

# The Independent

Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton

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Thursday, May 25, 2023

## SPIRITED RIDE



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

The kids were holding on tight during a flying boat ride at Wyoming's Community Spirit in the Park Saturday. The town organized the event at McKay Park which included a rock climber, first responders and a new trackless train. More photos on pg 16.

## Plympton-Wyoming parts ways with two top administrators

Heather Wright  
The Independent

It's not clear how long it will take for Plympton-Wyoming to fill the positions left by the departure of its two top administrators.

Fire Chief Darryl Thompson was placed on administrative leave and Chief Administrative Officer Carolyn Tripp went off on sick leave in mid February.

Employees were told Thursday the pair no longer work for the municipality and any questions from the public about their departures should to the Deputy CAO Norma Roddick-Preece since it is a confidential personnel matter.

Council has met behind closed doors dealing with personnel and

legal issues nearly a dozen times since the CAO and fire chief went on leave, however Mayor Gary Atkinson has declined to comment on what prompted Thompson's administrative leave nor will comment about the investigation which the town undertook into the incident. We do know the town's lawyers have been involved in the three-and-a half month probe.

Atkinson, speaking to *The Independent* Tuesday, said little would be released about the reasons behind the departure of the CAO and fire chief since it is a personnel issue. Nor would he talk about what the cost of the investigation has been yet since the town is "still in the middle of it."

SEE PW PG 2

## Farm leaders want severance plan tossed Province wants three severances per farm lot

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Ontario's largest farm groups want the provincial government to scrap the idea of allowing farmers to create three residential lots on their land.

The province is revamping the provincial planning statement which guides all municipalities on planning.

As part of that bill, the province says up to three residential lots could be created in rural areas. But the leaders of Ontario's 12 farming organizations issued a statement this week condemning the idea.

The farm leaders say residential lot creation in agricultural areas has always been controversial, fragmenting the agriculture land

base, inflating farmland prices, increasing costs to municipalities and leading to more conflicts between rural residents and farmers over their farm practices.

The groups are also concerned about taking farmland out of production and what the policy could do to the cost of land.

"We have significant concerns regarding the speculative investment that this proposal will drive, resulting in farmland values that make farming even more unattainable for the next generation," the group writes.

"Any policies that might open land for speculative purchase and investment need to be discouraged," the leaders of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the National Farmers Union, the Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario, and multiple organizations representing different sectors of agriculture.

SEE SEVERANCES PAGE 2



PETROLIA FARMER'S MARKET  
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# Extra severances in rural Ontario concerning

CON'T FROM PG 1

“Ontario’s farmers are positioned to seize opportunities and rise to the challenge of an ambitious growth strategy, allowing the agri-food sector to drive the economy forward. To farm, we need farmland. ...

“Additional lot severances proposed will make it difficult or impossible for farmers to operate, expand and grow their farms.

“We do not support policies that will increase residential lot creation in prime agricultural areas or in rural areas that are actively farmed. Ontario boasts some of Canada’s richest and most fertile farmland and these policy changes put the sustainability of that land and the food system it provides at great risk.”

The statement adds directing growth to settlement areas in both cities and small rural towns is better for both agriculture and municipalities.

And while there is concern in the farm politics community, some rural municipalities want to see provincial policies on land severances change.

During Wednesday’s Lambton County Council committee meeting, Dawn-Euphemia Mayor Al Broad said the rules around severances are too restrictive in his municipality.

Broad says in the last few months, two farmers had unused homes which they wanted to sever from their property and sell however, under provincial policy, the remaining farmland would not have been large enough to be a viable farm.

“I’ve got houses being torn down, because they don’t fit the provincial policy for severance, and yet, on Bill 23, they’re trying to ram it through to get more housing,” says Broad.

“I’ve got the housing, just make your provincial policy flexible enough ...so that housing can be severed off. And it’s not that we want a severance on every piece of property. But we want something



FILE PHOTO

Farm organizations want the province to scrap a plan which would allow three lot severances from farm parcels but not all municipal leaders agree its a bad thing.

there that makes sense.”

Broad doesn’t want to see productive farmland taken out of use either, however he says there are situations where the land is zoned agricultural but is too small for the equipment used for field crops.

“With three or four acres that’s not practical to go in there with that kind of equipment and yet, we’re putting a house in there,” he says.

With just under 2,000 residents and 867 homes, according to the 2016 Census, Broad says his community needs to have more housing options.

“The province is now saying, under their school policy, that it’s not a complete municipality or complete community unless they have a school. So how do I fill schools when my population isn’t going to be there, and we’re not allowed to do anything out in the country?”

INWOOD

18731502023

## Inwood 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration

Sat. June 24 & Sun. June 25  
at Inwood Ball Park

Two-pitch & corn hole tournaments,  
beer tent, memorabilia displays,  
children’s activities, car show,  
live music, live auction, quilt draws,  
Sunday Church Service 10:00 a.m.

**Beef dinner \$25**  
**Hot dog dinner \$10**  
**June 25 at 4:30**

**Tickets at:**  
Inwood Grocery 519-844-2433  
– or –  
Three Maples Alvinston 519-898-2854  
*Pre-sale of tickets only while supply lasts*

**See Facebook page:**  
Inwood 150th Celebration



FILE PHOTO

A photo taken at the December inauguration of the new Plympton-Wyoming council includes former Fire Chief Darryl Thompson (top left) and former CAO, Carolyn Tripp, (bottom left).

# PW releasing few details of exit

CON'T FROM PG 1

Atkinson says a statement will be coming from the municipality about the changes at town hall, although he couldn’t say when that might happen.

As for replacements for the pair, Atkinson says council has yet to make a decision on the hiring process.

“I think we’d like to have somebody in position sooner than later. Staff have been very good at filling in the blanks for the last little while, but I think we have to have some leadership there,” Atkinson said.

Atkinson says staff members currently covering the now vacant positions, Deputy CAO Norma Roddick-Preece and Fire Chief

Scott Jordan, will continue until new staff have been hired.

Thompson – who is also the director of fire and emergency services – came to Plympton-Wyoming in April 2021 from Caledon where he was a professional firefighter.

He was hired after Steve Clemens resigned. Clemens left in October 2020 after three years being dogged by controversies such as a video camera surveillance in the Wyoming station and the firing of three senior firefighters.

Tripp came to Plympton-Wyoming shortly after she parted ways with the Town of Midland in 2016 in what she termed as a “conflict with council” at that time.

## PUBLIC NOTICE - PESTICIDE USE

**County of Lambton**

The Corporation of The County of Lambton intends to control Noxious Weeds under Public Works Exception of the Cosmetic Pesticides Ban for the promotion of public health and safety within its jurisdiction along its rural County Roadsides.

<b>Township of Brooke-Alvinston</b> County Rd #4 - ALL County Rd #8 - ALL County Rd #79 - ALL County Rd #80 - Rd 79	<b>Township of Dawn-Euphemia</b> County Rd #2 - ALL County Rd #8 - ALL County Rd #15 - ALL County Rd #21 - ALL County Rd #26 - ALL County Rd #79 - ALL	<b>Township of Enniskillen</b> County Rd #4 - ALL County Rd #8 - ALL County Rd #14 - ALL County Rd #21 - ALL County Rd #26 - ALL County Rd #80 - ALL
<b>Municipality of Lambton Shores</b> County Rd #5 - ALL County Rd #6 - ALL	<b>Township of Warwick</b> County Rd #8 - ALL County Rd #9 - ALL County Rd #12 - ALL <b>City of Sarnia</b> County Rd. #7 - County Rd 26 West to Telfer Road County Rd #20 - ALL County Rd #26 - ALL County Rd. #27 - Hwy 402 North to Blackwell Road County Rd #31 - ALL <b>Town of Plympton-Wyoming</b> County Rd #7 - ALL County Rd #8 - ALL County Rd #11 - ALL	<b>Township of St. Clair</b> County Rd #1 - Marshy Creek - East to Hwy #40. County Rd. #2 - ALL County Rd #4 - ALL County Rd #20 - ALL County Rd #26 - ALL County Rd #28 - ALL County Rd #31 - ALL County Rd #36 - ALL County Rd #80 - ALL <b>Township of Warwick</b> County Rd #22 - ALL County Rd #39 - ALL County Rd #79 - ALL

**Map can be found at:**  
<https://www.lambtononline.ca/en/resident-services/resources/Documents/Roads/Lambton-County-Weed-Spray-Areas---2023.pdf>

The County of Lambton will be using the following pesticides registered under the Pest Control Products Act (Canada): Clearview Herbicide (PCP Registration Number 29752), which contains the active ingredients, Aminopyralid present as potassium salt and Metsulfuron-methyl, Navius Flex (PCP Registration Number 30922), which contains the active ingredients, Metsulfuron-methyl and Aminocyclopyrachlor in combination with Hasten NT Spray Adjuvant (PCP Registration Number 28277), which contains active ingredients Methyl and ethyl oleate (esterified vegetable oil).

Application of will commence on May 29, 2023, weather permitting, and ending June 30, 2023.

**Online information can be found at:**  
<https://www.lambtononline.ca/en/resident-services/resources/Documents/Roads/2023-Lambton-County---Weed-Spray-Ad.pdf>

**For more information call:**

Green Stream - Steve Ford Office: 1-905-510-1229 Collect calls will be accepted Cell: 905-802-3347	County of Lambton - Tom Kelly Operations Manager, Roads 1-866-324-6912 519-845-0801
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# Drainage cash dispute heading to hearing

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Warwick Mayor Todd Case is hopeful a hearing at the Canadian Transportation Agency could force CN Rail to pay municipalities for projects under the Drainage Act.

Todd Case and his counterpart in Plympton-Wyoming, Gary Atkinson, have been pushing CN Rail to settle up outstanding charges under the Drainage Act one of the oldest pieces of legislation in Ontario, passed in 1859. It prescribes a formula to assign costs to those who receive the most benefit from the new infrastructure.

Until 2021, CN Rail had paid any costs assessed under the act. But in 2022, CN Rail – which is now owned by multiple US investors – refused to pay any charges saying it is a federally regulated business and not subject to the provincial legislation.

