

Greenhouse owners want exemption to new pot rules

Blake Ellis
The Independent

The owners of an Enniskillen greenhouse are worried new zoning rules for commercial cannabis production will limit their options to rent the facility.

Enniskillen Township passed changes to its official plan Aug. 21 aimed at limiting where the operations can set up in the community after years of issues with High Park Farms on Lasalle Line.

The new rules says indoor operations would have to be on Agricultural or a Mixed Commercial Industrial zoned land.

The bylaw also keeps the operation 300 meters from playgrounds, sporting venues, community centres, churches or any other place people gather and sleep.

Any cannabis operators would also need to submit plans to reduce light leakage from the greenhouse.

They'll also have to do studies on traffic impact, noise and air quality if the bylaw passes.

Councillor Mary Lynne McCallum is one of the councillors who pushed to have limits after the neighbours of the now closed High Park Farm cannabis operation on Lasalle Line complained of light pollution and heavy smells when the plants were being harvested.

At the time the changes were proposed, McCallum said they were "purely preventative."

SEE EXEMPTION PG 2

PETROLIA FAIR BY NIGHT



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Teens stroll past the Junior Dart game at the Petrolia Enniskillen Fall Fair Friday night. While there was disappointment about the lack of midway rides for older teens, there were plenty of people taking in the tractor pull and browsing through the exhibits on the opening night. For more Petrolia/Enniskillen Fall Fair photos see pages 10&11.

Two charged in Marthaville murder plead guilty to helping the killers get away

Heather Wright
The Independent

Two men originally charged with first degree murder after a body was found in the Marthaville Wildlife Habitat have admitted to being involved in the grisly April 2022 crime.

James Armstrong and Jason Nahmabin were charged after the body of Andrew Chute, a 45 year-old Sarnia man, April 14, 2022 in the parking lot of the popular trail. Paramedics and police officers arrived at the habitat around 7 am to find a man, who was lying face down in a pool of blood. Lambton

OPP said at the time Chute had been shot in a 'targeted' attack. Nahmabin was arrested April 29 and charged with first degree murder. Armstrong was arrested May 31 and also faced a charge of first degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder.

Sept. 6, the men appeared before

Justice R. Raikes in the Superior Court of Justice and plead guilty to accessory to murder with the formal charge reading the pair "did knowing that unknown persons had murdered Andrew Chute, assist those persons for the purpose of enabling those persons to escape."

The charges of first degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder were withdrawn with the men's pleas. Justice ordered a pre-sentence report to return to court Nov. 6. Lambton OPP have yet to charge anyone else in Chute's murder.

SEE MARTHAVILLE PG 3

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PLYMPTON & WYOMING
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Ruckus about rides at the Petrolia Fall Fair

Heather Wright
The Independent

It was a weekend roller coaster of emotions - without the roller coaster.

Members of the Petrolia/Enniskillenn Agricultural Society opened the gates to the annual fall fair Friday while dealing with angry ride-lovers looking for answers.

Last year, the agricultural society didn't have a midway. This year, it hired Family Time Amusements and advance passes were sold for \$25.

But the ag society faced criticism when the company rolled into town and there were only four rides suitable for younger children. The agriculture society says they were told the rides for young adults, however they were not able to be repaired in time for the Petrolia Fair.

The agricultural society was deluged with complaints on social media with people asking for refunds.

Friday, the company offered a five dollar discount to those who were upset, but they had to enter the fairground to get the cash.

By the end of Friday, the agricultural society said people with the passes could use them for one day's free admission to the fair. "We know this isn't a perfect solution, but it is the best we can do," the society wrote in a social media post.

Some people appreciated the move; "It is not easy planning an event like this. Thank you for stepping up when the midway company failed to do anything," said Nicole Gauthier.

"I think this is very kind of the fair board to offer this as this is out of the control of the fair board and they are now losing money to try and fix this mess that the ride company has caused,"

wrote Becky Krall.

But others were still looking for a full refund, with some saying they paid admission to get into the fair to try to get a refund from the company which they didn't get.

By Saturday, the fair board moved to refund customers and in the end, Family Time Amusements gave upset residents their cash back.

And some vowed to use the cash they had received back only to purchase items from local companies.

Petrolia/Enniskillen Agriculture Society Past President Demi Krall says it was a difficult week-end for the board members, trying to deal with the complaints, come up with a speedy solution and run the annual event.

"I don't think people understand the amount of time and dedication it takes to put on an event like this," she says.

"It's been really hard since COVID to get the fair back up and running the way it used to be. Things are a lot more expensive and also hard to get.

"It's extremely frustrating when people sit behind their phones or computers ... and criticize all of the things we did wrong and then post it on a public forum," Krall said.

"What would be more productive and constructive is if they came out to a meeting or signed up to volunteer. We're always open to more volunteers and we have monthly meetings people can participate in."

Krall added that for every negative comment, there were community members thanking the fair board for working hard to put on the annual event.

"We appreciate those more than people know."



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Jess, Jeff and Ariel Williams take a trip down Route 66 at the Petrolia/Enniskillen Fall Fair Friday night. The agriculture society faced criticism online about the lack of rides suitable for teens.

Exemption sought for new rules for cannabis operations

CON'T FROM PG 1

But the new rules leave the owners of the greenhouse - Jack and Christine Greydanus of the Enniskillen Pepper Company - in a bind. And the company wants an exemption for the Lasalle Line greenhouse.

The Township of Enniskillen tabled the site specific bylaw amendment on Aug. 21 to continue to allow commercial cannabis cultivation on the property of Jack and Christine Greydanus on Lasalle Line and promised to discuss it again in a month.

Christine Greydanus told council she and her husband have invested significantly in the greenhouse when Tilray set up High Park Farms and now are being asked by neighbours who oppose a commercial cannabis operation to be downzoned.

"The conduct of our tenant was unacceptable," said Greydanus, and the tenant modified its practices once complaints were made.

They intended to be good neighbours, said Jack Greydanus, but this 'failed miserably.'

Still, Greydanus believes a commercial cannabis should be allowed on the property since one had existed in the past.

Trevor Brand - who mother lives right across the road from the greenhouse - said many of the things put in place on the property to deal with light pollution, noise and odour didn't work when High Park Farms was still operating.

He said there has also been significant loss in property values to many neighbouring properties.

"Not to mention the mental stress which has brought my mom and I to our breaking point," said Brand, as his voice cracked and the large number of supporters in the council chamber applauded.

Council gave the green light to the zoning bylaw amendments for commercial cannabis production regulations and endorsed the proposed official plan amendments at the meeting.

The official plan amendments will be submitted to the County of Lambton for approval.

But it put off a decision on allowing commercial cannabis operations to continue on the Lasalle Line property until its Sept. 18th meeting.



FILE PHOTO

High Park Farms moved out of the Lasalle Line greenhouse in 2021.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, IS:

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We also have some exciting events coming up! The annual Shop Like Charlotte event takes place again in downtown Petrolia

on Friday, September 29. If you haven't already done so, you can purchase your tickets at any local Petrolia bank. This annual event has contributed over \$45,000 to our

Petrolia hospital over the last 11 years. A sincere thank you to the event organizers, community participants, and Petrolia merchants who take part year-over-year.

Ticket sales for this year's Bluewater Health Foundation Dream Home Lottery have officially launched! Half of the proceeds from the Dream Home Lottery goes to the CEEH Foundation, so purchase your tickets today! Visit: www.bwhfdreamhome.ca

As always, thank you for your ongoing support. Your generosity makes an impact on our Petrolia patients and support the staff, professional staff and volunteers of CEEH of Bluewater Health as they provide quality rural healthcare.

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Back to the future in Petrolia with a deputy mayor

Deputy mayor was dropped in 2015 after rookie Field declined the job
Heather Wright
The Independent

Petrolia council is going back in time, returning to 2015 when the town had a deputy mayor.

