

# Major fiber optics project starts in Central Lambton

Heather Wright  
The Independent

A major project to bring fiber optics to some of the hardest to reach homes in Dawn-Euphemia, Brooke-Alvinston and Enniskillen is now underway.

Dawn-Euphemia gave the green light for the work in its municipality Monday, paving the way for the multi-million dollar project to lay 191 kilometres of fibre optic cable to 436 unserved homes.

Brooke Telecom is building the infrastructure. General Manager Geoff Greening said the project is one of two approved by the federal and provincial governments last year as the governments work toward connecting 280,000 hard to reach homes with \$1.2 billion in funding.

Greening says through the Universal Broadband Fund, the governments are providing funding to small internet providers to build rural networks.

Brooke Telecom had already worked in rural Lambton through the SWIFT - a regional approach to providing internet service - but there was still more work to be done. And the communities in this project - the rural areas in Brooke-Alvinston, Inwood, Dawn-Euphemia, Oakdale, Oil City and Oil Springs - were still struggling to get service.

SEE FIBER OPTICS PG 2

# Fire concerns in Lambton

Heather Wright  
The Independent

As forest fires rage in Quebec, Nova Scotia and Alberta, there are concerns the hot dry weather is leaving grass and fields tinder dry in southern Ontario as well.

And it's prompted two Lambton municipalities to ban outdoor burning already.

Dawn-Euphemia and Lambton Shores both announced a total ban on outdoor burning Monday after a much drier than normal May.

Lambton Warden Kevin Marriott is also considering whether the county could place a burn ban across the entire county. It's an issue he planned to raise at a council meeting Wednesday.

"The month of May normally we see 90 millimeters of rain and we got 12," Marriott tells The Independent.

While the concern for out of control fires is real, Marriott is also concerned about the toll on the fields.

May is a crucial month for winter wheat, he says, noting the crop has shot up in the last month and is starting to flower. "With all that green growth there, it doesn't take long before the moisture runs out," he says.

SEE WHEAT PG 2

## LEAPING LANCER



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Darius Landon, seen here in the Junior Men's High Jump competition, was part of the 21 member LCCVI Track Team to compete at the OFSSA West championship in Cambridge June 3 and 4. Five Lancers, Hunter Mitchell, Charlie Shaw, James Grant, Hunter Campbell and Jack Helps have advanced to the provincial finals this week in Ottawa. For more coverage see page 10.

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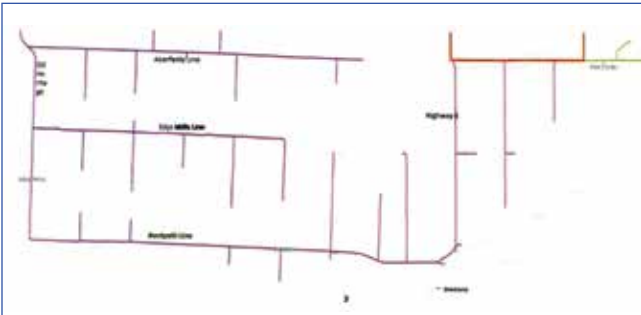
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- Scale table
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\*SEE NEXT WEEK'S INDEPENDENT FOR MORE ITEMS





A project in Central Lambton will see fiber optic cables laid along the purple roads in the next three years.

## Fiber Optic project in Central Lambton to take three years

CON'T FROM PG 2

SWIFT invested over \$20 million for services in Lambton since June 2022 - only Simcoe County has received more funding through the regional approach than Lambton - but it still wasn't enough cash to reach some of the rural homes and business. "We haven't been getting much from the SWIFT project," says Dawn-Euphemia Mayor Al Broad noting Bell has been installing lines on Nauvoo Road, but it isn't clear how long it would be before the more rural areas would have been served from the line. And he says there have been other providers make a dent. "Some of these companies that moved in did help fill some of the voids but there's still problems. Anytime that you're dependent on towers to do your transmission, there's going to be problems. Where you get into fiber optics, right in the ground, there not many problems with that."

But fiber optics laid in the

ground takes a lot of capital. "They're way more expensive and without government funding, they would never happen," says Greening.

But Brooke Telecom still pitched the project, knowing there were not a log of companies willing to build a project in such a rural area.

"We're unique. We've been ... running fibre down gravel, roads and tar and chip roads," he says. "A lot of the other projects that other providers have done focus more on small communities, like small towns or you know, large or gatherings of populations. We've already done that in our area."

Greening says residents in Enniskillen, Dawn-Euphemia, and Brooke-Alvinston's rural areas should begin to see signs of the work already, with locate crews out surveying the area the day after Dawn-Euphemia gave approval for the project.

"We're working from Shiloh Line toward Bentpath," he says.

## Wheat drying up, losing yield

CON'T FROM PG 1

"Wheat definitely need some rains," says Marriott. "A month of dry weather like that, it's just starting to show the stress. It will be from here on in that the wheat starts to lose yield big time because it's flowering right now, too."

Marriott recalls in 1988, Lambton farmers faced the same situation. "We didn't get any rain from late April until July the 16th or 17th. And we went 50 or 60 (bushels per acre) that year. So that's how this year is shaking up, especially if we go the whole month of June without rain."

That, says Marriott is what weather forecasters are now predicting.

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## OIL SPRINGS ENTREPRENEURS



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Four young entrepreneurs were cashing in on the increased activity in Oil Springs on Saturday morning as the annual town wide garage sales. Paisley Waite, (left to right) Jason McLam, Blake McLam and Rowan Waite were selling lemonade just shortly after 9 a.m.

## Suncor employees wait to hear about cuts

The Independent

It's not clear how a pending layoff at Suncor will affect employees in Sarnia-Lambton. The CBC is reporting the company new CEO notified staff by email

Thursday about a plan to cut cost by \$400 million by the end of the year. The result could be up to 1,500 lost jobs. Rich Kruger said in the email that the company had to reduce staffing costs, which are higher than its competitors.

About 500 people work at the Suncor refinery in Sarnia. It produces 85,000 barrels of oil per day and has been operating for 70 years. Suncor has yet to comment publicly about the scope of the layoffs.

Charlotte's Corner

- ADVERTORIAL -

CHARLOTTE ELEANOR ENGLEHART HOSPITAL  
at  
BLUEWATER HEALTH

Charlotte's Task Force Members Commemorated Last Week

At a dedication ceremony held last week at the Petrolia Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital (CEEH), Bluewater Health officials paid tribute to the members of Charlotte's Task Force and the work they did in ensuring the hospital in Petrolia remained a vital piece of the community.

Charlotte's Task Force members, Rosanne Orcutt and Norm Sutherland, unveiled a permanent commemorative wall piece that now hangs amongst the other historical hospital photos in Petrolia. Petrolia patients, visitors, and residents are welcome to view the photo wall and dedication located in the Dufferin St. entrance hallway leading to the historical house.

"We have been so very inspired by their (members of Charlotte's Task Force) unrelenting spirit – and the strong sense of community that defines not only the Petrolia community, but our hospital culture as well," said Laurie Zimmer, VP of Clinical Services and Executive Sponsor of Rural Health.

The hospital in Petrolia has a rich history – one that is based in a strong sense of dedication and community pride.