That’s left both Warwick and Plympton-Wyoming in the hole. Warwick is owed \$160,000 and Plympton-Wyoming has billed CN \$80,000 which is still outstanding.

They’re not alone.

The City of Sarnia has been left holding the bag for an unknown amount of money under the Drainage Act as well and CN Rail hopes to settle the matter at a CTA hearing.

The Rural Ontario Municipal Association - ROMA- is seeking legal intervener status in a dispute. The organization says over 30 municipalities across the province are owed money by CN.

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario says the company owes about \$1.5 million for new drain construction and maintenance across the province. AMO added about \$2.7 million worth of drainage projects are in limbo because of CN’s refusal to pay.

“Railways are essentially asking Ontario’s prop-

erty taxpayers to foot the bill for project costs that should be covered by large, wealthy corporations,” said ROMA Chair Robin Jones.

“Rail-ways are harming the very communities that produce the goods they move across the province.

“Federally regulated industries must be held to the same standards as all property owners, including following local laws, bylaws and regulations.

“CN is creating a false conflict between municipal and provincial laws, and federal regulations,” Jones added.

Case, who hopes to meet with the federal transportation minister with Plympton-Wyoming Mayor Gary Atkinson in the near future, says Ontario is in a unique situation. It’s the only province with a system which regulates who pays for drainage work. CN looks at the other provinces and says it doesn’t provide cash for drainage work there, so it shouldn’t have to in Ontario either.

“We were getting arguments like that they were ridiculous arguments, my opinion. They say that we put our own infrastructure and well, that’s fine. You put your own culverts in. But where does the water go?”

Case is pleased ROMA is taking up the fight and he and officials in Plympton-Wyoming will be following the hearing closely.

But the move has left him frustrated by the continuing delay.

“This is their way, my opinion of them trying to buy time and trying to get around and having to live up to the responsibility of the Ontario Drainage Act, and it’s all what it’s doing is prolonging the process.”

Case adds he’s not prepared to leave the issue alone. “We’re not going to let it rest until we are paid the monies were owed.”



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## An artists rendering of the new waiting room at the Bluewater Health Cancer Clinic. BWH cancer clinic to be upgraded

The Independent

Bluewater Health is preparing for a \$3.4 million renovation of the Cancer Clinic.

Officials say the clinic is seeing more patients than it was designed for and the facility no longer meets the needs of patients including accessibility, comfort and privacy.

The renovation will bring the oncology and pharmacy and the services needed for cancer patients together to make it easier for patients to access what they need.

The redeveloped space will include new patient reception and waiting areas, and clinical rooms where exams, procedures and consultations

can take place with physicians and care team in a private area. A brand new state of the art lab was installed last year and the onsite pharmacy will provide the remaining piece of the network of services for patients to support their treatment and care.

The Bluewater Health Foundation will be raising the money for the renovations.

“It will take significant community support and investment, and the Foundation has committed to raising \$3.7 million for the redevelopment of this incredibly important community resource. We are asking our generous community to consider making a gift towards this upcoming project,” says foundation Executive.

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Virtual 4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.

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- › [lambtoncollege.ca/CES](http://lambtoncollege.ca/CES)









This *Employment Ontario* program is funded in part by the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario.



# Editorial

## PW deserves answers

There are few answers for Plympton-Wyoming residents about what happened in town hall which led to the departure of two top administrators. And we think they deserve a few answers.

In February, the fire chief was placed on an administrative leave of absence and the CAO went on sick leave. An investigation was launched using the town’s legal team, at taxpayers’ expense, for three-and-a-half months.

May 18, employees were told the pair no longer worked for the town. They were told not to talk about it with any residents, since it is a personnel matter, and to direct all questions to the deputy CAO, who has been in charge since the two left.

The mayor has answered most of *The Independent’s* questions with either a ‘no comment’ or ‘I don’t know’ although a news release is promised in the near future.

This situation reminds me of the controversy which swirled around Petrolia town hall in 2017 when the town’s CAO left under questionable circumstances.

In both cases, municipal governments provided few details to the public about what happened, how the issue was dealt with and how much it cost them in the long run.

*The Independent* was able to figure out some of the costs of the Petrolia escapade through the Freedom of Information Act. It looks like we may have to do that again in Plympton-Wyoming. And chances are the details will still be few and far between since refusing to release information on personnel issues is usually okayed by the Information and Privacy Commissioner.

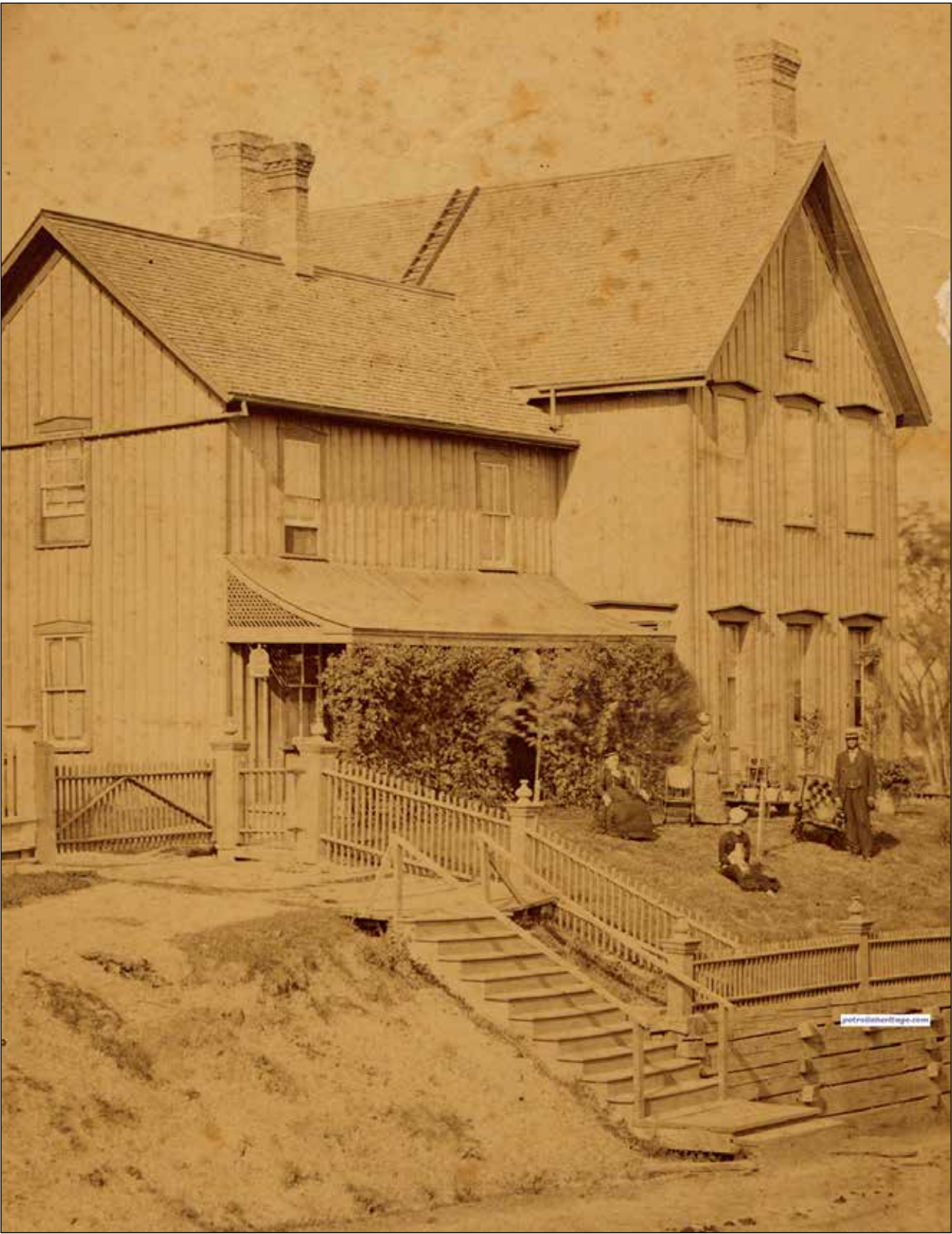
It shouldn’t be. These are people whose salaries come from taxpayers’ pockets and taxpayers have a right to know what’s going on particularly at the highest levels of administration in our governments.

We don’t need to know all the gory details of what transpired, but municipalities should be able to state briefly what happened, how much money was spent paying for an investigation and the payout to the employees. It’s something that would need to be enshrined in provincial legislation. And the province should also ban employees from demanding non-disclosure agreements when it comes to what went wrong and what we’ve paid for it.

## Letters to the Editor

*The Independent* welcomes Letters to the Editor. Our preferred methods to receive letters are via email to [news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:news@petrolialambtonindependent.ca) (please use Letter in the subject line) or through our website [www.petrolialambtonindependent.ca](http://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



PETROLIA HERITAGE PHOTO VIA THE DROPE ESTATE

This Petrolia Heritage photo shows the early home of ED Kerby and JL Englehart. The pair were bachelors when they rented the house. The Fairbank Mansion was later built on the site and the house was moved to the back to be a coach house. There was a fire in the building in the 1970s and it was partially destroyed. The remnants remained as a shed for decades but recently what was left has been taken down.

The

Independent


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# Opinion

## Clean up needed in parts of Bridgeview Park

**EDITOR:** With all the talk of our 150th Anniversary as a town, I propose that the northwest part of Bridgeview Park by the Fairbank House be cleaned up.

It was over 50 years ago that I worked for the Sydenham Conservation Authority and we cleaned up most of that side. They spent all this money on the

opposite side to form that lake and now (are planning) the walkway under the bridge.

Labour to cleanup that part could be done by cutting the grass less. This week they cut the grass twice alone.

It's now seven times the grass has been cut this year (May 19th). The southeast side, which I look

over, is used 8-10 weeks in summer for baseball. The rest of the year it's a full time dog run.

Next time you drive by the park, take a look at how bad the northwest side is. Even if it is not used, at least clean it up.

**Pete Clemens**  
Petrolia, ON

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## Wrong racing commission says reader of Road Race story

**EDITOR:** *Re the article Sisters Breaking Barriers in the May 18, 2023 edition of The Independent.*

The Ontario Racing Commission was formed in 1952 to govern and direct horse racing in all its forms.