At Monday’s meeting, councillors agreed to a bylaw which would allow the elected mayor to appoint a deputy mayor.

Since 2015, the town has created an ‘acting mayor’ schedule each year. Councillors are appointed to step in for the mayor should they be absent or unavailable for a public appearance or council meeting. But before that, it was the tradition of Petrolia council for councillor who garnered the most votes to serve as the deputy mayor. Mary-Pat Gleeson served as Petrolia’s last deputy mayor.

But in 2015, then newcomer and now Acting Mayor Joel Field topped the polls. When then Mayor John Mc-

Charles approached him about the job, Field said no.

“At that time, I wanted to be a councillor and learn. I didn’t want to get thrown into a fire,” he tells *The Independent*.

And so, the ‘acting mayor’ rotation came to be.

But 2023 brought a couple of challenges which led councillors to reconsider the schedule.

In April, Mayor Brad Loosley had to take a medical leave. Council approved his absence for six months. At Loosley’s suggestion, Field was named Acting Mayor for the period. Field had already agreed to be Loosley’s alternate at Lambton County council meetings.

“What happened shows that we need to have some kind of backup plan for continuity, to make everything go smoothly, so we don’t need to start from square one again to have somebody stepped in to cover (for the mayor),” said Field.

But there have also been concerns about the ‘acting mayor’ schedule.

Earlier this year, Councillor Debb Pitel - who is serving her first term of council - wanted the rotation altered. The way the schedule was drawn up

meant councillors would serve the same time of year each time, something Pitel wanted changed.

When the issue came to council in June, councillors questioned whether a deputy mayor would be a better option.

In a report to council, Pearson suggested - and council agreed - the elected mayor should approach members of council to see if they wish to serve as deputy mayor. The mayor would then consider the candidates, make a recommendation to council - in camera - and it would be approved by council before the deputy mayor is named publicly.

“I like the idea because it was done ages ago,” said Councillor Liz Welsh.

And while the decision returns to an old style of doing things, the acting mayor rotation is sticking around.

Field says councillors will still be called on to fill in for the mayor and deputy mayor.

Council will consider Loosley’s recommendation for deputy mayor at the Sept. 25 meeting. Field says Loosley - who is recovering from heart surgery - has not given a date he will return to council. Field said Loosley could submit his suggestion whether he was in attendance at council or still on leave.



PUBLIC NOTICE SECOND OPEN HOUSE OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE

THE PURPOSE OF THE OPEN HOUSE
The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston will hold an Open House, pursuant to Section 17(16) of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, as amended, for the purpose of providing an opportunity for the public to offer comments and ask questions regarding the revisions that are being proposed as part of the update to the Municipality’s Official Plan.

The Open House will be held as follows:

**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 27TH, 2023
4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
ALVINSTON FIRE STATION
3267 NAUVOO ROAD
ALVINSTON, ON N0N 1A0**

YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT
Any person may attend the Open House. If you are unable to attend, you may provide written comments to the Clerk-Administrator at jdenkers@brookealvinston.com or by submitting them to the below address:

Mail: Municipality of Brooke Alvinston
3236 River Street
Alvinston, ON N0N 1A0
519-898-2172
www.brookealvinston.com

Marthaville murderers still unknown despite pleas

CON’T FROM PG 1

Sarnia Court heard Sept. 6, that Armstrong was a part of the drug scene in Sarnia.

The man - known as Jimmy Dreds by some - often received calls or text messages asking for rides. Armstrong used his mother’s Ford Escape to shuttle people around for drugs or gas money.

In April 2022, Nahmabin - a known drug trafficker - was looking for Andrew Chute - a fentanyl user - whom Nahmabin had never met but with whom he had mutual acquaintances.

On April 14, Armstrong gave Nahmabin a ride to a home on Devine Street where he found Chute.

The three got in Armstrong’s Ford Escape and headed out of Sarnia in the early morning hours for what Armstrong told police he assumed was a drug deal.

Armstrong was owed some cocaine and he thought they were going to Chatham to get it.

But, according to a statement of facts read into the court record, Nahmabin told Armstrong to go to the Marthaville Habitat Management Area.

Armstrong drove as Nahmabin texted with someone and Chute fell asleep in the back of the Escape. Nahmabin told police he was “on the nod” after taking opioids.

The sun was starting to come up as they arrived and Armstrong pulled the SUV into the parking lot as far as he could and backed into a parking spot.

Nahmabin told Armstrong another vehicle was coming and he was to leave with them.

Armstrong, Nahmabin and Chute got out of the Escape to have a smoke. About 20 minutes later, Chute lay in a pool of blood on the gravel, shot multiple times by two masked black men who arrived in an Acura which Nahmabin had borrowed from a friend.

“None of the involved parties checked on Mr. Chute. There was no discussion between any of the parties at the scene about checking on Mr. Chute or calling 911,” Crown Counsel Suzanne Lasha read into the record. Armstrong later told police he was “shaking and traumatized” by the shooting.

Armstrong got in the Acura as planned. It stopped briefly at the West End Pumps before heading to London where the men got out.

Later that morning, Nahmabin sent Armstrong a



FILE PHOTO

Lambton OPP search for clues on Marthaville Road April 14, 2022. Andrew Chute was murdered at the nearby habitat.

text, telling him to wipe the car down.

The pair later met at Nahmabin’s home to exchange vehicles. Armstrong noticed a bullet had grazed the hood of his SUV.

Nahmabin also told him to delete all of their messages.

He did, however the OPP were able to retrieve them.

The night of Chute’s murder, Nahmabin texted Armstrong “Boss said if you talking about what happened, don’t.”

Armstrong first denied being present at Chute’s murder when he talked to police. But by May 31, he’d been charged with first degree murder.

According to court documents, he worked with police, showing them where he took the shooters and talking about Chute’s murder.

Nahmabin also offered up information including that he’d been arranging a drug deal. Nahmabin said he was not aware the men using the Acura were carrying guns with plans to kill Chute.

The statement of facts read into the court record said a forensic post-mortem exam in London found Chute died of multiple gunshot wounds to the head, neck, torso and upper extremities. “Eleven bullets struck Chute’s body,” read Crown Counsel Nicole Godfrey.

“As of the date of this plea, police have not identified the two persons who attended the conservation area in the Acura and shot Andrew Chute. The firearm used to kill Chute has not been recovered.

“The investigation into the death of Andrew Chute continues.”

Nahmabin and Armstrong will appear in court Nov. 6 for sentencing submissions.

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OPINION

Battery storage should not be on farm land

EDITOR: I write regarding Blake Ellis’ story, “Battery storage project in the works for Enniskillen again” in the August 31 edition of *The Independent of Petrolia and Central Lambton*. While I’m appreciative of the longer, more transparent process being undertaken by the proponents of the latest, large-scale battery energy storage system (BESS) proposed for Enniskillen, I have some concerns. My concerns are not specific to this project but rather the province’s overall approach to battery energy storage as it unnecessarily incentivizes the destruction of prime farmland and lacks any regulation or guidelines to protect public interests and ensure public safety. According to the Ontario Farmland Trust, every day in Ontario we lose 319 acres of farmland to non-agricultural land uses yet we rely on agriculture for food we eat and jobs in our communities. While we also depend on safe, reliable electricity it need not be at the

expense of farmland. Large-scale, land-extensive BESS should be located on industrial or contaminated brownfield land like the 1,000+ acre site of the former Lambton Generating Station. This latest proposal for Enniskillen would see at least 20 acres of farmland turned into a 200-300 megawatt installation of hundreds of shipping-containers full of batteries. To date, installations of this size have never been built in Canada. Smaller 5-10 megawatt installations in Corunna and Sarnia are co-located on industrial properties that are regularly monitored which is important as BESS in New York, Arizona, and Australia have ignited resulting in rare but dangerous explosive fire and toxic smoke with evacuations, stay-inside orders, and injuries to firefighters occurring. On July 19, Hydro One released their BESS Fire Risk Assessment Standards - the first of any BESS-specific codes or regulations in Ontario - in an effort

to responsibly safeguard their assets as this new technology continues to evolve. Central to their standards to mitigate the risk of cascading fire and explosion is spatial separation (set-back) both around a BESS project and between the containers of batteries within a BESS project. In contrast, projects proposed for St. Clair Township would see large-scale BESS and/or accompanying substations within 200 meters of family homes as developers rush to maximize their profit opportunity before codes and regulations can catch up. Large-scale BESS is not a good use of prime farmland and if anywhere. BESS should be located on industrial or brownfield land where they present the lowest risk to people, their homes, and livelihoods.

