra) Vokes, Katie

(Randy) Parsons, Jeff Vokes and Robyn (Shane) Houle. Julia was also a loving daughter-in-law to Jim and Brenda Wilson and sister-in-law to Jennifer Wilson and her husband Ryan Walker, and a loving niece to Lori and the late David Vokes (2021) and their children Allannah and Shannon. Julia was a loved friend to so many, and we in turn, love and appreciate each and every one of you. Julia was always a positive, supportive, and encouraging person to everyone in her life. She was kind, compassionate, and accepting of everyone. She had an immeasurable amount of love in her heart and the love we have for her is equally so.

Julia, we know you will be with us always in our hearts and in our minds. The love you left behind is just as great as the love you gave when you were here. We love you!

Visitors were received on Sunday at the Wyoming Chapel of Needham-Jay Funeral Home, where a funeral service took place on Monday, March 20, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. Interment was in Wyoming Cemetery. As an expression of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to Canadian Cancer Society (Cancer.ca). Memories and condolences may be shared online at www.NeedhamJay.com

office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca

Word Classifieds:
\$10 plus tax
for up to 40 words

Services Offered

VOLUNTEER TAX CLINICS - Need help with your Income Tax return? If your income is modest and your tax situation is simple, volunteers from our Community Volunteer Income Tax Program can help you free of charge! **Tuesday, March 31 and Friday, April 20 from 9:30am-3:30pm at St. Paul's United Church, Petrolia.** To book an appointment contact 519-882-1390 M-F 9a-3p or email office@stpaulsunitedpetrolia.net.

Birth Announcement

DUNLOP
Mike & Katie

are pleased to announce the safe arrival of Alan, Ken and Sabina's baby brother

Oliver James Michael

March 16, 2023

at Victoria Hospital

Proud Grandparents
Ken & Janet Dunlop,
Darlene (late Alan) Woodfinden & Kevin



weighing in at
9 lbs.

Proud Great-Grandmother is
Helen Kucera

Card of Thanks

Thank you

The family of the late **Claire Penfound**, would like to thank all our family, friends and neighbours for the love and support received as we grieved our loss. We would like to thank the EMS attendants, and staff at Petrolia Hospital, as well as a special thank you to Danica and Lauren from the VON, he really enjoyed your visits, and Dr Butler for his many years of care. Thank you to Steve and staff of Needham-Jay Funeral Home for the caring guidance offered to us. Thank you Deanna Gibson for the beautiful service, it was exactly what Dad wanted. We would like to thank everyone for floral arrangements, visits, many cards and charitable donations, our hearts are full of gratitude.

The Penfound Family

Church DIRECTORY



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

416 Queen Street, Petrolia (Behind the Post Office)

In-Person Service
Sundays @ 10:00 am

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

Pastor Katherine Hawley

Christ Anglican Church

414 Oil Street, Petrolia

Join us for In-Person Services
Sundays @ 10:00am

Everyone Welcome

Church Office: 519-882-1430 | christchurchpetrolia@gmail.com

Rev. Dave Hewett



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



it's all chill!

DROP OFF
PERISHABLE FOOD DRIVE
Sunday March 26 2023 – 3-6 pm
AT THE PETROLIA FOOD BANK

PERISHABLE ITEMS:

Milk • Bread • Cheese
Fruit • Veggies
Meats
Lunchables

FREEZER ITEMS:

waffles, hashbrowns, juices,
frozen dinners, pizzas



4156 Petrolia Line - Unit 1 (at Rear)

Dobbin now Hall of Famer

Barry Wright
The Independent

Brian Dobbin is now a member of the Hershey Bears Hall of Fame. The Petrolia native was inducted during a ceremony in Pennsylvania last weekend.

In his acceptance speech, he thanked his parents, siblings, wife and children for their encouragement and Hershey teammates, coaches and staff for their dedication. He also acknowledged the Hershey fans as “the best fans in the world”

Dobbin, who played 315 games with Hershey, won an American Hockey League championship (Calder Cup) with the Bears

in 1988. He was also a two-time league all-star.

“I will always treasure my time in Hershey,” he said.

A product of Petrolia minor hockey, Dobbin began his junior career with the Mooretown Flags before playing in the OHL with Kingston and the London Knights.

He is currently the head coach of the Elgin Middlesex U18 Canucks. Alvinston’s Hayden Duncan and Watford’s Evan Van Gorp are both on his roster. The Canucks are ranked second in the Alliance in their age group as they attempt to qualify for the regional tournament early next month in Windsor.

Two Xtreme Ontario champions

The Independent

The Forest Xtreme U16 and U19 squads both won gold medals last weekend at the Ringette Ontario provincial championships in Mississauga.

In the U19 tier one title game, Aubrey Moffatt had the equalizer and Dylann Rannie had the game-winner 32 seconds apart late in the final frame to beat London, 6-5.

Rannie recorded a hat trick in the

championship contest. Olivia Koolen and Emma Joris also scored for Forest.

In the U16 top tier goal medal affair, Ally Rops had a goal and an assist to lead Forest over Nepean, 3-2. Claudia McKinlay and Lydia Looper scored the others for the Xtreme.

In the U14 tier one division bronze medal game, Forest fell to Burlington, 4-3 in overtime. Cadence Orvis, Julia McPherson and Brynn Bastiaansen scored for the Xtreme.

McGregor scores twice in para hockey loss

Tyler McGregor scored a pair of power play goals last Friday in a 9-3 loss by Team Canada to Team U.S.A. in the second game of a three-game para hockey series in Elmira. The Americans completed a three-

game sweep with a 2-1-win last Saturday. Team USA won the opener, 1-0 in overtime Wednesday.

McGregor, from Forest, is the captain of the Canadian squad.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Alvinston native Krista DuChene in Toyko after her final professional marathon.

DuChene ready for the next chapter

Heather Wright
The Independent

Alvinston native Krista DuChene is ready for the next phase of her running career.

The marathoner completed her last professional race in Toyko on a high, setting a record for her age group and coming in 19th overall. “I was just so pleased and everything went perfectly. Often there’s at least one thing that goes wrong... so it ended on my terms, and I couldn’t have asked for anything better,” she tells *The Independent*.

While this was the former Olympian’s final professional race, she’s not stepping back from the sport she loves. DuChene plans to run ultra-marathons. “You’re on trails, different scenery, longer distance, so

it’s not as intense, it’s a whole new way of learning in terms of how the training is and how you need to fuel your body,” she says.

As a professional marathoner, DuChene would spend four hours a day training. “I’m starting a new chapter that I don’t know much about, even though I’ve been running my whole life... So I don’t really have a lot of expectations... I’m just looking forward to exploring and learning and trying something new doing the sport that I’ve loved my whole life.”

When that first ultra marathon will be is a bit of a mystery. And that’s appealing to DuChene.

“I kind of like this freedom of saying I don’t know when, but there will be one; I just don’t know when.”



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