In my almost 30 years with the commission, we faced many

challenges regulating one of the largest horse racing jurisdictions in North America.

We were often accused of overreach in our regulatory duties but we did not inject ourselves into human foot racing and gender discrimination in Watford/Alvinston or any other town.

**Bob Aldous**  
Petrolia, ON

*The article referenced talked about the race commission approving the sister's participation in the 1971 Watford to Alvinston Road Race.*

## Privatization referendum to be held this weekend

The Independent

The head of the Ontario Health Coalition is expressing frustration after the head of the Ontario command of the Royal Canadian Legion said it would not allow its referendum on private health care in the province's Legions.

This weekend, volunteers will be set up across the province, including in Petrolia at the local grocery store, to take votes on whether people want the provincial government to allow more private companies to provide health care in the province. The Ford government has already passed the bill which will expand private clinic operations for cataracts, hips and knees.

One of the Lambton County votes was to be at the Alvinston Legion, but

the vote at the site was cancelled.


Natalie Mehra, the executive director of the Ontario Health Coalition, wrote to the head of the Ontario command saying she understood it was a decision made at the provincial level. And she explained why the vote was being taken; "For-profit clinics do not locate in small towns. They set up shop primarily in urban centres where they can do high volumes of easy and profitable surgeries, and where there is a wealthy clientele to whom they charge extra user fees. They take the staff and funding out of local public hospitals, leaving the complex patients with less funding and staff to provide care for them. ...

"They also routinely 'upsell' medically-unnecessary services to patients, manipulating patients into paying for

unneeded extras, even though this harms patients, most of whom are elderly, on fixed incomes, and least able to pay. These practices undermine public medicare in our province and our country, potentially fatally.

"A citizen-run referendum is a democratic response to a profoundly undemocratic dismantling of our public health care services. Everyone who votes has a choice. They can vote for privatization, or they can vote against it, and the vote is being conducted by a secret ballot."

Even if the Legions do not participate, there will be 28 voting stations across Lambton County, including in, Port Lambton, Courtright, Corunna, Grand Bend, Thedford, Forest, Petrolia, Wyoming and Oil Springs for the vote this Saturday and Sunday.



**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting of  
Bluewater Power

will be held at the  
**East Lambton  
Community Complex**  
61 Centennial Avenue  
Watford, ON N0M 2S0

**Thursday, June 1, 2023 at 7:00pm**  
**In the Community Meeting Room A**


Residents of Bluewater Power's  
Shareholder Municipalities are  
invited to attend.


## PERFECT PLANTS



Gardeners were busy looking for deals during the annual Watford Horticultural Society spring plant sale in Watford Saturday.

BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

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BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Corunna 200 Committee Chair Tracy Kingston helps reveal a 200 square quilt with designs from local school children which helped to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the survey of Corunna.

## Celebrating Corunna, almost Canada’s capital

**Blake Ellis**  
Local Journalism Initiative

Corunna looked to its past on May 23, or at least what could have been, as people converged on St. George’s Square.

A large crowd assembled on there Tuesday afternoon on the 200th anniversary of the survey of the area to rededicate the monument and unveil storyboards created by the heritage committee, which tell the history of the community.

Lord William Beresford and his survey party first set foot in the area which would become Corunna in 1823. The intention was for the community to become the future capital of the united colony of Upper and Lower Canada, now Ontario and Quebec.

Of course this didn’t happen. The original survey had a diagonal street grid, which resembled the Union Jack with the 10-acre St. George’s Square converging in the middle where the parliament buildings were to be located.

The idea of the community becoming a capital was rejected because of the close proximity to the United States and needing a more central location within the colony, closer to Quebec.

It took a long time after Corunna was actually settled.

The original 1823 survey was rejected in favour of one conducted in 1837, which lays out how Corunna was eventually developed.

But on Tuesday, the community marked what might have been with the rededication of the monument marking the survey.

The event began with a march into the square by a



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Students from St. Joseph’s Catholic School in Corunna were among the three schools to sing during the dedication.

colour guard from the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447.

Kevin McLean, chaplain of the St. Clair Fire Department lead the rededication of the newly restored square. He said there are a number of ‘what ifs’ to consider if Corunna had been named Canada’s capital as originally planned. He reminded people not to “forget about the beauty of what Corunna actually is. I am honestly pretty happy it turned out the way it did,” he said. “Here is to another 200 years of not being Canada’s capital.”

Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey presented a certificate commemorating the 200th anniversary, giving his congratulations to the community. Lambton County Warden Kevin Marriott acknowledged not many people were aware Corunna was almost the capital of Canada.

St. Clair Township Mayor Jeff Agar added history defines the identity of a community and it is important to preserve it.

The event featured the voices of many school children including those from the Chippewa Daycare in Aamjiwnaang

First Nation. They sang O Canada in Ojibwa.

Aamjiwnaang Chief Chris Plain told those assembled the children singing today are the 10th generation of the Indigenous people who came across the survey party in 1823. Indigenous people have been welcoming and he gave well wishes to Corunna on behalf of the First Nation.

Students from Sir John Moore Community School sang O Canada in French, as well as presented a quilt featuring 200 squares, each made by a student, which depicts a different aspect of Corunna and its history.

Students from the Colonel Cameron Public School presented a tree, which will be planted in the square, and a number of painted stone, which were placed at the base of the monument.

St. Joseph’s Catholic School also sang a couple of songs before ending the hour-long ceremony with a final rendition of O Canada in English.

Corunna 200 Committee Chair Tracy Kingston said a family street festival is being planned for Sept. 23 to again mark the occasion of Corunna being the almost capital.

# You're Cordially Invited!

## LAMBTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2023 AT 5:00PM**  
PETROLIA LIONS HALL - 451 HUGGARD ST, PETROLIA ON

**LCDS IS LOOKING TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS  
TO JOIN OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS!**

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**[www.lcdspetrolia.ca](http://www.lcdspetrolia.ca)**, or  
call Nick Salaris at: 519-882-0933 ext.12  
or email at [nsalaris@lcds.on.ca](mailto:nsalaris@lcds.on.ca)  
**Deadline for Board applications is Friday, June 2, 2023**

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING COVID-19  
PROTOCOLS FOR OUR IN-PERSON AGM:**


Masking is optional and at the discretion of all that are attending.  
Physical distancing is recommended when possible.

# lcds

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There will capacity limits in place.  
Please RSVP to Magda Krcmarova at: [mkrmarova@lcds.on.ca](mailto:mkrmarova@lcds.on.ca)  
or (519) 882-0933 ext 10 by June 20, 2022



## This Month In Lambton

May 2023

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



Warden Kevin Marriott  
@LambtonWarden

### HHW Collection Events

Bring your household derived hazardous waste to one of the upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Day events and it will be disposed of by experts, at no cost to you!

Household Hazardous Waste Day events will be held at Clean Harbours Canada, 4090 Telfer Road, St. Clair Township from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 27, Jun. 24, Sept. 30, and Oct. 28.

**There will also be a mobile HHW event taking place at Lambton College (Parking Lot 11, 1457 London Road, Sarnia) on Saturday, June 17 from 9:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.**

Corrosive, toxic, reactive, and flammable materials will be collected at these events.

Items NOT accepted include PCBs, commercial, industrial or radioactive wastes, electronics, and explosives (flares and ammunition).

For more information visit [www.lambtononline.ca/hhw](http://www.lambtononline.ca/hhw) or call 519-845-0801.

### Lakeshore Road Closure

Lakeshore Road (County Road # 7) is closed between Aberarder Line and Hillcrest Road in the Town of Plympton-Wyoming for major rehabilitation of the Bonnie Doon Creek bridge. The work is expected to be completed by late September 2023, weather permitting.

Detours routes are posted. No through traffic is permitted during construction. Please visit [www.municipal511.ca](http://www.municipal511.ca) and [www.lambtononline.ca/roadclosures](http://www.lambtononline.ca/roadclosures) for more information.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this project.


### Looking Ahead

**9:30 a.m., June 7, 2023** – Council Meeting


**9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m., June 21, 2023** – Committee A.M. & P.M. Meetings

Agendas, minutes and links to meeting live stream videos can be found at [www.lambtononline.ca/meetings](http://www.lambtononline.ca/meetings).

To read more, go to [lambtononline.ca](http://lambtononline.ca)