Marilyn Robbins
St. Clair Township, ON

Plympton-Wyoming looking for battery storage info

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

It would not be surprising to see Plympton-Wyoming Mayor Gary Atkinson attending an Enniskillen Township council meeting on Sept. 18 to see Compass Energy Consulting makes its presentation about a proposed battery storage facility on Churchill Line. Atkinson has a great interest in the proposed project, as Churchill Line is the boundary between Enniskillen and Plympton-Wyoming. Wyoming residents live within two kilometres of the proposed project. Compass Energy Consulting hopes to build the battery storage facility

at 4703 Churchill Line, which is on the outskirts of Wyoming near Oil Heritage Road. Wyoming firefighters respond to emergencies along the road for Enniskillen. “Our fire department could be there before any other department,” said Atkinson. At this point Plympton-Wyoming’s mayor just wants to get all the facts on the project. He said until then it is premature to comment on whether he in favour or opposed to the proposed battery storage facility or whether Plympton-Wyoming would pursue negotiating an community benefit agreement with the company, much like Enniskillen would

be doing if council gives its support to the project. Compass Energy Consulting will be holding an open house in October. Compass Energy Consulting President Jonathan Cheszes told Enniskillen Township council on Aug. 21, and officials plan to visit homes in a two kilometre radius of the site Sept. 19 and 20. Atkinson will be attending the open house and will be encouraging members of the Plympton-Wyoming council to do the same. Atkinson has not had an opportunity to discuss the project with representatives of Compass Energy Consulting and Plympton-Wyoming council has not discussed the matter as of yet.

Women facing intimate partner violence need housing

Heather Wright
The Independent

Lambton’s politicians say intimate partner violence is an epidemic. But whether the county will help with one of the biggest problems facing women who leave their abusers is yet to be seen. Executive Director of the Women’s Interval Home, Jennifer Vansteenkiste, told county councillors Sept. 6 that one in three women experiences intimate partner violence and every six days a woman dies at the hands of a current or former intimate partner. Vansteenkiste pointed out reports “outlines 52 femicides in 2020 to 38 femicide so far this year, and documents the seven femicides that occurred in Sarnia-Lambton since the beginning of the pandemic. Seven women murdered.” Last year, she said, Sarnia police and the OPP went to 928 calls involving intimate partner violence. Calls for services are up dramatically without any added provincial funding to meet the

need. Vansteenkiste was representing a number of organizations including Victims Services and the Sexual Assault Survivors Centre. All, she said, are getting more calls for help as first the pandemic and now the economic downturn and housing crisis, lead to more violence in relationships. The county agreed to declare Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic and supported a call for the province and the federal governments to provide long-term sustainable funding for the organizations which help woman and their children fleeing intimate partner violence. But Vansteenkiste said there is an area the county could provide concrete help - housing. Vansteenkiste says right now the county has three units available for women fleeing violence. An independent consultant says Lambton county needs nearly 20. Vansteenkiste says Womens’ Interval Home and the Sexual Assault Survivors Centre has a plan to build housing

for women who are ready to take the first step into the community. But she says, they should be in the same building so women’s groups can provide support services. The groups approached the county for help to apply for federal funding, but were turned away. Vansteenkiste says without funding from other levels of government, the project won’t be feasible. She tells *The Independent* its clear politicians are facing a crisis in housing but transitional housing for women fleeing intimate partner violence would help. “Domestic violence is actually a pathway to homelessness for women and their children, which leads to the next generation of homeless people. So, if they want to be proactive on the problem of homelessness, they really need to address domestic violence and transitional housing.” Vansteenkiste told councillors without access to the housing they need, women and children end up returning to the home of their abusers.

- **Emery Huszka**
Dealer - Florence ON,
226-373-6244
- **Julie Maw**
Dealer - Courtright ON,
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Attention Petrolia & Enniskillen Township Residents


Monday, September 18 @ 7pm,
Enniskillen Township Council will be voting on a **SITE SPECIFIC EXEMPTION** for the growing of Cannabis at the LaSalle Line greenhouse.

Please attend this meeting to show your disapproval of the “Grandfathering” application and also to show your support to the many residents who will be negatively affected by this exemption.

Please double check the Agenda this Friday at:
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Thank you for your support,
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BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTO

Alison Powers, left and Celeste Jacklin, (centre) both of Holy Rosary Catholic School in Wyoming pet a calf during the dairy session put on by the Vivian Forbes and her family who own a dairy operation in Sarnia. About 300 students converged on the Wyoming Fairgrounds to get a glimpse into agriculture sector for the Agriculture Society's Agriculture in the Classroom event. Organizer Sandy Atkinson said students experienced everything from eggs, honey, sheep, beef, dairy, farm safety, fire safety, healthy eating and met the OPP dog handler.

Arrest made in Lakeshore hit and run

Heather Wright
The Independent

A Camlachie man is facing charges in a hit and run accident which seriously injured a Wyoming cyclist.

Allan Ross was cycling along Lakeshore Road near Mandaumin Sept. 1 between 7:30 pm and 9 pm when he was struck by a pickup truck. Ross, according to social media posts from family and cycling friends, was

wearing a helmet but still suffered severe injuries including a broken pelvis, back injuries, and bruised kidneys among other things.

Ross needed surgery in London to repair some of the damage.

Family and friends flooded social media with pictures of a white Chevy truck asking people to look for a similar vehicle with front end damage. They said the Chevy bow tie emblem and a piece of the grill was left at the

scene.

On Sept. 6, Sarnia Police and the OPP recovered a similar pickup in the parking lot of the Sarnia Legion.

Lambton OPP arrested a 34 year-old man Monday at 6:30 pm. Andrew Craig of Camlachie has been charged with careless driving causing bodily harm, failing to stop after an accident and failing to report an accident.

He's been released to appear in court at a later date.

Lambton gauging interest in rural transit

Heather Wright
The Independent

Lambton County is going to ask municipalities if there is interest in starting a rural/inter-community transit system.

It was an idea brought to council by Warwick Township Mayor Todd Case who said he had people asking for the service. Case believes there are two factors driving the request – the rising cost of driving and people choosing to live in small communities but finding work in larger centres.

Lambton county staff suggested a study at a cost of \$150,000 on the issue. But Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley suggested simply polling municipalities to see “is the need that profound that we need to go and spend this type of money.”

The county investigated the move before in 2016, but the effort stalled for lack of interest in light of the costs and insurance issues.

Case says cost will be an issue again this time around.

“I guess that’s the other big question mark for everybody, is there going to be provincial funding available? I think it’s up to us to include that in our due diligence as well to maybe have those meetings with municipalities,” he told county councillors Wednesday.

Lambton Shores Mayor Doug Cook says his municipality set up an inter-community transit system with Huron County and post pandemic – the use of the service took off.

“We’re seeing the numbers (of users) increase very rapidly over the last couple of years especially since COVID has passed,” he told county

council.