Members of Charlotte's Task Force unveil the commemorative wall dedication at the May 31 event in Petrolia

At Bluewater Health, we honour and recognize that Petrolia residents, elected officials, community partners, and the members of the famous Charlotte's Task Force took great lengths to keep their hospital a vital part of the community.

#PetroliaProud #WeAreBWH





HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Rosanne Orcutt and Norm Sutherland - two of the original members of Charlotte’s Task Force - unveil a plaque at Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital of Bluewater Health recognizing the contribution of the volunteer group.

## Changing the course of health care

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Rosanne Orcutt and Norm Sutherland unveil a plaque at Bluewater Health - a tribute to the 11 members of Charlotte’s Task Force who worked to keep the Petrolia hospital open and thriving starting in 2004.

There was a time when Rosanne Orcutt wondered if Charlotte’s Task Force really could keep the Petrolia Hospital open.

But today, as Bluewater Health recognized the efforts of the group to keep Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital an important part of rural health care, Orcutt could say the group changed the course of health care history in the community.

In 2004, the 11, Carol Boyd, Ila Campbell, Dana Churchill, Leo Dupuis, Sylvia Fairbank, Mary-Pat Gleeson, Helen Havlik, Jim Monteith, Orcutt, Jane Stevenson and Norm Sutherland, formed Charlotte’s Task Force after it became clear CEEH was in danger of closing.

Orcutt, who chaired the group, said they planned to work with administration and “we also decided that we will always be informed before we spoke. We will always be rational in discussions. We would be respectful of all, but we would be relentless in our quest to keep CEE Hospital at Bluewater Health open for the residents of Central Lambton.”

Orcutt says the group spent many hours researching data and engaging politicians. And they rallied the community, going to Queen’s Park by the busload, with apples in hand, to prove to the government of the day the importance of Petrolia’s hospital.

And in 2010, when the Erie St. Clair LHIN suggested closing the emergency department, the community came out to help. Orcutt recalls a meeting at LCCVI where 1,400 people came out to send a message.

“They had to move into the cafeteria, and then they had to move into gym C, then it just overflowed everywhere. And it was absolutely phenomenal that people from all over Central Lambton came to that meeting. And it really did send a message; what was here needed to stay here.”

The road was rocky and it took time to build a relationship. “There were many times when we wondered if we were going to be able to do this. But we made that last phone call another phone call, and we just succeeded.”

Orcutt says today, Bluewater Health

not only recognizes the importance of CEEH to Lambton, it is investing into the building including planning a multi-million renovation of the site, to make it an active hospital for decades to come.

“They care very much about our hospital,” says Orcutt. “They make sure that the emergency department is staffed and they’re always willing to talk even now when one of us on Charlotte’s Task Force – ones that are around – have a question. We feel very confident, comfortable just phoning one of the executives and we always get a straight answer. Yeah, we work really well together now.”

At the unveiling of a plaque honouring the 11 members of Charlotte’s Task Force Wednesday, that mutual respect was evident.

“We know that our Petrolia hospital has a rich history, one that is based in unrelenting dedication,” said Laurie Zimmer, vice president in charge of rural health at Bluewater Health while paying tribute to the task force.

“We all here today have been so very inspired by their unrelenting spirit and a strong sense of community that defines not only Petrolia, but our hospital culture as well.”

The task force isn’t as active as it used to be, although Orcutt still attends Bluewater Health board meetings virtually. And, she says, task force members could pickup the cause at a moments notice if necessary. With other communities, like Minden, Ontario, facing the same crisis Petrolia did nearly 20 years ago, Orcutt knows rural health care is still threatened. “Rural health is a central to Ontario and we need to keep it. And I know we have to pay for it and I don’t care, we’ll pay for it because it’s that important.”

And she says, the community will stand up to keep it when necessary.

“Let us remember the words of Margaret Mead, a famous cultural anthropologist,” Orcutt told the crowd of about 50 people at the plaque dedication. “She said, ‘Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.’ Your Charlotte’s Task Force proved over and over, that those words are true. They work together for hours, days, months, and what turned out to be years to keep our small hospital...”

“These 11 people. Carol, Ila, Dana, Leo, Sylvia, Mary Pat, Helen, Jim, Jane and Norm. You really did change the course of health care history in our community.”



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# Editorial

## Your tax dollars actually at work

We’re often quick to criticize out of control government spending, particularly when we hear about billions of dollars seemingly spent by drunken sailors. We could literally point to hundreds of examples at the local, provincial and federal level.

But today, we’re going to talk about a government program that is making in roads on an economic and social problem in our community - the lack of connectivity.

Since the first modem dialed up to connect people in Ontario to the world through the Internet, Lambton has found itself lagging behind. In the nearly 10 years *The Independent* has been in existence, little progress has been made particularly in rural areas.

There have been valiant attempts to make sure all residents - even those on the loneliest back roads - would be able to connect including Enniskillen Township’s bid to build towers to try to boost the signals in some areas.

But, as Dawn-Euphemia’s mayor told us this week, any system that relies on towers is going to have problems.

So, when the wardens of southwestern Ontario got together to try to squeeze some cash out of the upper levels of government to move things along, we were skeptical. The feds and the province did open the purse strings offering hundreds of millions to get the job done, but many wondered if any of that money would ever trickle into Lambton.

Actually, it poured in. Lambton has received the biggest cash infusion from the project of any county - except for Simcoe. And it has made a difference.

But during the pandemic, it was obvious those in the most rural areas were still left behind. So, the feds and province came up with the Universal Broadband Fund and started working with private companies to connect rural areas. This year, Central Lambton will see money from that fund with a project to connect over 400 homes.

It’s good to see tax dollars going where they were intended. And we’re hopeful that the investment will not only help connect the communities to the world, it will spur more economic growth in the long run.

## 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



LAMBTON COUNTY ARCHIVES

As Florence prepares for the Athletic Alumni Association Homecoming this weekend, the Lambton County Archives dug out a photo of one of the community’s favourite teams; the Florence Chicks. The Florence Chicks were a local sensation, drawing on average 800 - 1000 spectators a game. The team won Provincial Championships in 1952, 1956, 1957, and 1959.

## Help us tell the history of Petrolea or Petrolia

We’re starting a pretty exciting project at *The Independent* and we’re hoping you can help.

Next year is the 150th Anniversary of Petrolia - or should we say Petrolea - becoming a town. So, working with the 150th Committee and local heritage groups, we’re going to produce a couple of projects highlighting the history of the area.

Some of you will remember Kathy Ehman. She was one of the first employees of the newspaper. She had wandering feet and left to live first in the west and then in the east. Now, she’s back in Lambton and she’s going to help with the project.

We’re planning on scouring the archives both the formal ones run by the County of Lambton and the private archives and treasure troves of

those who love learning the history of Petrolia.

But we also want to talk to some of the elders in our community.

History books and photographs can provide a great deal of information, but there is still something intangible - a feeling you get - when you talk to someone who has actually been there. It is something a book or photo will never fully capture.

As Kathy says we want to be able to “see, hear, feel and taste Petrolia” so we can share it with the town. I’m not so sure about the taste of it, considering all the oil wells, but the rest I’m all in for.

So, what can you do? Let us know if someone in your family grew up in Petrolia and remembers it vividly. Maybe they have just one story to tell

of a big fire or the time a famous person came to town. Or maybe they remember the characters who used to hang out at VanTuyl and Fairbank or the local barber shop. Maybe they like to tell stories about the girls at the soda counter or the boys on the hockey teams.