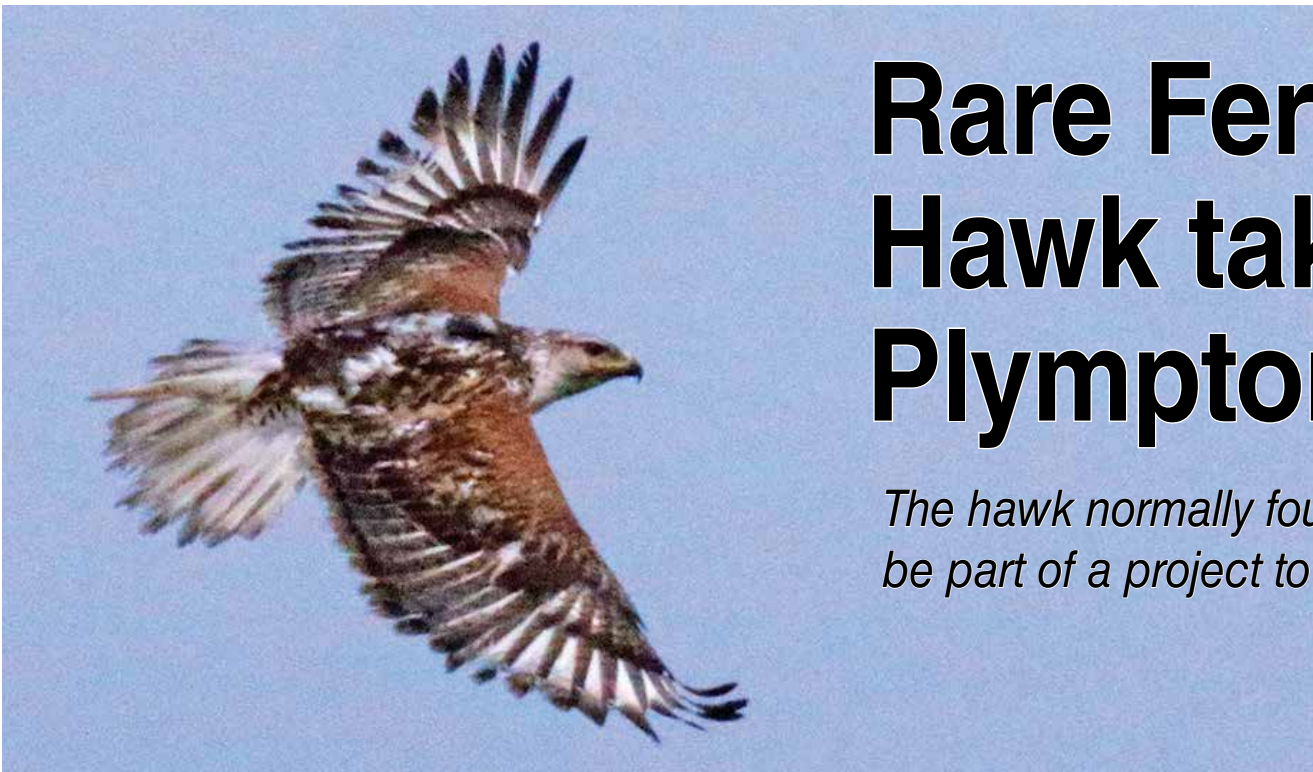


**Office of the County Warden**  
519-845-0801 | 1-866-324-6912  
[www.lambtononline.ca](http://www.lambtononline.ca)



Discoveries  
That Matter





# Rare Ferruginous Hawk takes flight in Plympton-Wyoming

*The hawk normally found in Western Canada will be part of a project to track vagrant birds*



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS

Ferruginous Hawks can be found in the prairies of Western Canada, but it is rare for the bird to be found in southern Ontario. Linn Eves of the Bluewater Raptor Rehabilitation Centre in Plympton-Wyoming got a call May 3 about a large hawk in Erieau and was surprised to find it was a Ferruginous Hawk. Eves and her team rehabilitated the bird over the course of a couple of weeks. Saturday, Birds Canada and The Hawk Cliff Raptor Banders were on hand to help place a transmitter on the bird for a vagrant bird study.

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

When Linn Eves got the call to about a hawk on the side of the road in Erieau, she had no idea how rare of a find it would be. On May 3, an Erieau resident called the Bluewater Raptor Rehabilitation Centre after seeing the bird floundering near the road. It's believed it had been hit by a car while feeding on roadkill. Samantha Ethier went to Erieau to pick up the bird, which suffered minor head trauma and leg scraps. When the hawk arrived at the Rehabilitation Centre, Eves found a hawk she had not seen before in person – a Ferruginous Hawk – which are native to the grasslands and open country of western North America mostly in Alberta and Saskatchewan in Canada. The bird, experts from Bird Canada say, had likely been blown off its migration course during a storm. Eves treated the bird with anti-inflammatory medicine, antibiotics, pain medication and medicine for stress while in captivity. Eves first thought the bird was a Rough-Legged Hawk because of the feathering right to the bottom of the feet – but its feet were too large and the head was different. Eves went to her books and “felt I had a bird that didn’t blown and

was a long way from home.” Eves confirmed her belief it was a Ferruginous Hawk with by sharing pictures with the Hawk Cliff Raptor Banders. Word of the rare bird in Ontario spread and soon the The Hawk Cliff Raptor Banders and Birds Canada began to coordinate a potential tracking project for the bird. Tracking rehabilitated birds, especially lost ones, is long-term study, according to Stu Mackenzie with Birds Canada. He’s been tracking everything from songbirds to white wing doves to Blue Buntings and now a hawk in the vagrant birds tracking project. Mackenzie and Ernesto Carman from Birds Canada and Charlie Fowler and Cyril Cocker from the Hawk Cliff Raptor Banders arrived at the Bluewater Centre early Saturday morning. Fowler and Eves quietly entered the enclosure where the Ferruginous Hawk had been making its home since early May and captured the bird using a large fishing net. Fowler quickly took hold of the bird’s dangerous talons used to rip apart the small animals – rabbits and groundhogs – the hawk feeds on. Eves and Fowler emerged from the enclosure with the hawk under a towel to keep it calm, Fowler was still holding tight to the legs of the hawk as they brought it

inside to be examined. The female hawk was likely two years old, Fowler and Cocker estimated as they careful measured and banded the hawk’s leg. Using a field guide, they stretched out the Ferruginous Hawk’s wings to see if the markings matched. The bird, poked its head from the towel as men worked in the quiet room. Next, the odd ritual of weighing the bird. Fowler and Eves carefully placed the hawk on a towel and rolled the bird up like a burrito. The towel was then placed into a tube and on the scale. The young bird, who wasn’t able to catch its usual prey for dinner, was a little lighter than it should be, about 1.8 kg, but still in the healthy range. The Ferruginous Hawk seemed calm through the process, but when it came time to take it out of the tube and towel, the hawk chomped down on Fowler’s finger. Eves found a band aid and the next phase of the project continued. Mackenzie and Carman had brought a small transmitter that needed to be tied to the hawk so its movements could be tracked. The men, with Fowler still holding the hawk’s talons fast, worked quietly and gently to attach the black box about the size of a matchbox. Mackenzie says the transmitter – with solar panels on top to keep it active as long as the hawk lives

– will start to answer some of the mysteries of why birds get lost. “Why do they get lost? Do they survive when they’re lost? Do they survive after rehabilitation? Where do they go after being lost? Will find its way home? Or is it permanently stuck in the East? It’s unique situations like this that allow us to start to answer those types of questions,” says Mackenzie, moving the hawks feathers to cover the thin rope which will hold the transmitter as it travels. “By studying the misfits, you can learn a lot about them all. And particularly its interesting with the misfits just because they do garner so much interest and attention in the birding and conservation community...It’s mostly a question of scientific interest; why birds vagrate to begin with and do they survive? Do they find their way home?” “It’s rare that you can get your hands on a bird like this,” adds Eves. “A birder might see it but then its gone.” With the transmitter carefully attached, it was time for the Ferruginous Hawk to return to the wild. The small group made its way outside to a large grassy area at the centre. A few volunteers and supporters of Eves rehabilitation efforts had gathered to get a look at the rare bird and watch it fly off

to its next adventure. After a few photos, Fowler tossed the hawk skyward. But, it wasn’t ready to fly. The bird feeling of the transmitter on its back, lay in the grass – talons out – in attack mode. Mackenzie walked toward the bird and put his jacket over the birds legs and began picking it up. The Ferruginous Hawk took a couple of good chomps at his hand and was quickly covered up and returned to the enclosure. Eves would give it time before trying again. In the privacy of the enclosure, the hawk learned to fly around with the foreign object on its back. That’s when Eves knew it was time for another try. Around 11 am, with only a few people watching, Eves emerged from the enclosure with the Ferruginous Hawk under a towel. As she prepared to release it, the bird spread its massive wings and began to take flight and then landed on the ground again. It got its bearings and then, with a little prompting from Eves, flew off to perch in a tree nearby. Mackenzie will monitor its movements and wonders where it will end up. “The bird may not go anywhere for some time, it may make big movements, or it may wait until fall migration to depart south for the winter. It may also have difficulty surviving, but we of course hope that’s not the case.”



# Alvinston subdivision given green light by Lambton

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

A new subdivision in Alvinston has been given the green light. Lambton County planning officials approved the draft plan for the 60-unit development May 17. Steve and Deb Durham are behind the first major subdivision in the community in several decades. It will have 32 single family homes, 14 semis and two seven-unit townhouses on the 12 acre parcel. The original plan had more semi detached homes and townhouses but Durham changed course since most subdivisions in the area have at least

50 per cent single family homes. There is also park included in the subdivision. This subdivision is one of the first in Lambton to be approved after the changes made to several planning bodies in the Build More Homes Faster Act. It is the first time in Brooke-Alvinston that county planning officials give the final approval for the draft plan of subdivision. The developer will still have to meet the municipality’s specifications for roads and prepare a construction management plan for Brooke-Alvinston. It’s also the first time neighbours will

not be able to appeal the project. In the past, anyone who had spoken at a planning meeting could go to the Ontario Land Tribunal to oppose the approval. Now, according the decision signed by Ken Melanson, the subdivision and condominium approval authority in Lambton, the Durhams as the subdividers, any public bodies who spoke to the subdivision plans, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, or Brooke-Alvinston may appeal the conditions of subdivision. The last day to appeal the subdivision draft plan is June 6. The Durhams have said it is likely construction of homes will begin in 2024.



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Observers, such as fire chiefs and industry leaders, watched an emergency training exercise at Suncor’s Ethanol Plant as it happened, with the help of drones.

## Emergency exercise tests firefighter teamwork

**Blake Ellis**  
Local Journalism Initiative

Fire crews from St. Clair, Sarnia and Point Edward and industrial fire crews from Suncor, Shell, Imperial Oil and NOVA Chemicals were all working together Wednesday at the St. Clair Ethanol Plant. It wasn’t a true emergency; it was a simulation of a spill at the plant where

fire crews needed to suppress vapours with foam. The Bluewater Association for Safety, Environment and Sustainability or BASES, headed up the emergency simulation. Many of the partners organization were in the St. Clair Township Council Chamber to view the simulation as it happened with the use of drones. St. Clair Township Fire Chief Richard

Boyes and BASES General Manager Jason Vaillant walked the people watching through the fire crews movements as they happened. Boyes said if the simulation was taking place in real time, it would take over eight hours to contain instead of the less than 90 minutes the simulation took.

