REMEMBRANCE DAY FEATURE STARTS PAGE 6

HOME INVASION BILL PAGE 32

Tillsonburg POST

FREE

NOVEMBER 5, 2026 VOLUME 3 • ISSUE 8

COWARD PHARMACY
PharmaChoice
Part of Tillsonburg's Independent Spirit Since 1874

Find our weekly flyer at
cowardpharmacy.ca
519-842-4081
165 Broadway, Tillsonburg

STORE HOURS:
MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9AM TO 9PM
SATURDAY 9AM TO 5:30PM
SUNDAY 12PM TO 4PM

$10.00 OFF
ANY OIL CHANGE USING OUR PRODUCTS
Expires December 5/26
Bring in this coupon

LUBRICARE
14 MINUTE OIL CHANGE, OIL RUSTPROOFING
127 Simcoe St, Tillsonburg
519-842-5230

How did Tillsonburg fare with voter turnout?

JEFF HELSDON
Editor

Most post-election analyses examine voter turnout in various municipalities and sometimes raise the question of alternative voting methods.

In Tillsonburg, citizens could vote by Internet or phone, with the option of visiting the customer service centre if they needed assistance. This was the third election to use this voting method.

During the campaign, a few people mused online about the system's difficulty and called for in-person voting. Some candidates agreed, saying that if elected, they would revisit the concept.

The positive takeaway is that Tillsonburg's voter turnout increased from the last election, just over two percentage points to 39.9 per cent. This surpasses the provincial average of 36 per cent voter turnout for the municipal election.

Tillsonburg Mayor-Elect Deb Gilvesy was encouraged by the turnout and the increase from 37.63 per cent in 2022.

"Tillsonburg was above the provincial average, and anything above 40 per cent is considered good," she said.

A post-election analysis by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) found 66 per cent of municipalities used Internet voting in combination with another method, up from 52 per cent in 2022.

CONTINUED TO PAGE 5



WITCH'S NIGHT OUT (JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Anita the Tavern Witch was busy providing stamps outside the Copper Mug for participants in the Tillsonburg BIA's Witch's Night Out last Thursday. The event saw hundreds of witches, warlocks, ghouls and goblins invade downtown Tillsonburg and the Station Arts Centre for the Moon Market. See more photos on Page 19.

Halloween events draws hundreds to downtown

JEFF HELSDON
Editor

Witches, ghouls, goblins and superheroes by the hundreds descended on downtown for Halloween events that spanned a full week.

Halloween festivities began Friday, Oct. 23, with the opening of The Haunt. This volunteer-run haunted house, done on a grand scale, took place on the second floor of the Tillsonburg Town Center. It continued the next day with a less scary youth version, while Downtown Spookytown ran for younger trick-or-treaters from 2 to 5 p.m., then ramped up to full-level scare for the evening.

Vanessa Fortner, Events and Marketing Coordinator for the BIA, said 1,915 people came through The Haunt, some from as far as London. With admission at either $2 or a canned non-perishable food item, the event raised $2,748 for the Hub at the Salvation Army, plus four to five shopping carts of non-perishable food items.

CONTINUED TO PAGE 19

OVER 50 YEARS OF TRUSTED VEHICLE MAINTENANCE IN TILLSONBURG



Tillsonburg Tire & Service
55 BROADWAY, TILLSONBURG, ON
tillsonburg-tire.ca | 519-842-5943

Mental health clinicians support police officers

JEFF HELSDON
Editor

A growing number of police calls involving people with mental health issues has resulted in the formation of a mental health response team.

The Mental Health Engagement and Response Team (MHEART) started in 2018 as a partnership between the OPP and local mental health service providers. At the time, it was recognized that traditional policing alone wasn't always the most effective or safest way to respond to individuals in crisis.

"The goal was to bring clinical expertise directly into the field so that people in crisis receive the right care at the right time," said Const. Tara Oliver, community mobilization officer and crisis negotiator.

Locally, there is a team of five mental health clinicians in Oxford County split between two OPP detachments and Woodstock Police Service. Oxford OPP has two dedicated officers assigned to the mental health response program, but road officers can be assigned with a clinician on a daily case-by-case basis.