We want to hear it all so we can tell the best stories we can about Petrolia. Hopefully, that way you will be able to see, hear, feel and taste it, too.



Heather Wright

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STRIKING UP THE BAND



PHOTO CREDIT

LCCVI students were striking up the band, the electric guitars, the drum line and their voices May 31 at the school’s annual Music Night. Friends and family were treated to some toe-tapping hits and the rhythms of the drum line which filled the gymnasium.

Developer hopeful  
oil capping cash  
will spur growth

Heather Wright  
The Independent

Ray Dobbin says the land north of Petrolia’s downtown is perfect for seniors’ homes except for the cost and bother of searching for abandoned oil wells.

Dobbin has been building seniors’ residences at Railroad Street and on Tank Road across from the Y for a number of years. Recently, he had to drill bore holes to find abandoned oil works in the area before moving forward with the next complex. When he did, Dobbin found a couple of abandoned storage tanks which he now is making plans to avoid.

“This is a prime development area for seniors,” says Dobbin, pointing out the services within walking distance.

Dobbin is among the people hopeful that new money promised by the Ontario government will start to deal with the abandoned oil wells in the area.

Across the province, there are about 27,000 abandoned oil and gas wells. In the last few years, less than 500 have been found, capped and sealed.

And, in Wheatley, one which had not been capped exploded, devastating the community’s downtown.

Friday, the Minister of Natural Resources Graydon Smith, announced more funding for private landowners and municipalities to deal with abandoned wells. There is \$7.5 million for municipalities to plan and \$6 million has been added to a fund for private landowners.

Dobbin is hopeful. “If there was money available to go through and make sure there were no oil wells in any of these areas, then it would be easier to develop.”

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THIS IS A DRILL



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Schools regularly have fire drills, but there was more to a recent mock emergency at LCCVI. Students and staff filed out of the school shortly after 1:45 p.m. on Wednesday, May 31, as part of an emergency response drill. The scenario involved students and staff being evacuated from the school property and not being able to return for the conclusion of the school day. The group walked to the school’s secondary evacuation site at Greenwood Park, where buses lined the street ready to take students home. Participating in the drill were the town, Petrolia and North Enniskillen Fire Department, Lambton OPP and the school’s transportation services.

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# Ministry disputes education cuts

**Blake Ellis**  
Local Journalism Initiative

There is a bit of a disagreement between the Minister of Education Stephen Lecce’s Office and the Lambton Kent District School Board about what the school board will be receiving this year in grants from the Ontario government.

An article on *The Independent’s* website about Lambton Kent School District’s budget woes has garnered a response from Education Minister Stephen Lecce office. Lambton Kent District School Board said it was expecting to lose as much as \$8 million in funding.

The school board says it will not be receiving any funding from the COVID-19 Learning Fund. It had received \$3.3 million in the current school year. Transportation services was also to receive a projected reduction of \$3 million while \$1.7 million was to be cut from the funding received from the Indigenous Education Grant.

In an email to *The Independent*, the

ministers office said Lambton Kent District School Board is projected to receive \$285.7 million in Grants for Student Needs funding for the 2023-24 school year - the base funding each school board receives. Officials said that’s up is a 1.9 percent increase. Also the official said transportation funding is increasing \$1 million, instead of being cut by 21 percent.

Lecce’s Office also said the Ministry of Education reviewed the Indigenous Education Grant and is realigning funding to better support Indigenous education priorities.

Ministry officials said these changes will continue to enable school boards to offer First Nations, Metis and Inuit courses in Indigenous history, culture and perspectives.

The official suggested school boards with fewer Indigenous students would see funding decrease.

Lambton Kent District School Board sent letters to Lecce and asked him for a meeting to discuss the situation. The budget will be presented to trustees in June.

# Sacred Heart construction on track for October

**Blake Ellis**  
Local Journalism Initiative

Construction work at Port Lambton’s Sacred Heart Catholic School is on target. St. Clair Catholic District School Board updated trustees about its largest construction project May 30 meeting.

The work at Port Lambton’s Sacred Heart Catholic School is 59 percent complete as of April 30 according to a capital projects report. The \$4.2 million project involves

adding a 46 student space addition as well as a three room child care centre. Construction began on May 2022 and the 46 student space addition is expected to be complete by the end of August. The entire project is expected to be completed by October.

Two of the portables being used at Port Lambton will be moved from the school once the construction is completed.

• THE INDEPENDENT

# Mooretown man dies in Ennskillen accident

A Mooretown man has died in a motorcycle accident in Enniskillen Township.

Lambton OPP say around 9:21 pm June 2, police were called to a ditch on Shiloh Line near Petrolia where they found a motorcycle and its driver.

Police say he was pronounced dead at the scene.

A post mortem has been done and the investigation continues, according to the OPP but no further details have been released.

# HELMET CHECK



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Four-year-old Haylee Armstrong-Gawne had her bicycle helmet checked by a member of the OPP at the Safety Awareness Day held at Brander Park in Port Lambton on Saturday, June 3. The Optimist Club of Sombra Township and St. Clair River Trail hosted this event.

# Inwood ...a caring community

When passing through the quiet village on Inwood Road, look for a welcoming front porch and a waving Canadian flag and there you will find the residence of **Karen Smith**. Karen was born, raised and still resides in Inwood. Her father, also born in Inwood owned Loosemore’s Grocery, once a James Street business. Karen helped out in the store by stocking shelves, cutting meat and working the till. She sold old-fashioned penny candy to local children. Time and again, the Hunter kids (Dick + Bernice) bargained at the candy counter bringing in pocketfuls of pennies and leaving, in exchange with pocketfuls of tootsie rolls, bubblegum, licorice and Pixie sticks!

Karen’s education began in a two-room, two-teacher schoolhouse located on Inwood Road. Her learning environment changed on a grand scale when she transferred to the newly built public school which hosted new privileges of greater space, multi-classrooms and many teaching instructors. As time unfolded, Karen’s children attended Brooke Central as students too, following in her footsteps.

Karen voices that the village was a tightly knit community. Villagers supported one another in business to keep them prospering. With the provision of goods and services by the coffee shop, firehall, mill, butcher, baker, barber and billiard room, churches, grocers, hardware stores and funeral home came the fundamentals of trust, cohesion and comradery that grounded the community.



Karen Smith

Karen could always find outdoor things to do while growing up. She enjoyed fishing, frog-hunting, baseball, kick-the-can, toboggan rides, football and winter ice-skating when the flooded asphalt became an arena. Sometimes, she was in the right backyard playing at just the right time to be offered freshly baked cookies before heading home. A fond memory and special treat for Karen was boarding the train for a speedy ride to London to shop.

Karen says that taking time to talk with people, giving a wave to little ones and tending to unhurried habits are the necessities of building a caring community. Keeping interested and involved are valuable investments to building a strong community. She welcomes you to experience the community of Inwood - a caring, strong footprint on the Lambton County map!