•THE INDEPENDENT

## Lambton fire departments to be dispatched from Sarnia

The Independent

Firefighters across Lambton County will soon be paged by Sarnia Police. Volunteer departments are switching to Sarnia dispatching after decades of using a service based in Wallaceburg. Recently, Wallaceburg dispatch has told volunteer departments it would providing only basic services which were in the original contract. But many departments are looking for more including having a dispatcher available the entire fire call to contact utilities and other emergency responders when necessary. Lambton Shores first went to Sarnia Police - which already provides dispatching for the city fire department

- to see if it would consider providing the service at a fee for Lambton Shores. St. Clair Township was next in line. Both municipalities now have signed agreements with Sarnia. Recently, Dawn-Euphemia moved ahead to transfer its dispatching services as well. Chief Don Ewing says Sarnia has four to five dispatchers available at any time and one is dedicated to fire departments. The other dispatchers will be able to



**Don Ewing**

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*The Town Of*  
**PLYMPTON-WYOMING**

**2023 Wyoming Public Cemetery Decoration Day**  
**June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 2:00 p.m.**  
**Wyoming Public Cemetery, 450 Isabella Street**  
*In the event of inclement weather, the service will be held at:*  
**Wyoming Legion, 493 Erie Street**

*Additional details can be found on the Town's website at:*  
**[www.plympton-wyoming.com/en/my-plympton-wyoming/cemeteries.aspx#Annual-Decoration-Day](http://www.plympton-wyoming.com/en/my-plympton-wyoming/cemeteries.aspx#Annual-Decoration-Day)**

# Watford 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner

**Sunday, June 25, 2023**  
**4:30 p.m. Social ~ 5:30 p.m. Dinner**  
East Lambton Community Complex - Lambton Mutual Hall

**Dress in attire from your favourite decade/era and capture this milestone in our photo booth.**  
*\*Each attendee will receive a free commemorative gift.*

Meal to be catered by: **Lizzy's**  
Country Cafe & Catering

**Tickets: \$45 per person**  
Single tickets available for purchase at Township of Warwick Municipal Office and Wilson's Shell Gas Station

**Purchase a table by calling 226-848-3926 or emailing: [watford150th@outlook.com](mailto:watford150th@outlook.com)**  
**\*AGE OF MAJORITY ONLY\***



# Lambton pushes to meet licensed day care needs

Blake Ellis  
Local Journalism Initiative

Lambton County’s licensed daycare organizations are looking for recruits. They recently held an information night in Petrolia, hoping to convince people to start their own home business in the field.

Recently, the federal and provincial government signed a child care agreement which will include 67 new spaces in Petrolia and Wyoming. The problem is there is not enough time nor money, county officials say, to build dedicated daycares by 2025.

So, the county hosted an information night May 16 to provide details of what it takes to start a licensed home day care. There were 20 people who attended the information night at Lambton Central Collegiate Vocational Institute.

Melissa Fitzpatrick, manager of children services at Lambton County,

said Petrolia parents have a 16 percent chance of getting licensed child care for children under five years of age. The goal is for this number to rise to 35 to 40 percent, once more childcare spaces are added.

Executive Director Lori Veroude of Lambton Rural Childcare said it takes between four and six weeks to open up a licensed home day care. It takes approximately 18 months to open a dedicated childcare centre. By encouraging more people to open more licensed home day cares, it might be a faster way to meet the need.

Two childcare agencies were involved in the presentation, Lambton Rural Childcare and Wee Watch. The steps to becoming a licensed home day care involve having a home visit, doing a reference and criminal reference check and a Children’s Aid Society screening. There will be a fire inspection of the home, a inspection by public health and a home occupation

permit.

The Town of the Petrolia recently has waived the fee for a home occupation permit for anyone wanted to open a licensed home day care.

There must be immunization and tuberculosis tests and rabies test for any pets. A day care operator must also have a first aid/CPR-C certificate as well as proof of home and auto insurance, before a contract can be provided by the agency.

One of the benefits of having a licensed home day care is six children can be looked after in the day care, compared to only five for a non-licensed home day care. Among those children at each type of day care there can only be three children under the age of two.

While the county urges people to open in home day cares, the Petrolia Child Care Advocacy Group has been asking the town to investigate setting up its own day care centre.

# Wyoming students to help the planet with school garden

Blake Ellis  
Local Journalism Initiative

The Grade 1 and 2 students in Katie Haggart’s class have been creating a special garden at Holy Rosary Catholic School in Wyoming.

It is one of Climate Action Sarnia-Lambton’s projects.

The primary students, with help from students in the Grade 7/8 class were taught how to dig a hole and how deep it should be if something is going to be planted.

They learned about the various aspects of gardening from the soil, the plants and the bugs.

“The kids did the labour,” said Haggart.

For many of the students this is the first time they had started a garden from scratch.

There was some mentoring as well, as the older students had the opportunity to help the younger ones.

“I am very proud of them,” said Haggart of her students.

Holy Rosary Catholic School partnered with the Climate Action Sarnia-Lambton.

This is not Climate Action Sarnia-Lambton’s only project in Wyoming. The organization has partnered with the Township of Plympton-Wyoming to transform Wilpstra Park on Erie Street into an urban forest.

There were approximately 45 people to plant trees in the park in the morning of Saturday, May 13.

Everlea Watson and her grandpa, Andy, plant a tree in the Holy Rosary Garden.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## CHILLY OPENING DAY



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

It was a little chilly as Bertha-Rose Park walked through the Petrolia Farmers’ Market on its opening day May 21, adjusting her coat against the cool breeze. The market marks its grand opening Saturday with a barbecue and special music.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE OF OPEN HOUSE AND STATUTORY PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Re: OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE**  
This notice published on May 23, 2023.



**THE PURPOSE OF THE OPEN HOUSE:**  
The Council of the Town of Petrolia will hold an Open House, pursuant to Section 17(16) of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, as amended, and a Statutory Public Meeting, pursuant to Section 17(15) of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, as amended, for the purposes of discussing the revisions that are being proposed as part of the update to the Town’s Official Plan.

**1. The *Open House* will be held as follows:**  
**DATE:** MONDAY JUNE 5TH, 2023  
**TIME:** 5:00 P.M.  
**LOCATION:** VICTORIA HALL LOBBY  
411 Greenfield Street | Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0

**2. The *Statutory Public Meeting* will be held as follows:**  
**DATE:** TUESDAY JUNE 13TH, 2023  
**TIME:** 5:00 P.M.  
**LOCATION:** COUNCIL CHAMBERS, VICTORIA HALL  
411 Greenfield Street | Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0

**THE OPEN HOUSE AND STATUTORY PUBLIC MEETING** are intended to discuss the revisions that are proposed to the Town’s Official Plan. It is intended to provide an opportunity for the public and Town Council to offer comments and ask questions regarding any issue or matter that is included in the draft Official Plan Amendment.

**BACKGROUND ON THE OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW**  
The Town of Petrolia Official Plan outlines the Town’s goals, objectives, and policies primarily used to support growth, economic development, and building Petrolia’s future. The Plan also establishes a framework for managing the effects of growth on the social, economic and natural environment of the Town. The existing Official Plan was adopted by Town Council in 1999 and subsequently updated in 2016.

The Planning Act requires that an Official Plan be updated to ensure that it: conforms with provincial plans or does not conflict with them; has regard to matters of provincial interest; is consistent with provincial policy statements; and addresses recent legislative changes. Taking into account the timing of the approval of the Official Plan in 2016, the introduction of a 2020 Provincial Policy Statement, the approval of the County of Lambton Official Plan by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in 2018 and amendments to the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, the Town has initiated a comprehensive update to its Official Plan.

**SUBJECT LANDS**  
The update to the Official Plan will affect all lands within the municipal boundary of the Town of Petrolia. Accordingly, no key map is provided.

**DRAFT OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 8**  
The Town of Petrolia, the County of Lambton, and NPG Planning Solutions Inc. have completed a 5-year review of the Official Plan for the Town. The draft Official Plan Amendment (OPA) No. 8 is intended to shape policy and land-use across Petrolia up to the year 2046, with public input gathered throughout the process critical in identifying priorities such as housing, economy, natural heritage and more.

The Town’s draft Official Plan Amendment and the associated mapping and supporting documents may be viewed on the Town’s Website at [www.petrolia.ca](http://www.petrolia.ca)

**YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT:**  
Any person may attend the Open House, the Statutory Public Meeting and/or provide written or a verbal representation. If you are unable to attend the meetings, you may provide written comments to the Clerks Department at [clerksdepartment@petrolia.ca](mailto:clerksdepartment@petrolia.ca) or by submitting to the below address:  
MAIL: Town of Petrolia | 411 Greenfield Street | Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0  
on/or before:  
**Open House:** June 5th, 2023  
**Statutory Public Meeting:** June 13th, 2023

Copies of the agenda for the Open House and Statutory Public Meeting, including the presentation and any attachments, will be available online the dates listed below by visiting <https://petrolia.civicweb.net/Portal/>  
**Open House:** Friday, June 2, 2023.  
**Statutory Public Meeting:** Friday, June 9, 2023

Dated this 23rd day of May, 2023 at the Town of Petrolia, County of Lambton  
**Mandi Pearson**  
Clerk/Operations Clerk  
Town of Petrolia

**NOTICE OF COLLECTION** Personal information collected as a result of this public meeting is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA), the Planning Act, and all other relevant legislation, and will be used to assist in making a decision on this matter. All personal information (as defined by MFIPPA), including (but not limited to) names, addresses, opinions and comments collected will be made available for public disclosure to members of the public, at the meeting, through requests, and through the website of the Corporation of the Town of Petrolia. Questions regarding the collection, use, and disclosure of this personal information may be directed to the Clerks Department at [clerksdepartment@petrolia.ca](mailto:clerksdepartment@petrolia.ca) or by calling 519-882-2350



## Leader’s Twitter feed prompts Warwick review

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

Warwick Township has launched a review of comments posted by a township employee. Mayor Todd Case says the township was asked by a media outlet about a post on the personal Twitter feed of Warwick Fire Chief Brad Goodhill in mid-May. He

had shared a post that said transgenderism is a mental illness. Goodhill’s Twitter feed at that time noted he was the fire chief in the municipality. He has since removed his title from the social media feed. CAO Amanda Gubbels says an internal review is underway. “We do have a number of policies that are related,

including a social media policy. And so that’s one of the things that will be reviewed.” That policy, which applies to media sites managed by the township, prohibits a number of things including comments which could foster discrimination. Gubbels could not say how long the review would take.