Cook says Lambton College has been involved in promoting the service and that’s led to college students finding work in Lambton Shores – particularly Grand Bend – and Lambton Shores residents heading to Sarnia for college courses.

“For us, it works very well. We have a lot of folks who come to our community; college students are coming into work and that’s our heavy usage for transit.”

Cook says the provincial government provided some funding to set up the service and it will be subsidized by the provincial grant until 2025.

Lambton County Council will get a better look at the Lambton Shores system when the issue returns to council in November.

PLYMPTON WYOMING FAIR

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FRIDAY, SATURDAY
& SUNDAY



FRIDAY, SEPT 15

11:30 am to 1:30 pm Rebekah Lodge Luncheon @ the Wyoming Lion's Hall

5 pm Food Booth/Trucks, Midway & Buildings Open

7 pm Opening Ceremonies, Prince & Princess, Ambassador crowning

8 pm – Barn Dance - Livestock Building

SATURDAY, SEPT 16

9:30 - 4:00 Buildings open, Petting Zoo

10:00 Food Booths, Baby Show, Midway Open

11:00 Light Horse Show & Birds of Prey Show

11:45 Parade

12:00 - 4:00 Refreshment Tent

12:30 Beef show / Dairy Show

1:00 Birds of Prey Show

2:00 Elite Star Dancers

3:00 Birds of Prey Show & Pie Eating Contest

7:30 YukYuk's Comedy Show (Show starts at 8:00)

SUNDAY, SEPT 17

9:00 - 12:00 Wyoming Lions Breakfast

9:00 Taxidermist - Greg Balch

10:00 Food Booths & Buildings Open

10:00 Midway / Petting Zoo

11:00 Heavy Horse & Sheep Show

12:00 - 5:00 Refreshment Tent / Antique Tractor Pull

1:00 Pet Show

2:00 Championship Wrestling Show

4:30 Fair Exhibit Pick-up

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SCAN ME

Victoria Hall bill hits \$116,000

Heather Wright
The Independent

The repair of Victoria Hall was budgeted for \$20,000. Instead, the town spent over \$116,000 to repair the wooden cupola on the north roof of Victoria Hall.

A report from David Menzies, director of parks, recreation and facilities for the town, said staff noticed the need to repair the wooden parts but, because of the height of the roof, were not able to accurately assess the damage which had taken place in the last 25 years.

After town council approved \$20,000 in repairs in February,

planning for the work began. But as people started using Victoria Park beneath the cupola, Menzies report says, they were calling town hall saying pieces of metal roof sheeting and slate tiles were falling from above.

“At this time the CAO implemented emergency repairs as per the town’s procurement bylaw for the safety of park users and VPP patrons,” he writes.

Council was made aware of the problem and Menzies began working with engineers from CIMA on the repairs.

Menzies says \$45,000 in scaffolding was erected to safely access the roof and by June 28, CIMA and Bourque Renovations

were evaluating the repairs.

The first estimate put the cost at \$133,000 however when the work was complete the final bill was just over \$116,323.

Menzies report says the repairs completed included replacement of the fascia, soffits, finials, windows frames, inlays, tin trim, slate shingles, and bird netting. All the painting is complete. Interior structural beams have been secured as per the engineer’s advice. The material used was marine grade plywood which will withstand the elements for the next 20 years.

The exterior of the structure is scheduled to be examined in 2026 by drone.

Teen seriously injured in Confederation Line crash

A youth is in hospital with serious injuries after a collision between a dirt bike and a vehicle.

Lambton OPP, paramedics and the Wyoming fire department were called to Confederation Line near Fairweather Road around 6:15 pm

Sept. 6, after a vehicle and a youth on a dirt bike collided.

The dirt bike driver’s injuries were considered life threatening when they were transported to hospital, but in a news release OPP said their condition is now stable

and the injuries are “no longer life threatening.”

Confederation was closed until 11 pm for the investigation.

No charges have been laid as the investigation continues.

Zion Line repairs to start soon; province reviews claims

Heather Wright
The Independent

Warwick Township CAO Amanda Gubbels says the damage done to Zion Line in the Aug. 23 flood will soon be repaired.

Gubbels told council Monday an engineering report completed that day showed the pavement which buckled on the newly-built roadway will have to be milled off and repaved. There will also be gravel added

to the shoulder. Much of it washed away.

The information was so new, Gubbels was unable to say how much the repairs might cost nor when the township would be able to begin repairs.

Meantime, provincial officials were touring Watford Monday as well, looking at some of the damage done to homes during the massive flood.

Over eight inches of water in five hours overwhelmed the drainage tiles and sewage

system sending raw sewage into basements and washing out roads. It led the township to declare a state of emergency.

Assessors for the Municipal Disaster Assistance Relief Program were in Watford touring nine homes which suffered damage.

Gubbels isn’t sure how long it will take for the province to decide if residents can take advantage of the program to cover some of the costs incurred because of the flood.

Warwick councillors don’t want to start a flag flap

Heather Wright
The Independent

Warwick Township council doesn’t appear to want to wade into the flag wars which have plagued other municipalities.

In Norwich and Chatham-Kent, there have been heated discussions about flying flags on municipal buildings in support of causes such as PRIDE.

Monday, Chief Administrative Officer Amanda Gubbels brought a new policy for flag

use on municipal property to council, suggesting a procedure be set up for groups who wanted their flags raised on municipal property.

But the councillors present at the meeting did not like the idea.

“It’s caused a lot of problems in other communities. Are we going to be picking sides in what we put up?... “I just assume leave it as it is. We have three government planes flying from ELCC I

think you see it stay that way,” said Councillor Wayne Morris.

Both Councillors Joe Manning and John Couwenberg agreed.

Mayor Todd Case suggested council may not want to automatically say no to “some very worthy causes” such as the Every Child Matters movement.

Gubbels will take the councillors suggestions and make them part of the policy which will come back to council for discussion.

New PW administrator hopes to tackle housing problem

Heather Wright
The Independent

Plympton-Wyoming’s new CAO thinks ensuring there are affordable homes in the communities is one of the biggest jobs he’ll tackle.

Adam Sobanski, the town’s former director of public works, took on the position Sept. 11.

Sobanski grew up and still lives in Strathroy, and like many others, has been keeping a close eye on the housing market in Plympton-Wyoming

hoping for that perfect home. But it’s not easy to find an affordable home. It’s a refrain he’s been hearing from young and older couples.

“They cannot find a place to live, and so they end up moving to Petrolia - our own previous mayor did so - because we just don’t have that kind of smaller house or rental property and on Wyoming.”

Sobanski is hopeful the town will land a large grant under the federal Housing Accelerator Program “to try to find a way

to incentivize developers to bring in some of those what the province of Ontario was calling missing middle houses, so that we can ensure that our aging residents can stay in their community. And we can ensure that our new property owners who are looking for their first house can afford to jump into a new house and not be mortgaged poor.”

The town has hired a consultant to try to win the grant and implement a housing plan over the next five years.

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Exhibit Hall & Commercial building opens @ 6pm

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5pm - 9pm

Jamie Baldwin @ the refreshment tent

6pm - 8:30pm

Children's Activity Area: Free; west of main building

6pm - 9pm

Escape Room: free

6pm - 10pm

Fireworks! set off in the in-field

8:45 pm

Brothers Wilde @ the refreshment tent

9pm-midnight

SATURDAY

Petting Zoo: Lots of animals to touch and look at. Located in the Pavilion.

10am - 6pm

Mogo Magic Show and Balloon Twisting - Walk around magic

12:15pm 12:45pm 3:00pm - 3:30pm

Parade arriving at fairgrounds approximately

12:30pm

Dairy Show

1pm

Ray Pettigrew and Dawn Brown

Performing the refreshment tent

11am-12:30pm - 5pm - 6pm

The Elder Brothers: @ the refreshment tent:

2pm - 5pm

REMAX Hot Air Balloon Rides:

FREE Located in the infield. Weather permitting

5pm - 7pm

The Receivers @ the refreshment tent

7pm to 8:30pm

The Mudmen - Celtic Rock Band performing in the refreshment tent on the in-field.