While some may assume the increase in the number of unhoused people was a factor in the start of the program, Oliver said that's not the case, and it was the increasing number of calls with a mental health component.

"While homelessness is one factor that increases vulnerability, the program wasn't created for any single population," she said. "It was driven by a broader recognition that mental-health-related calls were increasing across communities, and that a collaborative, health-focused response leads to better outcomes for everyone. That said, individuals experiencing homelessness often face complex mental health challenges, and our team is equipped to support them with compassion and appropriate referrals."

Mental health police officers have enhanced training to deal with calls with mental health issues. This training includes crisis intervention, de-escalation techniques, and suicide risk assessment. This training is often delivered directly by mental health professionals, and includes direct training with the clinicians to ensure both know each other's roles.

A two-day workshop designed for officers and mental health crisis workers in 2025.

"This training reviewed Mental Crisis Response Teams policies and involved scenario discussions to support Mental Crisis Response teams in operationalizing those policies," Oliver said.

When calls are dispatched where a mental health worker is needed, both a worker and OPP officer are dispatched. The type of calls where the MHEART team is dispatched can vary from potential suicides and family issues to calls dealing with substance abuse and the unhoused in the community.

Oliver explained the officer's role is to provide support, safety, and de-escalation, while the clinician provides mental health expertise.

"Together, they can make decisions that are more informed, less intrusive, and more person-centered than a traditional police-only response," she explained.

This approach results in a shift in the tone of the interaction.

"It may seem less intense when people are talking to a clinician instead of a police officer," she said. "We want someone's crisis day to become a better day because of how we managed their crisis."

Oliver noted there has been a decrease in the number of calls even though the unhoused population has increased. She attributes part of that to the teamwork.

The clinician role

Clinicians are funded through the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), and undergo training in crisis intervention, social analysis, and supporting individuals in crisis, as well as knowledge of mental health disorders.

They wear a vest for safety, but don't have the handcuffs, pepper spray and firearm a police officer carry.

Crisis clinician Devon Mackie worked in the CMHA office before being assigned to the MHEART role. He noted the team can go to areas where the unhoused are located, provide necessities and inform them about the programs that are out there. By doing this, he said it breaks the ice and allows a point of contact if a person is seeking help.



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Const. Tara Oliver and crisis clinician Devon Mackie are part of the Mental Health Engagement and Response Team to assist individuals in a mental health crisis. There are five crisis clinicians from the Canadian Mental Health Association working with police in Oxford County.

Since the clinicians have started working in Oxford, there have been fewer repeat crisis calls and improved public safety. After answering hundreds of calls, 85 per cent result in the situation being defused so no one is apprehended in police custody or taken to the hospital, while safety is established.

"Whatever is going on in a person's life is a crisis for them at the time," Oliver said, "We have to put the pieces together for them."

She added that people often come in later and thank the officers.

"That to me shows the combined response is working when you get positive feedback from the community."

If the call was about someone who needs to be taken to the hospital, the mental health workers have the training to explain the issue to medical personnel better.

"We're part of the process if someone is apprehended and present the case to the emergency physician," Mackie explained.

Making a difference

Oliver and Mackie are seeing a difference in mental health-related calls.

"There has been a reduction in unnecessary apprehensions, fewer repeat crisis calls, and more people being connected to community supports instead of entering the justice system," she said.

Statistics from across the province back this up with a 30 per cent decline in the number of individuals being apprehended when mental health teams are being used. There is also an increase in the number of individuals being admitted to hospital following an apprehension.

"We've also seen improved safety for the public, officers and individuals in crisis," Oliver said. "Perhaps, most importantly, the feedback from families, service providers and community members has been overwhelmingly positive."



EDITORIAL

When is enough enough?

Home invasions used to be a rare thing, something we would hear about on American news.

Not anymore.

Canadians were left in shock by the latest high-profile home invasion, where a family in an affluent Toronto neighbourhood had their home broken into, resulting in three being shot and one being struck with a hammer. The bigger issue is that this is no longer an isolated problem. Home invasions in Canada have increased nationwide.