## Alvinston woman paddles in international event

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

Nell Thomas and Cheryl Sinclair will never forget the feeling of winning at the International Dragon Boat Festival. The women joined others from the Lambton-Kent Breast Buddies on a composite team with the London Robust Team at the event in New Zealand in early April. Nearly 2,300 women from 18 different countries participated in the weather-plagued event. Originally, the Robust team was expecting to race six times, but high winds forced organizers to cut the competition short and Thomas, from Thamesville, and her crew, which included Sinclair from Alvinston, were in the water three times. They placed first in the second race. Thomas says that was a feeling like no other. “The whole

other Robust team is there waiting for us cheering us saying ‘you guys are so awesome.’ And my husband was standing there giving me a high five. I know he was crying - he had tears running down his face. He says ‘you guys were unbelievable.’ I know the team was so high at that - to know that we had done everything right.” Sinclair agreed as she sat with Thomas reliving the experience, eyes lighting up with excitement recounting the fast start the crew had and the “whoosh” as the dragon boat took flight.” The thrill of winning wasn’t the only feeling which stuck with the pair - they also were in awe of being part of such a large event with women who had battled breast cancer, just like they had. “I’m thinking ‘okay, all these women have all gone through this And this is just such a tiny,

group compared to if you want to look worldwide to the women that have gone through this. So, to me it was, I can’t think of another word other than mind boggling.” And it made Thomas glad she took up the offer to join the Breast Buddies and get into the dragon boat for the first time several years ago. She says just being with a group of women who have experienced the same thing gives you strength. “You realize you’re not alone. It just makes you stronger. And you always want to fight harder.” Thomas and Sinclair say while not everyone can attend an international dragon boat event, there is always more space on the Breast Buddies boat for breast cancer survivors in Lambton-Kent. If you would like to join the group you can contact Sinclair at 519-350-

## CELEBRATING 100



PHOTO CREDIT

He finally caught up to his wife. It’s a phrase Orvie Burkhart repeats every year when he celebrates his birthday May 11. This year it took on special meaning since both he and his wife, Naomi, both turned 100. Burkhart was born during a snowstorm but this year it was warm enough to celebrate with ice cream at their home in Lambton Meadowview Villa.

## Lambton science students win top honours nationally and internationally

Four Lambton County students have won big at national and international science competition. Safia Deol won a Senior Gold, the Health and Wellness Challenge Award, the Sanofi Biogenus

Award and the Youth Can Innovate Award. Cynthia Rayson and Riley Edmunds each won Silver Awards in the junior category. At the 2023 Regeneron

International Science and Engineering Fair – the world’s largest pre-college STEM competition – in Dallas on May 14-19, Annabelle Rayson won fourth place in the Environment

Category and a special China Association for Science and Technology award given to the projects that best reflect the originality and innovation of the students’ work in all scientific

disciplines. All four winners are alumni of the Lambton County Science Fair.



Waste Management  
**Twin Creeks Environmental Centre**  
Warwick Public Liaison Committee (WPLC)

### NOTICE OF WPLC MEETING

The next WPLC Meeting will be held:  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023  
**Time:** 6 p.m. Meeting  
**Place:** Twin Creeks-Office Boardroom

Please RSVP to:  
amclachl@wm.com

# ALVINSTON PRO RODEO

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# Sports

## Shaw, Grant lead Lancers to LK track title

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Charlie Shaw and James Grant both won top honours this week at the Lambton Kent High School Track and Field Championships in Chatham. Shaw was named male athlete of the meet in the boys’ senior division while Grant was named likewise in the boys’ novice.

It was the icing on the cake of meet which saw LCCVI won the LKSSAA AA crown. Shaw led LCCVI’s men’s Senior team at the LKSSAA track meet winning three track events.

Shaw took the Men’s 400m with a time of 52.24 and the 800 meter with a time of 1.59.13 – just six seconds off the LKSSAA record. Shaw also won the 1500m with a time of 4:07.99.

Grant also won three events in the Novice division. He claimed the 400m with a time of 56.74 over a second ahead of Haiden Robinson from St. Pats. Grant also claimed first in the 800m an impressive 12 seconds ahead of Haiden Robinson in the event and the 1,500 race in a time of 4:35.11, 26 seconds ahead of the competition.

Hunter Duncan topped two of the Junior division races. He placed first in the 400m with a time of 53.97, nudging out DJ Destang-Phillip of Ursuline College in Chatham by 0.03 seconds. Duncan won the 300m hurdles with a time of 44.88. He was second in the 200 m dash.

Both the Novice and the Senior Men’s teams won their division title. Over 20 other athletes had top three finishes at the two-day event in Chatham.

In the Senior Division Tyler McGrail captured the LK Triple Jump title with a best jump of 12.09m and had a jump of 5.76m, good for second in the Senior Men’s Long Jump.

The LCCVI Senior Girls A team won the 4x100 m relay with a time of 52.48 s. The Men’s A team won the 4.400 m relay with a time of 3.39.03 and placed third in the 4x1100m with a time of



STEVE MCGRAIL PHOTO

LCCVI’s took the Senior Mens AA crown at the Lambton-Kent track meet. The group is participating in SWOSSA this week.

47.35.

Jace McGrail claimed second in the 110 hurdles with a time of 17.33 and second in the 400 m with a time of 1:05.32.

Abby Wallace won the Javelin with a throw of 28.15m. LCCVI’s Rayah Bressette placed third with a throw of 25.22m

Sophia Sayers came with in a breath of winning the 100 m. Sayers was just 0.02 seconds behind Libby Bernard of CKSS with a time of 13.24.

Kaiya Greydanus placed third in the 200 m with a time of 28.39 and third in the 100 m hurdles with a time of 16.09.

Jack Helps took home second in Men’s Javelin with a throw of 41.60m. Tristan Nemcek placed third.

Pavla Gerrits came in third with a 1.45m leap in high jump.

In the Junior Division Hunter Campbell won the Discus event with a throw of 49.58 meters – 15 meters ahead of the nearest competitor. He also claimed second with a toss of 12.81 m. Mitchell Pegg of LKCS in Dresden won with a throw of 13.58.

Katelyn Nicholson took second in high jump with a leap of 1.37m and third in the 80 m hurdles with a time of 14.04

Jackson Maniuk placed third in triple jump with a best leap of 10.07.

Regan Jacklin took third in Women’s shot put with a toss of 9.00m.

Hannah Daniel took second in the Javelin with a throw of 25.06m.

The Junior Men’s team also took third in the 4x100 m relay with a time of 48.62.

In the Novice Division: Hunter Mitchell won the 100m hurdles with a time of 16.08s and the 300m hurdles with a time of 45.50 s. He also placed second in the Novice 100m with a time of 11.95s, one second behind Wyatt Cross of LKCS.

Lucas Poland came first in qualifying and third in the final of the 200m with a time of 24.82, Wyatt Cross was first from LKCS.

Novice men won the 4x100 m relay with a time of 48.24. The Women’s B team placed fourth.

Elsie Wellington came in third in the Women’s 1500 with a time of 5:37.28 and third in the 3000m with a time of 12.19.54.

Matthew Shih placed third in the high jump finishing with 1.50 m. Shih placed fourth in the long jump with a best jump of 4.86.

Marnia Sawyer came in third in the Long jump with a best jump of 4.20m.

Chloe Reid placed second in the Women’s Triple jump with a leap of 9.05 m.

Shelby Hewitt placed third in the Novice Women’s Shot Put with a throw of 7.41m.

In the Novice Women’s discus, Keria Anjema placed third with a throw of 19.92m.

The winners are competing at SWOSSAA May 24 at the University of Windsor.

## Petes best Hunter, Knights in OHL final

Barry Wright  
The Independent

Oil Springs’ Dale Hunter and his London Knights will not represent the Ontario Hockey League at the 2023 Memorial Cup hockey tournament. Instead, that honour will go to the Peterborough Petes. The Petes edged the Knights, 2-1 in Peterborough on Sunday night to capture the league championship in six games.

It was Peterborough’s tenth league title and first since 2006. London’s staff also includes General Manager Mark Hunter and assistant coaches Dylan Hunter (Dale’s son) and Rick Steadman of Oil Springs.

At least one local family will be cheering on the Petes when they open the tournament against the Seattle Thunderbirds Saturday afternoon. Lambton Jr. Sting grad Jace McGrail of Wyoming was drafted by

Peterborough in the 2021 OHL Priority Selection and plans on attending Petes training camp this again this fall. The 18 year-old rearguard played the past season with the GOJHL’s Sarnia Legionnaires.

The four-team competition also includes the QMJHL champion Quebec City Remparts, coached by four-time Stanley Cup champion Patrick Roy, and the host Kamloops Blazers.

## Petrolia Raiders home opener Saturday at Morrison Park

The Petrolia Raiders play host to the Corunna Giants Saturday for P-town’s home opener in the Western Counties Senior Baseball League.

The Giants rallied for a

9-8 win over the Raiders in the league opener May 20 in Courtright. Petrolia fell 8-0 to the Cattlebarons in Wyoming on Victoria Day.

Elsewhere, Wyoming takes

on the Giants in Courtright on May 24 at 6:30 before the Cattlebarons return home to entertain the Port Lambton 22U squad on Friday night at 7:30 at Canton Park.

# THANK YOU

for making the May 20th Picnic In The Park in Wyoming a **huge success!!**

**the FUN CONTINUES on JUNE 3...**

**Picnic In The Park**

11am-3pm

Lakeshore Park, Camlachie PlymptonWyomingEvents

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## TOP TIPS FOR EXERCISING AT HOME

With the warmer months around the corner, many are taking advantage of the outdoors to practice yoga, run, cycle, weight lift, and perform other exercises to stay mentally and physically fit. However, this may increase risk of injury if not conducted properly. **Here are some things to consider:**



- FOOTWEAR**

Make sure your choice of footwear is tailored to the type of exercise you’re doing to prevent slips and falls. You should either be wearing shoes or be barefoot if you’re using a mat.
- SPACE**

Make sure the space around you is clear of things you can trip on, such as toys.
- PROPS**

Use proper household items to substitute for weights and dumbbells, such as a water or laundry jug. Stools and chairs: If using a stool or chair to support your workout, make sure that it is stable and has a wide base of support.
- STOOLS AND CHAIRS**

If using a stool or chair to support your workout, make sure that it is stable and has a wide base of support.