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# Plenty of pizza at Petrolia’s Pizzafest

BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

There was lots of music, pizza and fun at the 10th annual Pizza Fest Saturday at Victoria Park in Petrolia. Town of Petrolia officials say 6,700 slices were sold by the six participating pizza establishments – Domino’s , Bud’s Family Pizza, Johnny G’s, Petrolia Pizza & Subs, Pizza Hut and Wise Guys Inc. Officials say at times, line ups for pizza stretched across the park and many were seen chopping down on pizza throughout the afternoon. The Petrolia Scouts were also selling freezies and ice cream bars, to everyone cool, either taking in one of the local bands or climbing on the inflatables. The event is a fundraiser for the Petrolia Community Foundation. It’s likely this year’s donation will top \$1,800.





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# ALVINSTON PRO RODEO

## JUNE 16<sup>TH</sup>, 17<sup>TH</sup> & 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

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The Alvinston Pro Rodeo teams up with the award-winning Rawhide Rodeo Company to play host to over 200 professional cowboys and cowgirls from the International Professional Rodeo Association from Canada, the US, Brazil and Australia. Events include: Bareback Bronc Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, Breakaway Roping, Tie-Down Roping, Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, Jr. Steer Riding, Jr. Barrel Racing and Bull Riding

**FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2023 SCHEDULE**

5:00pm - Gate Open  
7:00pm - Rawhide Rodeo Professional Rodeo Performance  
9:00pm - Mechanical Bull Competition For Adults Hosted by the Optimist Club of Alvinston & Districts  
Immediately following the Rodeo (9:30pm) - Pure Country 93 Video Dance Party

**SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2023 SCHEDULE**

5:00pm - Gate Open  
5:30pm - 7:00pm - Mechanical Bull Competition for Children Hosted by the Optimist Club of Alvinston & Districts  
7:00pm - Rawhide Rodeo Professional Rodeo Performance  
9:00pm - Mechanical Bull Competition For Adults hosted by the Optimist Club of Alvinston & Districts  
Immediately following the Rodeo (9:30pm) - Kickin' It Country Dance Featuring Colt McLaughlin & Scott Manery and The Barnburners

**SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2023 SCHEDULE**

9:00am - 12:00pm - Cowboy Father's Day Breakfast (Not Included in Rodeo Tickets Fees) Hosted by the Optimist Club of Alvinston & Districts  
12:00pm - Gate Open  
2:00pm - Rawhide Rodeo Professional Rodeo Performance

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**PURE COUNTRY 93 VIDEO DANCE PARTY**

**Colt Manery & The Barnburners**

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www.lambtonelderlyoutreach.org

**RT CONSTRUCTION**

Rob VanDyk  
226-378-4784

Tatiauna VanDyk  
226-402-2220

rt\_construction@hotmail.com

**GENERAL TICKET INFORMATION**

Adults: \$25 a ticket  
18 - 6 years old: \$10 a ticket  
Under 5: Free  
Adult Weekend Pass: \$60 a ticket

Rodeo tickets will be available for purchase from our local supporters at the following locations:

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**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Alvinston Pro Rodeo**  
June 16th, 17th & 18th, 2023, at the fairgrounds in Brooke-Alvinston!  
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# Sports

## Five Lancers heading to OFSSA

**Heather Wright**  
The Independent

Hunter Campbell is pumped to go back to OFSSA.

The Grade 10 student is one of five Lancers making the trip to Ottawa after a large contingent of 21 athletes competed at OFSSA West.

Campbell was the first Lancer to climb to the top of the podium in Cambridge Friday after a 53.58m throw in the Junior Men’s Discus competition.

Campbell’s throw was more than five meters further than Owne Miloje of Bluevale-Waterloo.

“I’m definitely pumped to be going back to OFSSA,” he told The Independent after thanking God and his coaches for helping him win. “I’m very honoured to have this opportunity.”

Campbell was fourth with a throw of about 43m at last year’s competition.

The Grade 10 student says the forecast is calling for rain on Saturday - the day of his event. “So we’re going to do a lot of wet circle training, pouring on that water and trying out new methods and trying to hit that 60 (m) for OFSSA.”

Campbell will have company as

he travels to Ottawa this weekend.

Charlie Shaw finished first in the 800m in Day Two of OFSSA West competition in Cambridge.

Shaw topped the Senior Men’s field with a time of 1:56.44, 0.38s in front of Jaeden O’Driscoll of Guelph Centennial. Shaw also qualified for the OFSSA finals Friday with a second place in the 1500m.

Hunter Mitchell also secured another spot at the provincial finals in the Novice Men’s 300m hurdles. He placed third Saturday with a time of 43.22s. Mitchell also qualified Friday for the 100m Novice Men’s Hurdles placing second in that event.

And James Grant also qualified for OFSSA in Saturday’s competition. He placed second in the 800m with a time of 2:05.94 behind Ryan Georgeson of Medway in Arva.

Shaw, Mitchell and Grant will be joined by Jack Helps at the provincial championships..

Helps qualified for OFSSA in Senior Men’s Javelin with a throw of 45.48m.

The LCCVI Women’s Senior 4x400m team came with in a third of a second of punching its ticket to OFSSA with a fifth place finish Friday. Dannika Maniuk,

Sophia Sayers, Kaiya Gredanus and Dayna Robbins had a time of 51.36s.

Tyler McGrail place sixth in the Senior Men’s Long Jump hitting the 6.06m mark Saturday. He also jumped 11.38m in the Senior Men’s Triple Jump in the second day of the event.

Abbey Wallace and Pavia Gerrits placed seventh and eighth respectively in Senior Women’s High Jump Friday. Wallace completed a jump of 1.50m and Gerrits leapt 1.45m.

Hannah Daniel placed seventh in the Junior Women’s Javelin with a throw of 30.54m Saturday.

Jackson Maniuk placed eighth in Junior Men’s Triple Jump with a leap of 11.63m.

Hayden Young, James Grant, Lucas Poland and Hunter Mitchell placed eighth in the Junior Men’s 4x100m with a time of 42.72 s.

Ryan Minten placed eighth in the Junior Men’s Shot Put with a throw of 13.63m.

Tristen Nemcek threw 30.05m in the Senior Men’s Discus to place 11th.

Darius Landon jumped 1.70m in the Senior Men’s high jump placing 15th. Four students jumped 1.88m in the competition.

Hunter Duncan ran the Junior



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Hunter Campbell heaves the discuss 53.58m at OFSSA West in Cambridge Friday to secure his spot at the championship this weekend.

Men’s 400m in 55.35 s Friday and the Junior Men’s 200m in 24.55s Saturday.

Matthew Shih placed 11th in

Novice Men’s High Jump finishing with a leap of 1.50m.

Kaiya Greydanus ran the 100m Senior Girls’ Hurdles in 16.08s.

## LCCVI in OFSSA rugby consolation final Wednesday

LCCVI beat Burlington-Central, 12-7 to reach the consolation final at the OFSAA girls’ A/AA rugby tournament in Belleville.

The Lady Lancers will go up against Clarington-Central on Wednesday morning at 9:30 for the consolation trophy.

LCCVI lost its tournament opener on Monday, 24-12 to Napanee (seen here at the right) but rebounded to blank Simcoe-Holy Trinity, 5-0 in consolation play on Tuesday before beating Burlington.

The Lancers were ranked 13th heading into the tournament.