9pm - Midnight

SUNDAY

Petting Zoo: Lots of animals to touch and look at. Located in the Pavilion.

9am - 5pm

Escape Room : 5 minute escape room trailer

noon - 5pm

Demolition Derby: Located in the Derby ring in the in-field

1pm

Mojo Magic Show in children's area

11:30am-Noon - 2:30pm - 3pm

For more information about this event go to
<https://theforestfair.ca/>
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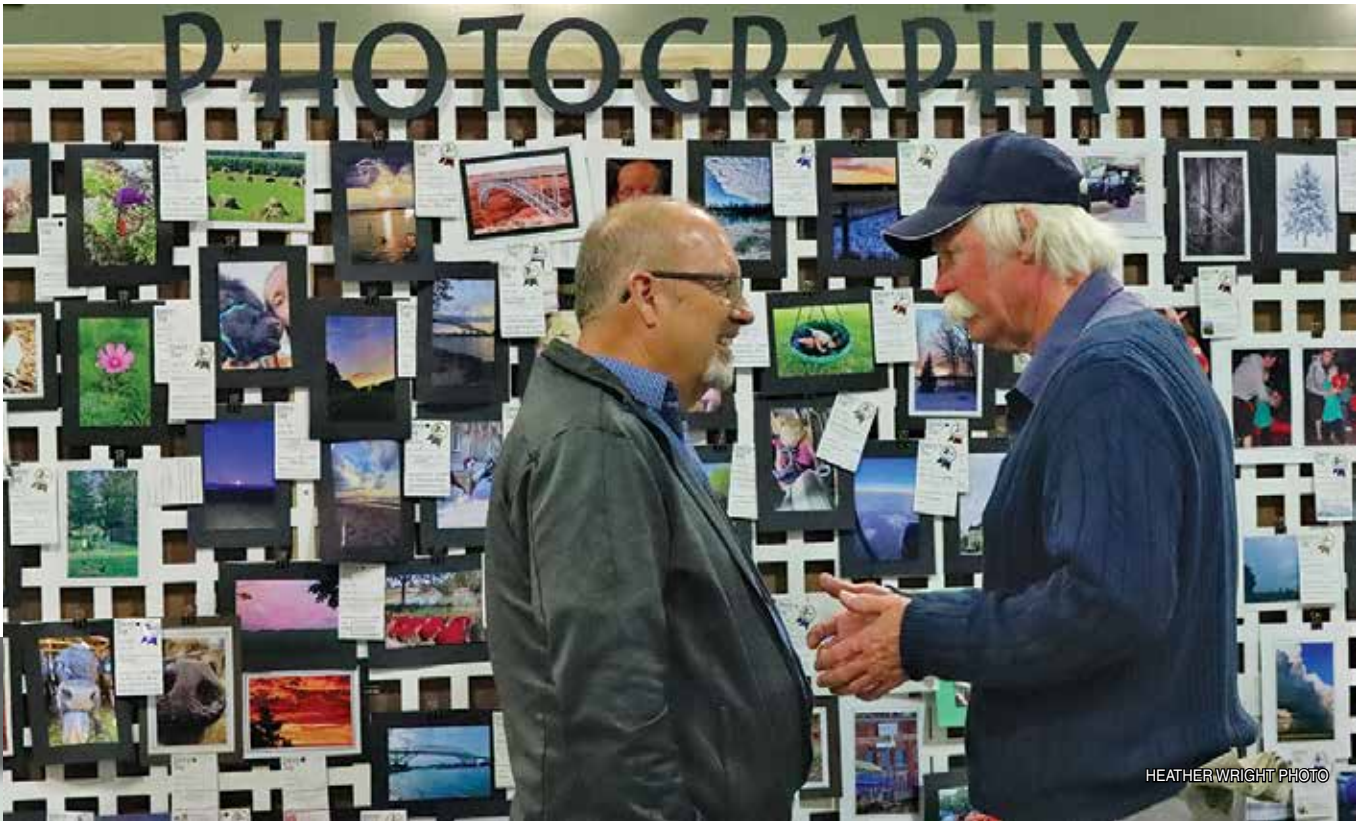
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Strutting their stuff at the Petrolia Enniskillen Fall Fair

Rain held off for the annual event



Christina Dare shows her horse in the full Belgian class during the heavy horse show at the Petrolia and Enniskillen Fair on Saturday morning. She walked away with a first place finish in the full Belgian class in the heavy horse show. Ava Horwood, the Petrolia Fair Ambassador, waves to the crowd during Saturday's parade. Violet Nichol with her mother, Felicia Nicol, took part in the new born to five month girl class in the baby show. Friends met near the photography display to have a chat. And a mother and son take in Friday night's tractor pull.





Wrestlers, wrecks and a whole lot more at Petrolia Fair



BLAKE ELLIS/LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE PHOTOS

Tyler Tirva retained the Open Weight Championship belt during a match against Karou as a large crowd at the Petrolia and Enniskillen Fair were treated to Independent Professional Wrestling Action. Kate Packet of Wyoming won first in the market class during the 4-H Sheep Show Saturday. Kennedy Adams was busy ramming some cars during the kids Power Wheels demolition derby Sunday. Steve Foster was still getting in some hits on Sunday at the demolition derby at the Petrolia and Enniskillen Fair, despite some noticeable damage to his car. Bluewater Taekwondo members were doing some high kicks in the parade and the OPP Pipe Band entertained.



The Big Red Machine reunites 20 years after hall of fame

Heather Wright
The Independent

Art Johnson says the members of the 1971 Ontario Champion Alvinston Indians were a true team. “We didn’t have any stars...if one guy wasn’t playing well, the others picked it up.” That’s why Johnston was glad to fly across Canada to be part of a reunion of the group of players dubbed “The Big Red Machine.” In 1971, a group of guys 16 and older seemed to have a special spark. Johnson, from BC, says Jack Rand was the team’s best player - a pitching ace the local paper called him at the time. The others stepped up to the plate at different times during the long road to the Intermediate B championship weekend in Elliott Lake. Team member Bill McNally says Alvinston first won the Lambton championship, beating others in the league including Sarnia and Strathroy.

From there, they took on eight different teams across the province. They faced a few troubles, including having to play their home games in Petrolia after the lights in Alvinston blew down in a storm. By October, the Alvinston Indians prepared for the trip to Elliott Lake. Alvinston won its first game team member Hugh Deighton recalls but lost badly to the Nordic Rebels 12-1. As game three rolled around, the snow started to fall. Play had to be stopped so the organizers could shovel off the field. Then Rand stepped to the mound and delivered a two hitter, striking out 11 en route to the clubs 6-1 win for the title. Local newspapers from 1971 show photos of the team arriving at the Alvinston arena and taking a ride on the fire truck around town. Twenty years ago, the boys got back together when they were inducted into the Sarnia Lambton Sports Hall of



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Dan and Art Johnson look at some photos from 1971 Ontario champion Alvinston Indians Friday in Petrolia. Fame. Friday was the first time they were together since then and Johnson wouldn’t have missed it. “Everything gelled with these guys,” he says.