[www.lambtonchiropractic.ca](http://www.lambtonchiropractic.ca)  
**Lambton Chiropractic Centre**

431 King Street, Petrolia  
**519-882-1880**

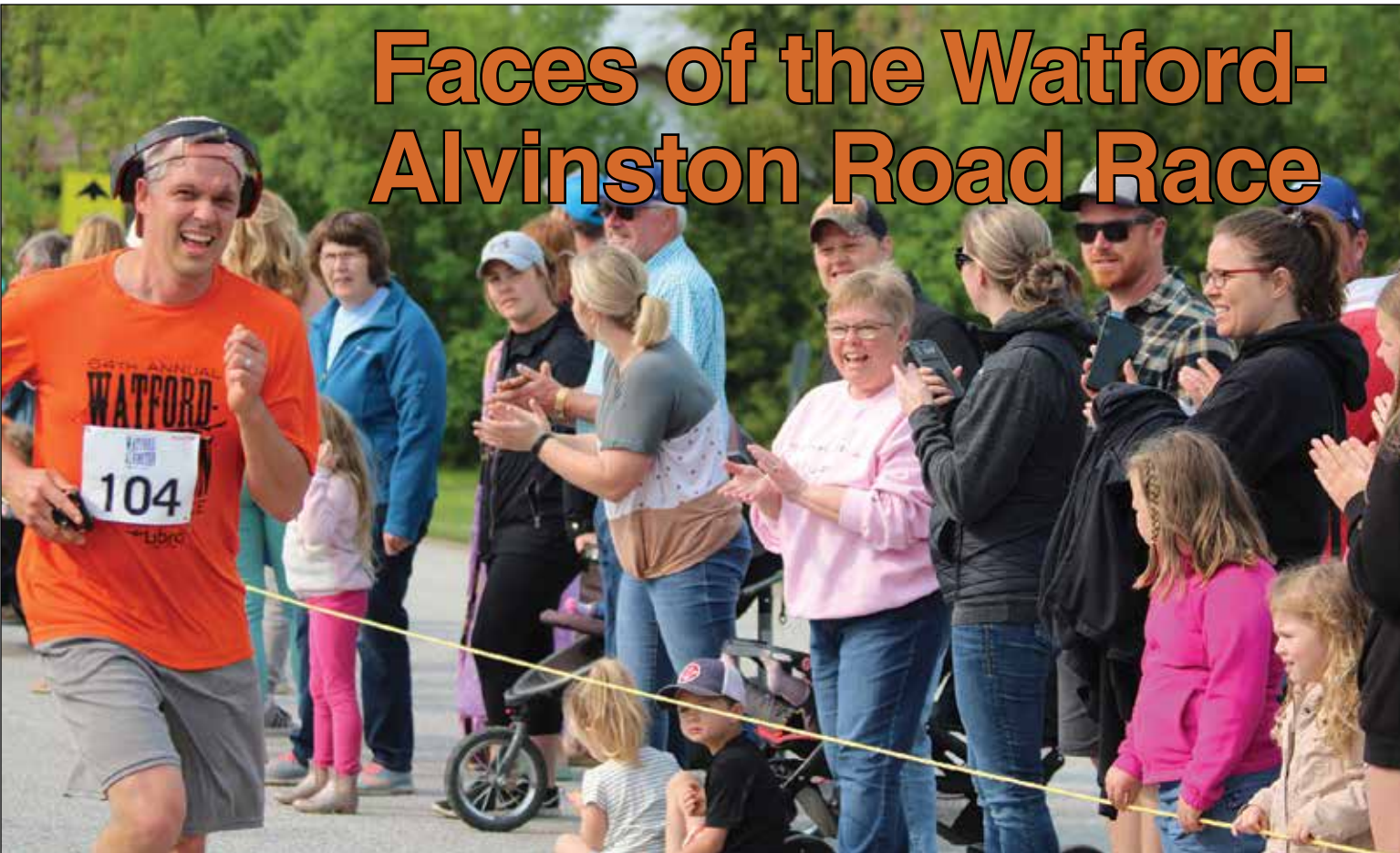
Dr.Storozuk

Dr.Martyniuk



# Sports

## Faces of the Watford-Alvinston Road Race



Over 300 people donned their running shoes to take part in the 64th annual Watford-Alvinston Road Race Victoria Day hosted by the Watford Optimists. They started in Alvinston at the local arena, bottom, and made it to the Watford finish line as friends and family cheered them on.

## Race celebrates the winners, historic tradition

**Blake Ellis**  
Local Journalism Initiative

There was a focus on history during the Watford-Alvinston Road Race Victoria Day. And one of Alvinston’s favourite daughters took her place on the top of the podium again. Shawn Masters goes into the record books as the first to cross the line at the 64th annual race with a time of 58:18 minutes and Olympian Krista DuChene was the first woman crossing the line with a time of

1:07:46. Duchene is grew up in Alvinston said it was great to be back in her hometown to participate in this year’s event. DuChene - who has retired from Olympic level competition, remembers one little boy telling her, he thought Olympians only came from large cities, and she was proud to correct him and tell him she came from the small town of Alvinston. Cameron Finch won first in the eight kilometre race with a time of 30:09 minutes with Jackie Stanton being the first woman to

cross the finish line with 34:08 minutes. A lot of history was apart of this year’s race. Minnie Scholton Grozelle and Mary Scholton Janzen, the first women to run the race were in attendance. Co-Chair Jan Joosten passed away May 4 and he was honoured during the event. Hylke Van Der Wal was the first to claim top prize in the Watford-Alvinston Road Race back in 1958. He went on to win in the third and the seventh year of the race.

SEE WATFORD PG 13

BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTOS  
Eric Hogervorst (left) of Watford strains to make it the last few feet as he ran in the eight kilometre portion of the Watford Alvinston Road Race on Monday morning. Faces were strained and muscles ached as runners finally saw the finish line. Among them were Alex Nemcek of Watford (516), Tom Doan of London (464), Peter Kerrigan of Plympton-Wyoming (478), Lisa Richards (151) and Vanessa Richards (58), and Cindy Unternahrer of Sarnia (507).





# Sports

## Watford-Alvinston Road Race draws over 300 runners including first winner



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO  
Olympian Krista DuChene, who was the first woman across the line, speaks to the crowd in Watford.

### CON'T FROM PG 12

Now residing in Saskatchewan, the 85 year-old man still returns to participate in the race and is the oldest runner in the race.

“I will finish it whether I will be jogging or hobbling,” said Van Der Wal, who will complete the eight kilometre portion of the race.

Van Der Wal started running as a young boy when his family first immigrated to Canada. He attended Forest High School and would run from his home on Jericho Road to school. He would later represent Canada in track at the junior level before graduating from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. He was the National Association of Intercollegiate

Athletics Steeplechase champion in 1962 and the helped the University of Nebraska Antelope finishes third as a team, the school’s highest finish ever.

Van Der Wal held several college records including the indoor 800 metre run with a time of 1:53.6 minutes and the outdoor 1,500 metre run with 3:52.6 minutes. He also competed at the trials for the British Empire Games in 1962. He set a record in San Francisco at the Cow Palace, running the one mile steeplechase finishing the race at 4:25.05 at the Golden Gate indoor track meet in 1964. He hitched hiked to San Francisco from Ontario to compete. He was also named

the Master Athlete of the Year in Saskatchewan in 2010.

“Anything I got in my head, I did,” said Van Der Wal. “I just love running .”

This is why he continues to travel back to Lambton County each Victoria Day weekend to compete in the Watford-Alvinston Road Race.

The idea of the Watford-Alvinston Road Race began in a peculiar place, the Watford Armoury Lounge during a Saturday night poker game.

Lorne Smith said he had been practising his running skills and declared he could be beat anyone in the room.

This claim was soon challenged

by Ray Acton and Tony Concovy. Bill Dolbear was also at the poker game and would go on to an organizer and member of the race committee for many years.

It was decided the distance of 10 miles between Alvinston and Watford would be needed to settle the argument.

Victoria Day was chosen as the day of the race. The first route was from Piggy Tail Alley, just north of Alvinston, finishing at the Watford Post Office.

Van Der Wal was invited to participate and won that first race.

And while Smith couldn’t win the race as he’d boasted, his claim started what has become a community tradition.

## Aces open with three Ws

The Independent

The Alvinston Aces are 3-0 in Southwest Middlesex Fastball League action following a 12-1 romp over the Thrashers in Charing Cross last week. Alvinston has only surrendered two runs over the early part of the 2023 campaign while scoring 32 times.

The Aces are at home to Fingal Thursday night in

Alvinston at 8 pm and travel to Delaware on Friday at 8:30.

The Aces are also preparing for the ISC Canada East qualifier in Mitchell on Father’s Day weekend. Alvinston opens against the Niagara Snappers on Friday, June 16 at 9 pm.



## Eleven scoreless innings for Hecimovich

The Independent

Brett Hecimovich was on fire for the final month of the season for the Kanakakee Cavaliers junior college baseball squad. The lanky right-hander went three scoreless innings in a season-ending 5-3 loss in the NJCAA Region 4 tournament late last week. Over the last month of the season, the Petrolia native pitched 11.1 innings of scoreless relief, allowing only six hits and three walks while striking out 14 batters.

He had 22 appearances during the season registering three wins and six saves.

The Cavs ended the season with a 34-22 record.

## Vanos advances to NCAA regionals for Hammer Throw

The Independent

Johnny Vanos is in the toughest flight this week in the men’s hammer throw competition at the NCAA East regional track and field championships in Jacksonville, Florida. The Purdue graduate student from Forest is ranked 14th of 48 competitors with a season-high throw of 66.32 metres.



The top 12 will qualify for the NCAA national championships in Austin, Texas early next month. Vanos and his group competes Wednesday.