SASHA SEFTER PHOTO



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In case of inclement weather, the service will be held at the Council Chambers, 4465 Rokeby Line, Petrolia

Everyone Welcome





# Lancers make their mark at OFSSA West



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTOS

Twenty one LCCVI athletes competed in the OFSSA West championship in Cambridge Friday and Saturday. Five will move on to the provincial finals. At the top, Hunter Mitchell places second in the 100m hurdles, left centre, Ryan Minten at the Junior Men's Shot Put and Danya Robbins sprints for the finish in the Senior Women's 4x100m. James Grant toughs it out in the 1500m Friday, Centre left, Charlie Shaw was at the middle of the pack in the 1500m but placed second by the time the race was complete. He also qualified for the 800m and Kaiya Greydanus gets a good start in the Senior Women's 4x100m.



# Sports

## Dale and Mark Hunter given league honours

Barry Wright  
The Independent

An accolade each for the Hunter brothers of Oil Springs this past week. Mark was chosen as the OHL general manager of the year and Dale was named the coach of the league’s second team all-star squad. The Hunters both got their start in Petrolia Minor Hockey and made their way up to the OHL - Dale in Kitchener and Mark in Brantford - before having successful careers in the NHL. Since the brothers have owned the Knights, the team has won two Memorial Cups and four league championships. Meantime, four members of the Sarnia Sting were also named league all-stars.

Forwards Ty Voit, Sasha Pastujov and rearguard Ethan Del Mastro were named to the second team and defenceman Christian Kyrou was selected to the third team. Ex-Dresden King goalie Brett Brochu of the Knights was named to the second team. The 2022-23 junior hockey season ended Sunday with Quebec blanking the Seattle Thunderbirds, 5-0 to capture the Memorial Cup. Sting Ben Gaudreau’s goaltending partner with Team Canada at both the recent World U18 and junior tournaments, Thomas Milic, took the loss for the T-birds. The OHL champion Peterborough Petes lost to Seattle in the semi-final after knocking off the host Kamloops Blazers in a tiebreaker game last Thursday.



LONDON KNIGHTS PHOTO  
Dale and Mark Hunter

## Wyoming’s Gray heads to HOF

Brett Gray is going into the Sarnia-Lambton Sports Hall of Fame. He’s best known for his 25-strikeout performance for the London Werewolves in June 2000. It was his only start of that season in London as he signed a minor league contract with the Cincinnati Reds a few days later. Over the course of his minor league career, he won 51 games between 1998-2005 pitching more than 700 innings in the process.

## Squires join the Super League

The Petrolia Squires will be playing closer to home this season. They’re moving to Western Ontario Super Hockey League. The Squires join the league which includes the nearby Alvinston Killer Bees, Strathroy Jets, Tilbury Bluebirds, and the 2022-23 league champion Stratford Fighting Irish. Petrolia, two-team national senior champions, have played in the Western Ontario Athletic Association AA league since 2008. Tim Martin of the Squires says the Super League approached the team when it first formed. Petrolia decided to join this year, in part to save travel time for the players.

## Raiders get in the W column after double header

The Petrolia Raiders hit the win column with a pair of victories in Port Lambton in Western Counties senior baseball last weekend. The Raiders prevailed 15-3 and 11-9. Eric Lupton led Petrolia in the opening game with four hits and six RBI. Steve Gray scattered four hits over five innings for the mound victory. In the nightcap, Brady Melton had a game-winning two-run hit late in the contest.

Tim Martin closed out both games for Petrolia. Elsewhere, Rich Boersma’s late game RBI lifted the Cattlebarons to a 2-1 win over Dresden Friday in Wyoming and Mike Tyndall pitched a complete game and Jake Dolbear went deep May 31 as Corunna beat the Dresden Bulls, 5-1. Wyoming is now 3-0 on the season. The Giants are 2-1 and Petrolia is 2-2.

Among games this week, Dresden takes on Corunna at Courtright Wednesday at 7 pm, Port Lambton visits Wyoming on Friday at 7:30 and Petrolia host Wyoming at 1 pm and Port Lambton at 3 pm for a doubleheader on Saturday afternoon at Morrison Field. And Corunna visits Dresden for a doubleheader on Sunday afternoon beginning at 1 pm.

## Wyoming’s Jackson top performer in 17-10 win

Core Jackson was the Performer of the Night for the Sarnia Brigade of the Night for the Sarnia Brigade in a 17-10 win over the Royals in Southwestern Ontario senior baseball in Strathroy.

The Wyoming product had three hits, three RBI and scored three runs Saturday. Wyoming’s Kaden Gray also had three RBI for Sarnia and Petrolia’s Alex McLean was the

winning pitcher. And Jackson poked a two-run homer in Sarnia’s 7-2 win over Ilderton and Petrolia’s Wade Babula was the winning pitcher as the Brigade rallied to beat London, 12-9.

## Alvinston Aces bow out in quarterfinals in St. Clemens

Alvinston was on the wrong end of a 9-3 score against Bear Creek Express in the quarterfinals of the St. Clements fastball tournament. Ex-Alvinston player Jeff Lyons led the Express with two hits, two walks, and RBI and a pair of runs scored.

In turn, Bear Creek lost 2-1 to the Toronto Batmen in the semifinals. Another former Alvinston fastballer Ty Sebastian pitched three innings for the winners in relief, not allowing any runs and striking out six. The Aces have two games scheduled

this week in Southwest Middlesex league play. They take on the Rock in Highgate Wednesday and are home to entertain Glencoe on Thursday both games begin at 8 pm.

## Silver for McGregor

Team USA scored twice in each period, including a pair of shorthanded goals, to beat Canada, 6-1 in the gold medal game Sunday at the World Para Hockey Championships in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. Tyler McGregor had Canada’s lone goal. He tied for the scoring lead over the week-long event with four goals and 10 points in five games. Earlier in the tournament, the Forest native became just the fifth player in Canadian history to reach 200 career international points playing para hockey. He was also named this week to the Sarnia-Lambton Sports Hall of Fame. The induction dinner will take place in October. Canada advanced to the final with a 5-0 win over Czechia in the semifinals on Saturday with McGregor chipping in with two assists. The Americans beat Canada, 3-0 in the preliminary round.

## WEIGHTLIFTING SILVER



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Declan Watson won a silver medal in the clean and jerk in his weight class at the Canadian Junior Weightlifting Championships in Quebec on the weekend. The 16-year-old high school student at Northern was also fourth in the snatch and had a total of 236 kilos. The Errol Village resident in Plympton-Wyoming lifts for the Burlington Barbell Club.



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### PACKING YOUR LUGGAGE

In the flurry of packing for a vacation or business trip, it's easy to get carried away and pack everything but the kitchen sink into your suitcase and carry-on. But over-packed luggage is a common cause of injury to the back, neck and shoulders. The good news is many of these injuries can be easily prevented. The following tips can help take the pain out of your vacation:

**PACKING YOUR LUGGAGE**  
Over-packing is an easy pitfall, but consider that the larger and heavier the luggage, the more susceptible a traveller is to neck, back and shoulder injuries. Try to only pack what you absolutely need. When possible, place items in a few smaller bags, instead of one large luggage piece. Ensure your carry-on luggage does not weigh more than 10 to 15 per cent of your body weight. Keep the contents of any carry-on luggage to a minimum, pack heavy items at the bottom of the bag and make efficient use of the bag's pockets.