Ball teams forming in Enniskillen may lead to bathroom upgrade

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

The Township of Enniskillen will have to look seriously at replacing the washrooms at Krall Park, since the park is likely to have an increase in activity with a baseball team regularly using the diamond. The municipality shelved the plans recently saying the Krall Park diamond didn’t get enough use to warrant the expense. But, it looks like there will be more activity at Krall Park next season, which may spur the project on. There are plans for an Under 11 girls fastball team were explained at the Township of Enniskillen’s Parks and Recreation Committee meeting on Sept. 5. A group led by Lee Charlton is organizing a girls’ team with tryouts to

take place in September and competing season. Charlton said the team began tryouts Sept. 6. Wyoming and Corunna already have teams and he suspects they will be Enniskillen’s competition. The last time a team rented the diamonds over a season, Enniskillen charged \$70 per players. The committee decided to continue this, but increased the fee to \$85 a player. Charlton said the team would have players with the birth year 2014, with not being the first year they have played. He would like to have 12 to 13 players on the team. There is also interested in an Under 9 girls’ team, something that will be followed up more in the spring. The team is looking at being affiliated with the Provincial Women’s Softball Association of Ontario, but will still have a team if that is not accomplished. Chair of Enniskillen’s Park and Recreation Committee indicated there has been a canteen open at the park and a chicken barbecue held in the past to raise money for ball teams. Charlton said they would be open to that. He also have a line on a few sponsors could help the team financially. Doug Krall said there have been few games played at Krall Park due to the number of rainouts this season. There have also been two end-of-the-season tournaments held at the diamond. It has been so long since Enniskillen had organized ball teams, that this is the first meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee came to council since Oct. 15, 2019, it’s last meeting nearly four years ago.



Wesley Williams Ava Laporte Liam Crummy

Enniskillen honours local students with scholarships

Blake Ellis
Local Journalism Initiative

Three students from Enniskillen each received a \$1,500 scholarship from the Township of Enniskillen this year. Ava Laporte, will be attending Lambton College and the University of Windsor taking a bachelor of science in nursing. As part of the submission process, Laporte, in an essay about the benefits of living in Enniskillen Township’s rural environment, pointed to the country charm and peacefulness. Liam Crummy will be attending St. Clair College studying in the civil engineering technology program. He is also signed with St. Clair to play golf. Crummy said the best thing he liked about living in Enniskillen Township was the opportunities he had to snowmobile and four-wheeling. Wesley Williams is the third recipient and he will be attending the Ridgetown campus of the University of Guelph where he will be taking agriculture. He appreciates in a small community you can rely on your neighbours, even if you might not know them directly. Enniskillen Township has had a scholarship fund since 2019 when the municipality was given money by Tilray, which had a presence in the township at the time. Every year scholarships are given to deserving post-secondary students. This is the first time Enniskillen has awarded three scholarships in one year.



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September 11th to September 22nd
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) will be flushing water mains throughout Watford and Warwick Township, as part of the annual flushing program.

You may experience discoloured water coming from your tap. If this happens, we suggest you try the following:

- remove the aerators from your taps and flush all the house lines until the water runs clear.
- you may also decide to refrain from doing laundry during this period to avoid staining of your clothing.


We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

OCWA will continue to work on the flushing programs to ensure consumer satisfaction. Any concerns, please contact OCWA at the phone numbers below.

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www.warwicktownship.ca

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OCWA's 24 hour Emergency Contact # 1-888-522-0117



Water Meter Replacement and Reading System Project

The Town of Plympton-Wyoming is in the process of replacing old water meters and read outs so they are compatible with the new drive-by reading system.

Plympton residents should receive their letter mid-September and Wyoming residents should receive their letter beginning of October. If you have not received your letter by those dates, please contact the Municipal Office.

If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Municipal Office at **519-845-3939** or Neptune Technology Group at **905-858-4211**.

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SPORTS

Flyers open season Friday

The Independent

The puck drops on the 35th season of on ice activity for the Flyers franchise Friday night.

The Petrolia club, which moved from Alvinston to the Greenwood Rec Centre in 2016 - open the season against the Trojans in Thamesford at 7:30.

The Trojans finished third last season in a tightly-bunched Yeck division but went on to win the divisional banner with playoff victories over Lucan, North Middlesex and Mt. Brydges.

They were swept by Lakeshore in the

West divisional final.

Petrolia finished in eighth place in the nine-team division in its inaugural season in the Yeck Division with a record of 10-26-4 and were swept by Mt. Brydges in the opening round of the post season.

Petrolia's home opener is against the Aylmer Spitfires a week from Sept. 21 at Greenwood at 7:30.

Meantime Daniel Gibson had a goal and an assist to lead the Petrolia Flyers to a 5-3 exhibition win over Dresden Sunday at the Watford Arena.

Cameron Hackett, Cameron Davidson, Parker Davidson and Tanner

Hull also scored for the Flyers against the Jr. Kings.

Petrolia, with most of its veterans back from last season, ended the PJHL preseason with a 3-1 record despite a 7-2 loss to Mooretown Friday night as part of a marathon hockey game charity event in Sarnia.

Cameron Davidson and Dylan Demeulenaere scored for the Flyers.

Petrolia also shored up its goaltending situation by signing Ethan Everaert. The Port Franks native played in 45 regular season and playoff games with the Sarnia Legionnaires over the past two seasons.

Flags host royalty from Dresden to open the season

The Mooretown Flags raise the curtain on a new PJHL season Saturday against the Dresden Jr. Kings. Game time at the Moore Sports Complex is 7:30.

The Flags finished in fifth place in the Stobbs division last season hovering around the .500 mark. They beat Blenheim in six games in the first round of the playoffs and then lost to Essex in six games in the divisional semi-finals.

Mooretown went 2-1 on the weekend to end its PJHL exhibition schedule.

John Chartrand made 54 saves on Sunday in a 4-3 loss to the Bulldogs in Mt. Brydges.

That game followed a 7-2 win over Petrolia Friday in a charity match at the Progressive Auto Centre and a 6-4 triumph against Walpole Island on Saturday.

Tristan Konrad had the hat trick and Dracen Campbell scored twice against the Flyers while Jace Dupuis had a hat trick against the Wild.

Mooretown ended the preseason with a 3-3 record.



The elbows were up as the Flags and Flyers played in a charity match.

VanGorp signs with Knights

You can imagine that butterflies were jumping in Evan Van Gorp's stomach Sunday when he took to the ice at the Progressive Auto Sales Arena in Sarnia wearing a London Knights jersey for the first time.

The Watford product was held off the scoresheet in a 3-2 win by the Knights in OHL preseason action.

Van Gorp signed with London after

being released from the Sting training camp.

He played last season with the Elgin-Middlesex Canucks U18 team coached by Petrolia's Brian Dobbin.

Van Gorp was not in the lineup Friday when the Sting beat the Knights, 3-2 in downtown London.

Both Sarnia and London open the regular season at home on Sept. 29.



Watford's Evan VanGorp a Knight

Shortt, Thompson lead Lambton Lions in weekend wins

Wyoming Wrangler grads Kylee Shortt and Ava Thompson each had three hits to power Lambton to a 10-4 win over Mohawk Sunday in OCAA women's softball.

The victory followed a tough 5-3 loss to Fanshawe in the first game of a doubleheader. The London school rallied for a run in the seventh to force

extra innings and then scored twice in the eighth for the win. Thompson had a pair of hits for Lambton against the Falcons.

Saturday, Lambton was no-hit in a 16-0 loss to the powerful St. Clair Saints squad but then rebounded for a 4-3 win over Conestoga.

Wallaceburg's Avery Moninger walked

it off with a two-run single in the bottom of the seventh inning. Shortt went six innings for the win, striking out nine. Moninger nailed it down with a scoreless final inning.

Lambton is at home for a doubleheader against Mohawk Saturday at Sarnia's Tecumseh Park. First pitch is scheduled for 1 pm.

IN BRIEF: Bees name captains, Coene wins Lambton Jr title

Matt Stevens will wear the C this season for the Alvinston Killer Bees.

Stevens, from Watford, replaces Scott Case who is now on the Bees' coaching staff.