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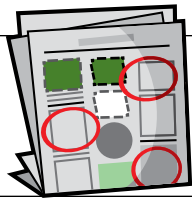
<b>DAWN-EUPHEMIA</b> <i>Dawn Twp Community Park</i> Rutherford	<b>ENNISKILLEN</b> <i>Krall Park</i> Corner Oil Heritage Rd / Shiloh Line	<b>PETROLIA</b> <i>Petrolia Food Bank</i> 4156 Petrolia Line - Rear
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Monday @ 12 noon

# Classifieds



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

May 15 - May 23 , 2023

MONDAY, MAY 15

**CALLANDER, June**

Age: 90  
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

**SIMRAK, Janko "John"**

Age: 85  
McKenzie Blundy Funeral Home

**BULSZA, Henry "Hal"**

Age: 77  
Smith Funeral Home

TUESDAY, MAY 16

**MANDOKA, Cathryn May**

Age: 71  
Denning's Funeral Home

**SMITH, David R.**

Age: 66  
Van Heck Funeral Home

**MEREDITH, Jill (Buller)**

Age: 83  
Badder Funeral Home

**RAHN, Erwin W.**

Age: 58, of Dresden  
Badder Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

**ROBINSON, Philip**

Age: 65, of Corunna  
Knight Funeral Home

**GREENFIELD, Lawrence**

**"Larry"**  
Age: 80  
McCormack Funeral Home

**WORSLEY, Michael Edward**

Age: 67  
Smith Funeral Home

**MCKENZIE, Lois Lee**

Age: 71  
Smith Funeral Home

**NASSIOKAS, Telemahos "Tim"**

Age: 80  
Smith Funeral Home

THURSDAY, MAY 18

**SLATER, Corrinne Mildred**

**(Beggs)**  
Age: 74, of Chatham  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

**IACOBELLI, Gino Orlando**

Age: 85  
Smith Funeral Home

FRIDAY, MAY 19

**FREEMAN, Mark Douglas**

Age: 60  
Smith Funeral Home

**ARMSTRONG, David James**

Age: 89  
Smith Funeral Home

SATURDAY, MAY 20

**BEECHER, Leslie, Arnold**

**"Arn"**  
Age: 87  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

SUNDAY, MAY 21

**PROUSE, Frances Wilma**

**(McKellar)**  
Age: 80, of Mooretown  
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

**MURRAY, Amy**

Age: 99  
Knight Funeral Home

**BASTIAANSEN, Bill**

Age: 78  
Denning's Funeral Home

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

### Memoriam



In Memory of  
**William  
&  
Ethel  
BRIDEKIRK**

Loving parents &  
devoted grandparents



Forever in Our Hearts

**Sandi, Marie and  
Grandchildren**

In Loving Memory of

## Peter Hyatt

Who passed May 28th, 2013

*Your Life was a blessing*  
*Your memories a treasure*  
*You are loved beyond words*  
*You are loved beyond measure*

**Cherished memories are in our hearts forever.  
Lovingly remembered by all of us who loved him.**

### Obituary



**CALLANDER**  
**Delores June**

Peacefully, surrounded by family on **Monday, May 15, 2023** at C.E.E. Hospital of Bluewater Health, Petrolia, Delores June Callander passed away at the **age of 90**. June was the wife to the late Keith Callander for 50 years. She will be lovingly remembered by her daughters, Coreen (Guy) Wilkinson, Brenda (Eugene) Evans, and Karis Sylvester. She was the proud Grandma to Rebecca Wilkinson, Kallie (Ethan) Soeken, Trevor Evans, Ava Sylvester and Aidan Sylvester and Great Grandma to Thomas Soeken. She was predeceased by her sister Mary Louise (the late Eldon) Thornton and her parents Thomas Harold and Lula Gladys Jackson. June will be fondly remembered by several nieces and nephews. After graduating from SCITS, June started her career as an administrative assistant at Dow for several years before starting her family. Keith and June built a house on Bel-Aire Drive where they lived for over 40 years and raised their three daughters, building many wonderful memories together. June spent many hours cultivating her flower gardens, filling her bird feeders

and feeding the squirrels peanuts and peanut butter treats. In 2019, she moved to Petrolia so she could be closer to her daughters and their families who also reside in Petrolia. June enjoyed knitting and made hats, sweaters and mittens for the neonatal unit and entered many of her creations in the Petrolia Fall Fair. She also enjoyed doing puzzles, needlepoint, making crafts and occasional trips to the Bingo Hall or Casino. June loved shopping and was always ready for a trip to the mall or to do some shopping in the States. June loved being a Grandma and she was very supportive of her grandchildren and could always be found cheering them on in the stands at hockey games and figure skating competitions. Her Grandchildren affectionately called her "Grandma June", "Grandma" and "Melmo" She loved to take them to the Animal Farm at Canatara Park and for fries under the bridge. June loved her pets very much. Over the years she loved several dogs and her canaries and parakeets. Her kind and caring heart was evident in the care for her pets. In June's final years, she lived at Albany Retirement Home and Lambton Meadowview where she always had a ready smile and a friendly wave for her neighbours who also lived there. **A private service will be held on Friday, May 19, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. A livestream of the service can be seen at [www.facebook.com/NeedhamJay](https://www.facebook.com/NeedhamJay).** Interment in Hillsdale Cemetery. As an expression of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to the Sarnia and District Humane Society ([www.sarniahumanesociety.com](http://www.sarniahumanesociety.com)). Memories and condolences may be shared online at [www.NeedhamJay.com](http://www.NeedhamJay.com).

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### Obituary

**AYRHEART**  
**Janice Marilyn (Farr)**

AYRHEART, - Janice Marilyn (Farr) **age 87** of Oil Springs, passed away peacefully on **Tuesday, May 16, 2023** at Bluewater Health, C.E.E. Petrolia. Beloved wife of the late Leonard Ayrheart (1980). Loving mother of Cheryl Ayrheart (Steve) and Dolores Patterson (Randy). Cherished grandmother of Ryan, Jared (Marcie), Sarah (Adam), Miranda (Brandon) and Brittany (Nic). Special great grandmother of Ben, Jake, Robin, Jessa, Alivia, Bentley, Kolton, and Kinley. Predeceased by her parents James and Carolyn Farr, sisters Gloria and Dona and grandson Matthew Patterson. Janice will

be missed by all who knew her. Our sincere appreciation to Dr. Lam, Fiddick's Nursing Home staff and C.E.E. Hospital staff for their care, kindness, and compassion. **A private family graveside service will take place at Oil Springs Cemetery.** Sympathy may be expressed through donations to C.E.E. Hospital Foundation <https://ceehf.ca> or Shriners Hospital for Children donate. [lovetotherescue.org](http://lovetotherescue.org). Memorial and condolence may be sent online [www.steadmanbrothers.ca](http://www.steadmanbrothers.ca) Steadman Brothers 519-864-1193.

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Classified Deadline:  
Monday @ 12 Noon

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The Independent



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Classified Deadline:  
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THE TRUTH.

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### St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

416 Queen Street, Petrolia (Behind the Post Office)

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**Sundays @ 10:00 am**

Services also available online: [www.standrews-petrolia.ca](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:fbcpetrolia@gmail.com) | website: [www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca](http://www.firstbaptistpetrolia.ca)  
Find us on Facebook! [www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia](http://www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia)



# Calendar of events

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](mailto: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	Sarnia	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	

## UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	START TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT INFO
May 26-28	12pm-8pm	Forest	LAMBTON FILM AND FOOD FESTIVAL @ Kinet Theatre - For more details see the 'Kinet Theatre in Forest Ontario' facebook page. For film trailers and tickets visit: Kinet.ca	
May27	10am-2pm	Sarnia	KIDS TRAINING DAY @ Bluewater Anglers - Find registration instructions on: <a href="http://www.bluewateranglers.com">www.bluewateranglers.com</a> - For more call: John Klazinga 519-330-9968	
May27	10am-3pm	Sarnia	"INSPIRE" FUNDRAISING EVENT @ SASCSL - Tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite	
May28	2pm	Sarnia	MENSTRUAL HYGIENE DAY @ Centennial Park - Menstrual product donations will be collected at the MacPherson Fountain	
May29		Online	ONTARIO ANCESTORS DROP-IN & CHAT - Zoom Webinar - For a link visit: <a href="http://lambton.ogs.on.ca">lambton.ogs.on.ca</a> or email <a href="mailto:lambton@ogs.on.ca">lambton@ogs.on.ca</a>	
May30	1pm	Wyoming	EUCHRE @ Wyoming Fair Building - 519-312-0578	
June 3	11am-3pm	Camlachie	PICNIC IN THE PARK @ Lakeshore Park. For info search 'Plympton-Wyoming Special Events Committee' on facebook	
June 3	8am-12pm	Camlachie	GARAGE/PLANT/BAKE SALE @ Camlachie United Church - 6784 Camlachie Rd. - For info visit: <a href="http://www.camlachieunited.ca">www.camlachieunited.ca</a>	
June 3	12pm-7pm	Petrolia	10TH ANNUAL PETROLIA PIZZAFEST @ Victoria Park	
June 9	9am-1pm	Blenheim	BLENHEIM SENIOR FAIR @ Blenheim Arena - 199 King St. - For more info visit: <a href="http://www.blenheimseniorscentre.ca">www.blenheimseniorscentre.ca</a> - Call: 519-676-3894 or email: <a href="mailto:Blenheim55@gmail.com">Blenheim55@gmail.com</a>	
June 10	9:30am-3:30pm	Petrolia	"THE SECRETS AMONG US" Exploring Domestic Abuse in Our Community @ First Baptist Church - Pre-Registration encouraged; 519-882-2480 or email: <a href="mailto:fbcpetrolia@gmail.com">fbcpetrolia@gmail.com</a>	
June 10	4pm-10pm	Sarnia	RELAY FOR LIFE @ Western Research Centre - 1086 Modeland Rd. - For more info or to register visit: <a href="http://relayforlife.ca">relayforlife.ca</a>	

**\*\*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](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)





BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTOS

McKay Park in Wyoming was full of activity Saturday, May 20 as the Plympton-Wyoming Recreation Committee hosted its Picnic in the Park. The miniature train was a hit which transported children and their parents across the park during the four-hour event, to the delight of many. A rock climbing wall was another highlight of the day as many children climbed to the top to get a better vantage point of the park. The Plympton-Wyoming Fire Department was also on hand to give many youngsters a chance to sit behind the wheel of a fire truck and get a close up look at the fire equipment which keeps the community safe. Games, booths and activities kept many youngsters busy to the point many surely had to take naps once arriving home.