Shockingly, Canada has no separate criminal offense for home invasion. Instead, those who are caught face a barrage of charges, including break and enter, possible weapons-related charges, and others. Often, in exchange for a guilty plea, prosecutors negotiate to pursue only one charge.

Oxford MP Arpan Khanna, the Conservative Shadow Minister for Justice, says enough is enough. His caucus colleague, Michael Guglielmen, introduced the Safe at Home Act, which would make home invasion a standalone offence with a five-year minimum sentence.

The legislation is coupled with the Stand on Guard Law, which allows people to defend themselves in their own homes. The sad reality in Canada is if a person defends themselves against a home invader, they could face more serious charges than the person who originally committed the crime. Sure, the homeowner may beat the charges, but only after spending tens of thousands of dollars on defence and enduring immense stress, all while being the victim of a crime.

The problem is that Canadians aren't allowed to defend themselves against home invaders with the use force. The Stand on Guard Law aims to change that.

These two pieces of legislation aim to turn the tables on criminals by making home invasion an offense and allowing people to protect themselves.

While this was mostly an urban problem not long ago, that's no longer the case. Police say many home invasions happen because perpetrators seek vehicle keys, cash, or other valuables. Now consider that many pick-up trucks common in rural areas today are as expensive as many sports cars, and stand out less, creating a scenario where this problem could grow exponentially in rural areas.

Khanna is calling on the government to set politics aside and fast-track these two pieces of legislation, both Private Members Bills with a history of not passing, to make Canadians safer. His request is reasonable, and the right thing to do. Time will tell if that happens, or if the gun lobby's influence on the Liberal government – which is at play in this matter – will overrule the safety of the people.



Lest We Forget. (JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

tillsonburgpost.com

Growing up in Liverpool during the Blitz and later, living in the Beatles' neighborhood



EVERYONE HAS A STORY TO TELL

ROBIN KRAFFT

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

Born in Liverpool in 1937, one of Bill Green's earliest memories is of their family home coming down around them during a bombing when he was four years old.

"My dad built a shelter under the stairs with railroad ties, and it's a good thing he did," Green said. "We had to be dug out. We spent many nights in air raid shelters. When I was five years old, my job was to grab our wicker laundry basket and empty it out and take it out through the backyard and into the alley, while my mother grabbed a blanket for my sister. We turned the basket on its side, so we had something to sit on. We could hear the bombs and the guns going off. We waited for the all-clear."

Green also recalled air-raid drills at school. When the children heard the whistle, they would line up and go to the air raid shelter in the schoolyard. The heaviest bombing occurred in 1941/42 during the Liverpool Blitz.

"They were trying to wipe out the Liverpool docks" Green said. "When I see those war movies and hear the incendiary bombs, the hair on the back of my neck stands up. I still react to sudden loud noises."

Green also remembers not having enough food. U-boats were sinking the ships that brought food into Liverpool.

"It became a normal way of life," Green said. "We just accepted it. The rationing continued into the 1950s. The meat ration was two ounces per person per week, if you could find it. The first meat I remember eating was spam, and I still love it. My sister remembers trading in candy coupons for spam because there was no candy."

Green had grown up in a rather depressed part of Liverpool. He acknowledged how hard his father worked to eventually move the family to the suburbs. At 13, he was chosen to sit for the state exams, and then selected to attend college. After college, he went to night school, studying mechanical engineering and applied thermodynamics. During those years, he made some rather interesting acquaintances.

"I used to visit my brother-in-law (an electrician) at work," Green said. "We'd take a longer lunch break, learning chords from George Harrison, who was my brother-in-law's apprentice. In those days, they (The Beatles) used to play in hole-in-the-wall places like The Iron Door or the United Nations Club. They started off as The Quarrymen because John lived in Woolton where the sandstone quarry was. That sandstone was used to build one of the Liverpool cathedrals."

Green casually described where George, Ringo, Paul and John lived, although he didn't know Paul, who he described as rather reserved.