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# Classifieds



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## Death Notices

May 29 - June 5, 2023

MONDAY, MAY 29

**BERTHIAUME, Maurice Donald**  
Age: 93  
Van Heck Funeral Home

TUESDAY, MAY 30

**McCUTCHEON, Gloria Jean**  
Age: 74  
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

**WOSLEY, Stephanie**  
Age: 78  
Smith Funeral Home

**BARNEVELD, Marie Huguette Josée**  
Age: 56  
Smith Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

**GRUBEN, Theo Keith "Ted"**  
Age: 73  
Smith Funeral Home

**COWAN, John Pardee "Bo"**  
Age: 98  
Smith Funeral Home

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

**WALKER, William "Bill"**  
Age: 80, of Wyoming  
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

**WOODS, Douglas**  
Age: 69, of Corunna  
Knight Funeral Home

**KEYS, Jeanne Audrey**  
Age: 100  
D.J. Robb Funeral Home

**WHITE, David Robert John**  
Age: 67, of Sarnia  
McKenzie-Blundy Funeral Home

**MANNING, Chad Douglas**  
Age: 44, of Kettle Point  
Denning's Funeral Home

**ACTON, Douglas Clayton**  
Age: 96  
Denning's Funeral Home

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

**RAWSON, Raymond**  
Age: 64, of Mooretown  
Knight Funeral Home

**MILLER, Nancy Ann "Nanner"**  
Age: 65  
Denning's funeral Home

**ATHERTON, Jennie (Jones)**  
Age: 91, of Dresden  
Badder Funeral Home

**COOK, William "Bill" Herbert**  
Age: 85  
Smith Funeral Home

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

**KLAZINGA, Tiete (nee Epema)**  
Age: 98  
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

**COLLIN, Emily (Sandra) Elizabeth**  
Age: 79  
Smith Funeral Home

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

**POWELL, Fredrick James**  
Age: 71  
McKenzie-Blundy Funeral Home

**McLEOD, Donna Gale**  
Age: 74  
Gilpin Funeral Chapel

**PLATER, John**  
Age: 82  
Smith Funeral Home

MONDAY, JUNE 5

**BRIGHT, Dorothy "Beth"**  
Age: 52, of Brigden  
McCormack Funeral Home

**LAPENSÉE, Debra Lynn Mary**  
Age: 68  
Smith Funeral Home

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

### Anniversary

*Mary Ellen & Alan Scott*  
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### Birthday Open House

*Look who's turning* **80**

Please come celebrate  
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**event from 1:00-5:00p.m.**

*Tonie has requested no presents,  
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she will treasure.*

### Thank You

#### Arnold Leslie

The family of **Arnold Leslie** would like to thank everyone who is supporting us while we grieve the loss of our husband, father, and grandfather Arn.

We especially appreciate the care he received and the support we were given by the staff at Lambton Meadowview Villa. We would also like to thank Dr. Buckton, Dr. Lubczanski and Dr. Daniel for their care, compassion, and attention. Donations of food to our homes was so helpful and very appreciated at this difficult time. The many cards received, visits, phone calls, and online condolences, all with meaningful messages, showed us the caring community we live in.  
*Julie Leslie, Karen Cooper, Paul Leslie and families.*

### Thank You

#### The family of the late Gary Hardy

would sincerely like to thank all those who showed so much love and caring during Gary's illness and death. The food, gift baskets, cards and flowers overwhelmed us. Your kindness was appreciated.

*A Celebration of Gary's life will be held on Sunday, June 11 from 1-4 at the Lions Hall 451 Huggard Street Petrolia.*

A time to join us for some fellowship and memories.  
*Janet, Jacky & Jordan Hardy*

### For Sale

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- JULY 2 - <b>Mercy trio</b>	- AUGUST 6 - <b>Spanish Ministry</b>
- JULY 9 - <b>Eduard Klassen</b>	- AUGUST 13 - <b>The Torchmen Quartet</b>
- JULY 16 - <b>Hank &amp; Janet Sonnenburg</b>	- AUGUST 20 - <b>Faith Baptist Wallaceburg Worship Team</b>
- JULY 23 - <b>Marc &amp; Kim Reid</b>	

**FOR MORE INFO:**  
Call/Text: 519-350-1003 • cdpatterson52@gmail.com

**OIL SPRINGS FIREMAN'S BIKE RODEO**  
**Wednesday, June 7, @ 6:30 p.m.**  
**4589 Oil Springs Line (Firehall Parking Lot)**  
*Proudly sponsored by Oil Springs Fire Dept. & Oil Springs Optimists*  
**Lots of Prizes to be won!**  
**FREE hot dog & pop for each participant!**  
**Bike Tune-Up Tuesday: June 6 @ 6:30 p.m.**

### Obituary



#### WALKER William "Bill"

Peacefully with family by his side on Thursday, June 1, 2023, at Lambton Meadowview Villa, Petrolia. **Bill Walker**, 80 years of Wyoming. He will be missed by his wife of 62 years Judy (nee Felton), his children Dan (Andra) Walker, Mike (Patty) Walker, and Lisa (Bill) Cadman, his grandchildren Becky, Ashley, Mitch,

Crystal, Tim, Jennifer, Leigh Anne, Derek, Brandon, Anna, Bre, and Chloe, and his fourteen great grandchildren. He will also be missed by brothers Norm (Jill) Walker and Lloyd (Marilyn) Walker. Bill was predeceased by his parents George and Jean Walker, sister Evelyn Payne, grandson Douglas Walker, and great grandson Aidan McGill. Bill spent many years working hard as a millwright with numerous companies, retiring from Fibrex 23 years ago. Cremation has taken place. *A celebration will be held on June 24, 2023, at 324 Eureka St. Petrolia from starting at 2:00 p.m.* As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation (www.heartand-stroke.ca) or the Sarnia and District Humane Society (www.sarniahumanesociety.com). Memories and condolences may be shared online at www.Needham-Jay.com.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

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



Classified Deadline:  
Monday @ 12 noon

# Classifieds



Word Classifieds: \$10 plus tax for up to 40 words  
Stop in at the office 9am-3pm – Monday to Friday  
4156 Petrolia Line – Call 226-738-0728  
or email: [office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca](mailto:office@petrolialambtonindependent.ca)

## 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](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](https://www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-Petrolia)



## Coming Events

The next meeting of the  
**PLYMPTON-WYOMING  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

will be held at:

**The Plympton–  
Wyoming Museum,  
6745 Camlachie Rd.,  
Camlachie, ON  
Wednesday, June 21  
at 7:00 p.m.**

*Guest speakers will be:*

Larry and Barry Anne  
Wilson on Larry's  
father's experience  
overseas in World War II.  
*All are welcome.*



TAYLOR BRODA

**KINDRED  
SPIRITS**  
JUNE 10 - JULY 8

RON BRODA



**GALLERY  
IN THE GROVE**

**Gallery Hours**  
Monday - Thursday 2pm - 5pm  
Friday - Saturday 11am - 2pm

519 869 4643

2618 Hamilton Road,  
Bright's Grove ON

[www.galleryinthegrove.com](http://www.galleryinthegrove.com)



**Parks & Recreation 2023**

**Outdoor Movie Nights**  
ON THE BIG SCREEN!  
*To be held inside if raining.*

**May 19** FRIDAY NIGHTS  
**Jun 16**  
**Jul 21**  
**Aug 18**  
**Sept 15**

Pop corn

VILLAGE OF OIL SPRINGS

PARKS & REC IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS & VOLUNTEERS contact the Office @ 519-834-2939 if interested