Meantime, Alvinston has also signed forward Michael McArthur. The St. Tomas native has most recently played NCAA hockey in upstate New York.

...

A tie for third place Sunday at Huron Oaks was good enough for Tyler Coene to claim the senior boys' tour championship in the inaugural season of the Lambton junior golf tour.

Coene beat Adam Valiquette by one half point for the overall trophy.

Ben Grant won the event Sunday, with a 77. Coene carded a 79.

Noah Oliver and Isaac Kennette won the intermediate and junior boys events Sunday and overall season titles as did Sophia Rocca and Vivian Callander on the girls' side.

...

Alvinston's Sydney Redick picked up the mound victory as the Durham Lords beat Sheridan, 16-6 in the first of four straight OCAA women's softball victories.

Redick, in her final year at the Oshawa school, also made two relief appearances and contributed at the plate with two hits, two walks, two runs scored and an RBI.

...

The second preseason open senior hockey tryout for the Petrolia Squires

has been pushed back a day.

It'll now be held on Thursday, Sept. 14 at the Shores Recreation Complex in Forest at 9 pm.

...

Wyoming's Noah Myers and the Evansville Otters have won the Frontier Baseball League West division pennant.

Myers had two hits, a walk and two RBI to lead the Otters to a win last weekend in a third and deciding game of the divisional championship series. He also scored three runs and had two stolen bases.

The Otters were scheduled to open the best-of-five championship series against the Capitales in Quebec City on Tuesday.

Triest brings home bronze

Alvinston's Andy Triest and the Shakespeare Falcons took third place at the recent Canadian Fastpitch championships in Surrey, BC.

The Stratford-area Falcons beat teams from Alberta, BC, the host team and the eventual winners from Cobourg in the preliminary round of the Masters division but fell 4-3 to Delfort, Saskatchewan in the semifinals.

Meantime, former Alvinston (then) Indian Ty Sebastian tossed a 15-inning shutout to lead Toronto Batmen to a 1-0 win in the men's final.

Sebastian was chosen as tournament MVP.

Two other ex-Indians, Jeff Lyons and Robbie Black were part of the Bear Creek Express which finished third.

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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

Death Notices

Sept. 5 - Sept. 12, 2023

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

FINDLAY, Elizabeth Anne "Mitch"
Age: 94
Van Heck Funeral Home

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

FALCONER, Bradley "Brad" James
Age: 56, of Parkhill
Gilpin Funeral Chapel

WILLMORE, William "Bill"
Age: 82, of Chatham
Badder Funeral Home

GILAROWSKI, Irene
Age: 98, of Petrolia
Smith Funeral Home

BAXTER, Kimberly "Kim" Ann Janet
Age: 60
Smith Funeral Home

HUZEVKA, John
Age: 86
Smith Funeral Home

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

VANDERJAGT, Nancy (nee Crockford)
Age: 73
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

IAFRATE, Domenico
Age: 85
McKenzie-Blundy Funeral Home

MUNRO, Phyllis
Age: 91
Van Heck Funeral Home

ALLISON, Sheila Marion
Age: 80
Gilpin Funeral Chapel

ANDERSON, Gordon Alexander
Age: 98
Gilpin Funeral Chapel

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

HEFFERNAN, Catherine Mary
Age: 95, of Forest
Denning's Funeral Home

VANDEMBERG, Yttje "Edith" Geertje
Age: 95
Smith Funeral Home

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

SHEPHERD, Clifford William "Bill"
Age: 81
Steadman Brothers Funeral Home

BADDER, John Carlyle
Age: 91, of Thamesville
Badder Funeral Home

VERSTAEN, Angela Irma (nee Mooyaert)
Age: 93
Smith Funeral Home

LUGSDIN, John "Barry"
Age: 79
Smith Funeral Home

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

WAGNER, Cathy (nee Scott)
Age: 70, of Sarnia
Needham-Jay Funeral Home

JOHNSTON, Flora "Margaret" (McCallum)
Age: 101, of Chatham
Badder Funeral Home


MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

HARBIN, Patricia Lynn (nee Bryan)
Age: 70, of Grand Bend
Gilpin Funeral Chapel


CORNELL, Elizabeth "Gayle"
Age: 83
Smith Funeral Home

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

Birthday



Earle Woolaver



Petrolia's Oldest Active CUB SCOUT

80 YEARS OLD

September 14, 2023

Congratulations!
from Your Family

Wedding

Just Married

Marilyn (Whiting) & Maurice MAW

Wish to announce their recent marriage at the groom's farm
September 2nd, 2023

Pastor Tim Gibb & Pastor Tricia Gibb officiated the ceremony. Mary Lee MacDougall was the matron of honor, and Mark Darrach was the best man.



Obituary



VON DER RECKE Jane (Maxena) (nee Hollingsworth)

Jane (Maxena) Von Der Recke (nee Hollingsworth) passed away peacefully, in her 71st year, on August 31st, 2023, surrounded by her loving family. Beloved wife of Eric Von Der Recke for 47 wonderful years. Loving mother to Erika (Matt) Reesor, and Kurt (Stephanie) Von Der Recke. Beloved Grammie to Keegan, Brett, Maggie, Eloise, Westin, Waylon. Cherished sister to Richard (Sandy) Hollingsworth. Beloved aunt to Nathan (Julie), Joel (Sarah). Great aunt to Kari, Addison, Owen and Camden. Remembered fondly by all of her extended family and friends. Born May, 15th 1953 in Sarnia ON, to the late Donald and Jean Hollingsworth; Jane lived a very exciting and full life. She was very active, having played many different sports throughout her life including baseball, golf, and yoga. Jane also spent several years as an active member of St. John's Aughrim Church as well as the Aughrim Women's Institute. In her spare time Jane liked to garden, go to the beach, spend time at the lake (Port Glasgow and Port Franks), listen to music,

and most importantly spend time with her family and friends whom she cherished most. She especially loved to travel. Her most recent adventures included time spent in Vietnam, Cambodia, and St. Martin, with her loving husband Eric. She enjoyed creating special moments with her children, grandchildren and photographing sunsets. She also enjoyed a long and fulfilling career in the Dental Community, retiring from the Strathroy Dental Centre. The family would like to extend a special thank you to the Sarnia Bluewater and Strathroy Middlesex General Hospitals' Stroke Rehabilitation and Healthcare teams, as well as the Intensive Care Unit at University Hospital. A visitation was held at the DENNING'S OF WATFORD, on Monday, September 4th from 1-3pm and 5-7pm. A service was held at DENNING'S OF WATFORD on Tuesday September 5th, 2023 at 11am with a private burial that followed along with a celebration of life. As an expression of sympathy donations to The Heart and Stroke Foundation or to St. John's Aughrim Church would be appreciated by the family. Online condolences and donations may be made at www.watfordfuneral-home.com

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Wyoming Lions

554 Main Street

Reception Hall Rentals

Weddings
Anniversaries
Funerals
Business Meetings



Up to 150 seating capacity
Fully licensed by AGCO
Bookings and information
call: (519) 466 7806 or 845 3333



Wyoming Lions Breakfast

Sunday, Sept. 17th, 2023

8:00am - 12:00pm

Wyoming Lions Hall - 554 Main Street

Adults - \$15.00 | Kids under 10 - \$10.00

Proudly supporting the local community



Real Estate



409 Simcoe St., Watford

Welcome to your dream family home! This 3 bedroom gem is on an extra-large lot, providing privacy & ample space for children to play. Spacious kitchen with breakfast bar, two 3-pc convenient bathrooms, elegant formal dining room, & main floor laundry. A spacious family room with a gas fireplace for cozy evenings, living room for family visits, updated windows & doors. Huge rear deck with a hot tub, in-floor heated 2-car garage makes fantastic workshop & storage space. Water feature, and storage shed for tools. Watford offers all amenities.