"Ringo and George lived two streets apart, in a depressed part of Liverpool," Green said. "John was further out and Paul lived about halfway between them. John used to attend the School of Art in Liverpool. My father, who had become a fellow of the Royal Photographic Society, was mentoring Graham Spencer who took photos of The Beatles in those early years. He had stacks of Beatles photographs."

In 1957, Green was assembling machinery for an American company, and couldn't see any future in it, so he joined the Royal Air Force. He signed on for five years and served as an aircraft mechanic in England and Singapore. His years of service are detailed in an article in today's Post Remembrance Day section.

After his service, Green had some difficulty readjusting to civilian life. He studied drafting and got into designing and developing commercial cooking equipment. He designed an electric stove for Britain's first atomic submarine.

Green's electrical and mechanical skills meant he could turn his mind to almost anything and enjoy the challenge of design and innovation. He was involved in the design of telephone exchanges, and participated in designing a system for international switching in London for direct dialing, as well as six stations in Portugal.

"When I worked for Plessy (a huge factory with 15,000 workers) we had a one-day strike," Green said. "We had to parade in order to get our strike pay. We walked past the Canadian Immigration Office, and I told my friend I was going to emigrate. I had tried to fit in, but I had changed so much, and the class system was challenging. There were many Australians and New Zealanders in Singapore, and I loved their attitude. I walked in, and a month later, I sold my motorcycle to pay for my boat passage. I came to Canada in 1967."

Green had a long career designing custom stainless steel commercial kitchens, including all of the connections, electrical, vents and plumbing. He has designed kitchens, ordered equipment, overseen and consulted on projects that range from a little KFC to a Windsor casino and the Orangeville Hospital. He even designed and built a super-insulated house outside of Orangeville 30 years ago, before anyone else was doing it. He and his wife, Jacqueline, moved to Tillsonburg 20 years ago, but Bill only retired five years ago.

"I enjoyed it all," Green said. "Each one was a challenge. Now I'm writing short stories."

The advice that is often given is to write what you know. Bill Green certainly has no shortage of options!

Learning to build with 1970s hobbies



PAST IMPERFECT

WAYNE HUTCHISON

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

When my children were younger, most of their non-sports activities seemed to center around phones, computers, or video game systems. We didn't have those back in the 1970s, so what kinds of hobbies kept us entertained?

For our first Christmas on North Street, 1972, I received a plastic model kit. This particular kit was of the NASA lunar lander. I spent several days gluing the lander together – it was pretty detailed and tricky to build for a seven-year-old – but it started me down the road to model building as a hobby. Also inside that kit was an offer for monthly books from the US Science Service, but that might be better left for another column…

After building that lunar lander, I would ask for model kits for my birthday and Christmas presents, and then started buying my own once I was making a little money as a newspaper carrier. The best place in town to find the kits was the News and Camera Centre, later Lover's. There were several shelves of model kits near the rear of the store; most of the kits were made by Revell and AMT. I always felt that the AMT kits were higher quality, but that Revell had a larger selection. You could buy a kit for $5 to $10, then a little more for some Testor's glue and paint (in those tiny glass bottles), and you'd be good for many hours of enjoyment.

I was most interested in building models of cars and trucks, but did build a few airplanes, a couple of battleships, and even a Wankel rotary engine where all the parts would move when you pushed a button for the tiny electric starter motor.

Another fun hobby in the early '70's was building whatever I could dream up using Lego blocks and/or Meccano sets. I had circled the Lego sets in the Sears Christmas catalogue and was overjoyed when I opened my present on Christmas Day and found the largest "set #7". Over the next several years, I built just about everything I could think of with that Lego set – but mostly buildings. I loved to build houses of different shapes and layouts – so much so that I thought I might want to be an architect one day.

The year I turned eleven I started to get interested in cars and racing, and somehow Santa knew to bring me an Aurora AFX slot car set for Christmas. It had two cars, two controllers, and maybe 20 feet of track. You could configure the track pieces in many different layouts and race with your friends for hours at a time. It was great fun and I would use some of my newspaper earnings to buy different cars, more track pieces, etc. Once I had my own bedroom, I even built a plywood bench along one wall so I could set up the track on a more permanent basis and even add in a few pieces of "scenery" to the layout.