# 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](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
June 9	11am - 4pm	Grand Bend	<b>PA DAY EVENT: TRASH TO TREASURE, WHAT CAN I DO?</b> @ Lambton Heritage Museum - 10035 Museum Rd. - Visit: <a href="http://lambtonmuseums.ca">lambtonmuseums.ca</a> for more information.	
June 9	11am - 3pm	Grand Bend	<b>THE SCIENCE BEHIND REFINING AND OIL</b> @ Lambton Heritage Museum - 10035 Museum Rd. - Visit: <a href="http://lambtonmuseums.ca">lambtonmuseums.ca</a> for info.	
June 9	9am - 1pm	Blenheim	<b>BLenheim SENIOR FAIR</b> @ 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	<b>"THE SECRETS AMONG US"</b> 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	<b>RELAY FOR LIFE</b> @ Western Research Centre - 1086 Modeland Rd. - For more info or to register visit: <a href="http://relayforlife.ca">relayforlife.ca</a>	
June 10	11am - 2pm	Bright's Grove	<b>"KINDRED SPIRITS" EXHIBITION</b> @ Gallery in the Grove, 2618 Hamilton Rd. - Continues until July 8th, For more info visit: <a href="http://www.galleryinthegrove.com">www.galleryinthegrove.com</a> or call 519-869-4643.	
June 11	All day	Alvinston	<b>BOTANY CEMETERY DECORATION DAY</b> @ Alvinston Cemetery	
June 11	2:30pm	Sarnia	<b>IN CONCERT</b> @ Sarnia Public Library - "Concerto For Cello" Featuring Bluewater Chamber Players, with: Failte, of the Irish School of Dance	
June 13	7 pm	Online	<b>LAMBTON BRANCH, ONTARIO ANCESTORS MEETING</b> ONLINE ONLY register for Zoom Meeting at <a href="http://lambton.ogs.on.ca">lambton.ogs.on.ca</a> - For more information email: <a href="mailto:lambton@ogs.on.ca">lambton@ogs.on.ca</a>	
June 16	4pm - 7pm	Forest	<b>KIWANIS STRAWBERRY SOCIAL FRIDAY</b> @ the Forest Legion, - Tickets available from Kiwanis members or Kinetto Box Office (cash only). Contact Sally: 519-466-2287 or: <a href="mailto:sally.a.hoskin@gmail.com">sally.a.hoskin@gmail.com</a>	
June 21	7pm	Camlachie	<b>PLYMPTON-WYOMING HISTORICAL SOCIETY</b> @ Plympton–Wyoming Museum, 6745 Camlachie Rd. All are welcome.	

**\*\*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)





FORM 6

SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER

The MUNICIPALITY OF CHATHAM-KENT

Municipal Act, 2001, c. 25, s. 379 (2)  
O. Reg. 181/03, s. 5(1), Form 6

**TAKE NOTICE** that tenders are invited for the purchase of the land(s) described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on **June 22, 2023**, at the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, Civic Centre, 315 King Street West, Chatham, Ontario, N7M 5K8.

The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day as soon as possible after 3:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, 315 King Street West, Chatham, Ontario, N7M 5K8. Tune into our Municipal Facebook page or the Chatham-Kent YouTube channel for a virtual event where the tenders will be opened live on June 22<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 3:20 p.m. Further details are available by visiting **www.chatham-kent.ca**.

*All lands are in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, the following are the geographic descriptions and municipal addresses.*

Description of Land(s)	Minimum Tender Amount
1. Roll # 3650-010-001-01302 PT LT 1, BROKEN FRONT CON, GEOGRAPHIC TWP OF ROMNEY, PT OF THE ROAD ALLOWANCE BETWEEN ESSEX COUNTY & KENT COUNTY AS CLOSED BY BY-LAW R011904, DESIGNATED AS PTS 2,3 & 4, 24R6266; CHATHAM-KENT. Being Erie St S., Wheatley P.I.N. 00846 0448 (LT) <b>Assessment: IX 1,500</b>	\$6,557.16
2. Roll # 3650-010-001-66250 PT LT 10 OR 212, CON 1 OR TALBOT RD AS IN 143215 (3RDLY); DESCRIPTION MAY NOT BE ACCEPTABLE IN FUTURE AS IN 143215; ROMNEY. Being Cemetery Rd., Wheatley. P.I.N. 00847 0086 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 39,500</b>	\$19,608.52
3. Roll # 3650-080-003-47401 DAVID STREET, PLAN 619 TILBURY. Being Elizabeth St., Tilbury. P.I.N. 00802 0163 (LT). <b>Assessment: RTP 22,500</b>	\$13,454.97
4. Roll # 3650-110-004-10102 PT LT 9, CON 8 (RALEIGH) DESIGNATED AS PARTS 3 AND 4, 24R-5875 RALEIGH. Being Clinton St (North Buxton). P.I.N. 00872 0184(LT). <b>Assessment: RTP 1,000</b>	\$9,051.15
5. Roll # 3650-110-004-10445 LT 47 PLAN 341 LYING W OF 257897; CHATHAM-KENT. Being Charleston St., North Buxton P.I.N. 00872 0111 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 100</b>	\$6,462.23
6. Roll # 3650-140-006-13200 PT LT 1, NE WOODS ST, PLAN 109 AS IN 258431 HARWICH. Being Wood St., Blenheim P.I.N. 00938 0586 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 24,500</b>	\$8,654.83
7. Roll # 3650-140-006-13301 PT LTS 1 & 2, NE WOODS STREET, PLAN 109 AS IN 202068 HARWICH. Being 5 Wood St., Blenheim P.I.N. 00938 0587 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 62,000</b>	\$12,779.40
8. Roll # 3650-140-006-54700 PT LT 5, S ADELAIDE ST, PLAN 109 AS IN 225275 HARWICH. Being Metcalfe St., Blenheim P.I.N. 00939 0120 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 22,000</b>	\$8,948.93
9. Roll # 3650-140-010-17400 PT LT 449, PLAN 421 AS IN 494714 "DESCRIPTION IN 385455 MAY NOT BE ACCEPTABLE IN FUTURE" HARWICH; S/T EXECUTION 92-0821 IF ENFORCEABLE. Being 18534 Erie Shore Dr., Blenheim. P.I.N. 00938 0028 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 31,000</b>	\$51,844.76
10. Roll # 3650-140-006-67100 NW 1/2 LT 23, N ADELAIDE ST, PLAN 109 HARWICH. Being 95 Adelaide St., Blenheim P.I.N. 00939 0165 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 44,500</b>	\$16,742.94
11. Roll # 3650-140-006-67200 SE 1/2 LT 23, N ADELAIDE ST, PLAN 109 HARWICH. Being Adelaide St., Blenheim. P.I.N. 00939 0166 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 22,500</b>	\$13,795.36
<del>12. Roll # 3650-280-001-14400 LT 8 9 BLK E PL 148, CHATHAM-KENT. Being 235 Victoria Ave., Highgate P.I.N. 00662 0052 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 109,000</b></del> <b>REDEEMED</b>	<del>\$16,414.47</del>
13. Roll # 3650-310-001-03725 PT LT 6 CON 1 ZONE PT 1 & 2 24R4790; CHATHAM-KENT. Being 29672 Zone Rd. 1, Thamesville P.I.N. 00625 0038 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 294,000</b>	\$31,625.36
14. Roll # 3650-320-001-07100 PT LT 506 PL 141 BEING NWLY 32 FT OF W 1/2; CHATHAM-KENT. Being Elm St., Bothwell P.I.N. 00642 0063 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 3,900</b>	\$6,805.60
15. Roll # 3650-390-001-28100 PT PARK LT 9, PL 130 AS IN 541778; S/T AN EASEMENT IN GROSS OVER PT PARK LT 9, PL 130 DESIGNATED AS PT 1, 24R8989 AS IN CK61805; MUNICIPALITY OF CHATHAM-KENT. Being 597 Camden St., Dresden P.I.N. 00598 0045 (LT) <b>Assessment: 66,000</b>	\$13,999.22
16. Roll # 3650-410-001-81800 PT LT 1 CON 3 CHATHAM PT 3 & 4, 24R5732; S/T & T/W 564441; CHATHAM-KENT. Being 725 St. Clair St., Chatham P.I.N. 00737 0250 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 162,900 / CT 353,100</b>	\$143,798.34
17. Roll # 3650-410-005-15005 PT LT 16 CON 10 CHATHAM PT 1, 24R2533; CHATHAM-KENT. Being 10592 Union Line, Dresden. P.I.N. 00751 0046 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 92,000</b>	\$27,915.52
18. Roll # 3650-420-001-01200 PT LT 4 BLK B PL 17 AS IN 604382; CHATHAM-KENT. Being 91 Adelaide St. S., Chatham P.I.N. 00504 0145 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 55,000</b>	\$19,384.37
19. Roll # 3650-420-003-03102 LT 11 PL 35 EXCEPT 589110, 605948, 177643, 622300; S/T 589110, 605948, 177643, 622300; CHATHAM-KENT. Being Foster St., Chatham P.I.N. 00509 0030 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 3,000</b>	\$6,835.01
20. Roll # 3650-420-003-03500 PT LT 1 PL 47 PT 2, 24R1110; T/W & S/T 283768; MUNICIPALITY CHATHAM-KENT. Being 232 Park St., Chatham ON P.I.N. 00509 0058 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 17,200</b>	\$249,576.40
21. Roll # 3650-420-007-18800 PT LT 171-172 PL OLD SURVEY AS IN 189221; CHATHAM-KENT. Being 405 Park St., Chatham ON N7M 3S7 P.I.N. 00503 0205 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 18,600</b>	\$37,578.68
22. Roll # 3650-420-043-05850 BLK A PL 578; CHATHAM-KENT. Being Victoria Ave, Chatham ON P.I.N. 00545 0182 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 2,100</b>	\$6,535.07
23. Roll # 3650-442-008-06300 LT 21 PL 352; CHATHAM-KENT. Being 75 Dell St., Wallaceburg P.I.N. 00584 0094 (LT) <b>Assessment: RTP 17,400</b>	\$9999.99