Call Today! \$569,000

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

WELCOME TO: 466 Oozloffsky Street, Petrolia

\$664,900 incl. HST

***SAT SEPT 16TH 1-3 P.M.**

OPEN HOUSE

NEW BUNGALOW, MODEL HOME, READY TO MOVE IN. PETROLIA'S NEWEST SUBDIVISION 'GREENWOOD', CLOSE WALK TO PARKS & ARENA. 2 BEDROOMS UP (MASTER BEDROOM WITH ENSUITE & WALK-IN CLOSET), LARGE LAUNDRY/MUDROOM OFF THE GARAGE. GREAT ROOM WITH FIREPLACE. 12X12 DECK OFF THE DINETTE. REC ROOM, BEDROOM & BATHROOM FINISHED DOWNSTAIRS. Built by Spectra Construction, a local, family-owned business specializing in quality, custom-built homes. PRICE INCLUDES HST.

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petroliaareahomes.ca




BOB LEAPER
SALES REPRESENTATIVE
CELL 519-331-1142
OFFICE 519-882-3242

In Memoriam

Melvin Croucher

Melvin passed away peacefully at Bluewater Health on Monday August 21, 2023 at the age of 69.

Husband of Reta. Father of Lisa (Chris). Grandpa of Addissyn. Cremation has taken place. Donations in Melvin's memory can be made to the St. Joseph's Hospice in Sarnia.




Much loved husband, father and Grandfather

Gerald D. Dawson

Mar. 10/1942 – Sept. 16/2016

It's been seven years, We talk about you still. You have never been forgotten, and you never will. We hold you close within our hearts, and there you will remain, to walk and guide us through our lives, Until we meet again.

Always in our thoughts and missed by the families of Pat, Melissa, Michael and Pam



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

In Memoriam

MARSH, Barbara Jane

In loving memory of a loving wife and mother Barbara Jane Marsh, who left us **September 18, 2008.**

*Every day, in some special way
Memories of you come our way.
Though absent, you are ever near
Still missed, still loved, and ever dear.*

Always loved and remembered by
BRIAN and ERIC

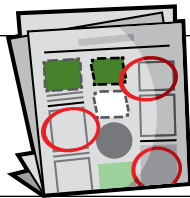


*Your presence we miss
Your memory we treasure
Loving You Always
Forgetting you never.
Forever in our hearts, Murray and Mary,
Kevin, Brenda, and families.*



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
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Bake Sale

10" APPLE PIES

Limited Supplies
so get your order in soon

Call Carol
519-882-1684

No calls after
9 pm please
or your favourite
IODE member to order.

Available:
Sept. 27 & 28
and Oct. 4 & 5

*PICK UP LOCATION *
The Greenwood Rec Centre
9:00 am - 11:00 am



\$12
EACH

Margaret Stokes Chapter, Petrolia

Charity Fundraiser

lcds

One person at a time.



Fish Fry
FUNDRAISER



Join us for a Fish Fry Dinner Fundraiser
to help raise funds for Lambton County
Developmental Services!

Sat, Sept. 23

at Petrolia Lions Hall
5pm - 7pm

\$25
per ticket

Please call LCDS Administration office
519-882-0933 ext 10

Coming Event

Euchre

1pm @
the Plympton-Wyoming fair building

ONLY \$5

CARD PARTIES WILL BE HELD:
Sept. 19, Oct. 3, Oct. 17,
Oct. 31, Nov. 14, Nov. 28
and Dec. 12th

Every other Tuesday until spring



Thank You

Thank You

To all our friends and family that came and made
our 50th Anniversary very memorable.

Special Thanks to Amanda, Cynthia and Bonnie
for all their help before and there. Thanks to Bea,
Kim, Stephanie and Lindsay for making everything
beautiful. All you best wishes, love and support has
made this a day we will cherish and never forget.

– Chester & Colleen

COLLEEN; I would like to thank you for all the hard work organizing
our 50th anniversary - ordering things and getting all the decorations.
You thanked everyone else, but I thank you! –Love Chester

Classified Deadline: Monday @ 12 Noon

Wanted To Buy

NOTICE- DATE CHANGE!

GOLD SILVER

Locally Owned

55 Years of SATISFIED
CUSTOMERS

Please Note I did not
recently send a coloured
brochure to your home!

SELLING YOUR GOLD
or SILVER JEWELRY?

I BUY ALL COINS, Watches,
Military Items, Old Paper
Money, Before you sell take
the time to get a second
opinion (My offer is often
Much Higher \$\$!)

Mon, Sept. 25th
@ Petrolia Lions Hall
457 Huggard St., Petrolia
9am-4pm
FREE ESTIMATES - NO OBLIGATION.

Locally Owned

55 Years of "SATISFIED
CUSTOMERS not Expensive
Coloured Brochures"

Dan Jones B.A.B.Ed.
519-818-1805


For Sale

PLANT SALE – 'Rose of Sharon'
bushes @ 458 Ignatiefna St., Petro-
lia. While they last.

Coming Event

STARLIGHT REBEKAH LODGE
#344, FAIR DAY LUNCHEON –
Friday, Sept. 15, from 11am-
2pm, Ham & Scalloped Potatoes
Luncheon, @ Wyoming Lions'
Club Hall - 544 Main St., Wyo-
ming, Ontario. Take-outs available.
Cost: Adults \$15.

Birthday Open House



80th

Birthday
OPEN HOUSE

for
Edgar Currah

Sun, Sept. 24, 2023
3838 Petrolia Line • 1-5pm

Live music will begin at
1:30pm

No Gifts
Bring lawn chairs



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Church

DIRECTORY



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

416 Queen Street, Petrolia (Behind the Post Office)

In-Person Service
Sundays @ 10:00 am

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

Pastor Katherine Hawley

Christ Anglican Church

414 Oil Street, Petrolia

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

Everyone Welcome

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



Rev. Dave Hewett

St. Paul's United Church

4169 Petrolia Line at Centre Street

No Sunday Service on Aug. 20, Aug. 27 & Sept. 3
Service will resume: Sunday, Sept. 10 at 10:30 am

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



Rev. Carol Ferguson

First Baptist Church

In Person Church Service
Sunday Mornings @10:30 am

Pastor: Alex Craig

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



Craft Sale

MOORE MUSEUM'S
DOWNRIVER CRAFT AND GIFT
SALE

SUNDAY, SEPT 17TH
10AM-4PM



\$2 ADMISSION FOR ADULTS,
CHILDREN FREE OF CHARGE

94 MOORE LINE., MOORETOWN ON

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Kilometer 5375



Thunder Bay



Ontario

AS HE NEARED THE 18 MILE MARK, Terry could see miles of supporters along the highway, cheering him on, saying, “keep going, you can do it, we’re all behind you.” Terry felt like he was having a heart attack, the pain was so intense. He took a break and crawled into his sleeping bag, hoping the pain might subside. It didn’t. Terry got back up, ran another mile until he could see no more people along the road. It was then he said to himself, “This may be my last mile.” He got in the van and asked his best friend Doug to take him to the hospital. Later that day, Terry called his parents in Port Coquitlam and told them the cancer had returned. He had run his last mile of the Marathon of Hope.

In his last journal entry, all Terry wrote was: “21 miles. 3,339 miles total.”

**JOIN MILLIONS OF CANADIANS WHO
CONTINUE TERRY’S MARATHON OF HOPE**

PETROLIA

Registration: 8:00 - 9:00 am
Time Start to Close: 9:15 - 11:30 am
Location: Lion’s Hall Pavilion - Huggard Street
Donate: <https://run.terryfox.ca/28740/donate>

ALVINSTON

Registration: 12 pm
Start Time: 1 pm
Location: Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre
Donate: <https://run.terryfox.ca/28741/donate>