While model building, Lego, and slot cars were great indoor activities, I eventually got into flying model airplanes, very much an outdoor activity. You could buy a cheap plastic beginner airplane with a Cox .049 gas engine for about $10 at News and Camera, hook up the control strings and be flying in a circle in a short period of time.

It was even more fun to build your own plane, either from a kit or from plans in magazines like Model Airplane News. I once built a copy of the plane that had set the .049 speed record in 1977. It was very simple with a 1/8"-plywood fuselage, a two-foot-long wing sanded to shape from a piece of balsa wood, one landing wheel and the trusty Cox .049 engine. I took it over to the circle on Lamers Court (before the apartments were built) to fly it. I stood in the middle of the circle holding the control lines while my brother started the engine. That plane was fast! I found on that first flight that I should have only half-filled the fuel tank as I got dizzy from going around in circles so fast long before it ran out of fuel.

Those were some of the hobbies that kept me occupied and learning as a young kid. I suspect most kids today only build models, race cars, or fly airplanes on their iPhones, and that's too bad. I think you can learn a lot from building something with your own hands, breaking it, and rebuilding it even better.

Couwenberg topples Palmer to become Norwich's next mayor

LUKE EDWARDS

Post Contributor

A new, but familiar face will take the helm at Norwich Township for the next four years.

Adrian Couwenberg defeated incumbent Jim Palmer in the Oct. 26 municipal elections. He spent the previous four years as a Ward 4 councillor for the township.

He handily defeated Palmer, securing 2,732 votes compared to Palmer's 1,114 votes.

Couwenberg called it a sense of relief when he saw the numbers coming in. While many around him had a sense of optimism, Couwenberg said he wasn't going to take anything for granted and continued canvassing up until the last minute. The relatively-strong win and strong overall turnout of 43.5 per cent gave Couwenberg some confidence that his message of accountability, financial responsibility and transparency was well received.

"When you see that, you know the municipality is behind you. So that gives you a little bit of a vote of confidence," he said.

Couwenberg said he wants to continue on the path of financial responsibility Norwich has charted in recent years, but also bring that mentality to Oxford County. He said he's also focused on ensuring important infrastructure projects move forward. Finalizing the township's Safe and Well Being Plan and getting up to speed on the proposed new medical centre are some of his other early priorities.

The switch in the mayor's chair isn't the only change around the council horseshoe. Marius Kerkhoff defeated Roy King in Ward 1, after incumbent Karl Toews ran in Ward 4. Kerkhoff received 595 votes, while King received 559.

Ward 2 was a nail-biter, with incumbent Lynne DePlancke narrowly winning re-election. Her 517 votes were just five more than challenger Tim Thompson's 512.

Meanwhile, Toews' move to Ward 4 proved successful, as he beat Lacey Hird 500 votes to 276.

Incumbent Shawn Gear returns as the Ward 3 councillor. No challengers put their name forward, meaning Gear was acclaimed.

Overall, voter turnout in the election was 43.5 per cent, with 3,905 votes being cast. One ballot was declined and 18 rejected.

The inaugural meeting of the new council is set for Nov. 17.

GRANT HAVEN MEDIA

Restoring small-town journalism, one community at a time!

Tillsonburg POST

Publisher

Stewart Grant • stew@granthaven.com

Editor

Jeff Helsdon • jeff@granthaven.com

Graphic Design / Sales Inquiries

Stacie Eden • info@tillsonburgpost.com

Business Development

Heather Dunbar • heather@granthaven.com

Administration

Jen Gaetan • jen@granthaven.com

Contributors

Jeff Tribe, Debbie Kasman, Paul Knowles

143 Queen Street E., St. Marys, ON, PO Box 2310 N4X 1A2

info@tillsonburgpost.com | 519.655.2341 | granthaven.com

ocna

Funded by the Government of Canada
Financé par le gouvernement du Canada | Canada

Tillsonburg POST

Guiding Principles

1. Everyone has a story
2. The news should be free for all to enjoy
3. Good news beats bad news
4. A Newspaper should be a community effort (contribute to your local paper!)
5. Newspapers document history
6. Newspapers strengthen communities
7. Advertisers, big or small, should profit from their ads (meaning sensible ad rates)
8. Newspapers should be locally-owned and operated

Tillsonburg voter turnout was on the increase

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

At the same time, voter turnout increased by three per cent provincewide as compared to the last election.