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit in the form of a money order, bank draft, or cheque certified by a bank or trust corporation payable to the municipality (or board) and representing **at least 20 per cent of the tender amount**.

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to or any other matters relating to the land to be sold.  
**Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers.**

This sale is governed by the *Municipal Act, 2001* and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated property taxes and any taxes that may be applicable such as the land transfer tax.

The lands do not include mobile homes situate on the lands.

The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser.

A copy of the prescribed form of tender is on the Municipality of Chatham-Kent website, **www.chatham-kent.ca** and 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 and a copy of the prescribed form of tender contact:

Amy McLellan, Manager Revenue - or - Matthew Torrance, Deputy Treasurer

Municipality of Chatham-Kent - 315 King Street West, P O Box 640, Chatham, Ontario, N7M 5K8

www.chatham-kent.ca



# Camlachie community fun



There were a lot of smiling faces in Camlachie as the Plympton-Wyoming Events committee hosted another Community Spirit in the Park event. There were rides and games for children as well as emergency responders on hand. A hot air balloon was able to fly a couple of times before the wind became too strong. The events committee hosted a similar event in Wyoming in May.

BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTOS

## The little church that could; 150th Anniversary at Wilkesport

**Blake Ellis**  
Local Journalism Initiative

“We think of our ancestors today,” said Wilkesport United Church Pastor Betty Jean Page as the historic church celebrated its 150th Anniversary.

In a time when many small rural churches are closing, the congregation celebrated the milestone with music, fellowship and a little peek into the past. Sombra Museum Curator Kailyn Shepley and member of the congregation recounted some of the highlights of the 150 years.

The church, which would become the Wilkesport United Church, was built in 1873, using timber from the surrounding forest under the name of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The church’s first minister of record was James Armitage. The church grew and by the end of 1884 there were 88 members.

Rev. Armitage performed the first marriage 1888 when Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Sharpe tied the knot.

A parsonage for the minister was built on a lot behind the church in 1901.

The Wilkesport church was home to the Ladies’ Aid, Epworth League and the Women’s Institute which provided clothing, blankets and goods to soldiers and civilians during the First and Second World War.

Wilkesport formed a three point charge with Sombra and Bethel, with Rev. Harding preaching at all three churches on a Sunday. He would be in Sombra at 11 a.m., Bethel at 3 p.m. and conclude with an evening service in Wilkesport, travelling on his horse, Cal.

The Wilkesport congregation merged with the Wilkesport Presbyterian Church in 1925 to officially become the Wilkesport United Church - a move

that was repeated all over Canada as the organizations merged.

The parsonage was sold and a new three point charge was formed with churches in Sombra and Duthil. This was until Wilkesport joined with Bradshaw and Calvary churches in 1938.

A large Sunday School addition and renovations were made to the sanctuary in 1959, at cost of only \$4,000, thanks to a fundraising effort performed by volunteers.

By the time the church celebrated its 100th anniversary in 1973, there were 169 students attending Sunday School, says Shepley.

Pastor Page stayed with the Wilkesport church when it decided to split with the Port Lambton pastoral charge in 2015, has led the congregation for the past 10 years. The church thought briefly about closing due to its aging and shrinking congregation but it has remained in the St. Clair Township community which once depended heavily on the forestry industry.

Improvements were made to the building, as the church partnered with retired teacher and stained glass artist Margaret-Ann McKichan and families in the congregation designed and sponsored the stained glass windows, Shepley added.

The church was also renovated by members, and Sunday School room was completed just a week before the anniversary service.

St. Clair Township Mayor Jeff Agar presented a certificate to the church in recognition of the anniversary. “This is a milestone you should be proud of,” Agar said, as he offered his personal congratulations.

The church put down roots on the milestone occasion, planting a tree in the yard to mark the 150th anniversary.



An early photo of the Wilkesport church (top) a quilt made for the 100th anniversary hung near the stained glass windows designed by the congregation (middle) and a memorial tree planted Sunday for the 150th anniversary.



1873

INWOOD

150

2023

### 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



PSYCHOTHERAPY SERVICES

A safe space for all to explore internal, and  
external relationships in your life

In-person and virtual mental health counseling  
Individual 12+ and Couples

1 James Street North  
Forest, Ontario  
519.786.8087  
epiettetherapy@gmail.com