Comparing Tillsonburg to Norwich, which had a contentious race for mayor, used paper ballots, and had a voter turnout of 42.9 per cent, it would be easy to conclude that more people vote when paper ballots are used. But it's not that simple, as Aylmer, the area municipality with the highest voter turnout at 45.47 per cent, also used phone and Internet voting. Aylmer also had a mayoral race.

Near the bottom of local municipal voter turnout, Bayham had only 26.8 per cent and used paper ballots, with council turning down a staff recommendation to move to phone and Internet voting. Three were running for mayor in Bayham, so the low numbers weren't due to lack of interest.

Ingersoll, which used vote-by-mail, had only 35.9 percent voter turnout.

Woodstock used both paper and Internet voting, with only 33.17 percent voter turnout. Norfolk County, which also used a combination of paper ballots and Internet voting, had a similar turnout of 33.01 per cent in a race with several people running for each position.

In South-West Oxford, only 26.76 per cent voted by phone and Internet, but the mayor was acclaimed. Using the same voting methods, Malahide Township, which also acclaimed its mayor, had 31.5 per cent of eligible voters cast ballots.

Other Oxford municipalities that used a combination of phone and Internet had turnouts of: East Zorra-Tavistock, 36.67 percent; Blanford-Blenheim, 37.73 percent; and Zorra, 37.59 percent.

By comparison, voter turnout in Oxford in the last provincial election was 49 percent, and 71.5 percent in 2025. The last federal election was higher than normal, with national voter turnout generally around 60 per cent since 1993, and higher than that historically. Province-wide averages for provincial elections were also historically higher, in the 60 to 70 per cent range until the 1960s, when averages fell into the 50 to 60 per cent range.

Gilvesy said council will have the opportunity to revisit voting methods before the next election.

OPP investigating mischief incident in Courtland

Police are seeking the public's assistance in identifying those responsible for property damage in Courtland.

On Saturday, Oct. 24, at approximately 12:19 p.m., members of the Norfolk County Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to a report of mischief at a property on Adams Street.

The investigation determined that sometime between Wednesday, Oct. 21, and Saturday, Oct. 24, one or more unidentified individuals attended the property and caused damage to a vehicle and garage located on the premises.

Police are continuing to investigate and are appealing to the public for assistance. Anyone with relevant information is urged to contact the Norfolk County OPP at 1-888-310-1122 and reference incident E261542697.

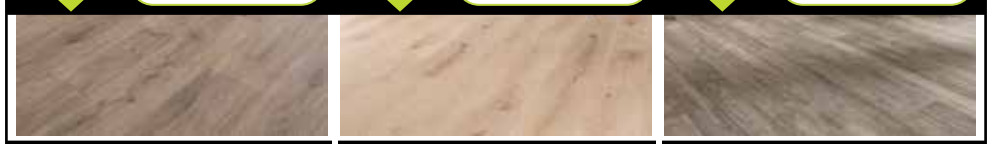


tillsonburgpost.com

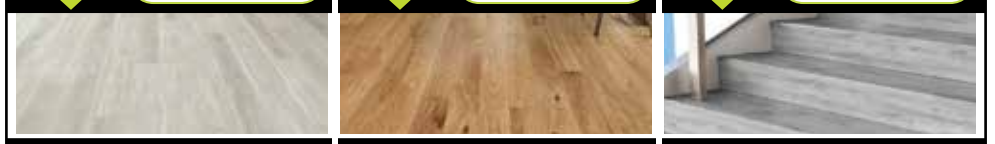
SOURCE FLOORING
BLACK FRIDAY
PRICEDROP SALE
NOVEMBER 6 8AM-9PM
NOVEMBER 7 9AM-6PM
NOVEMBER 8 10AM-5PM



WATERPROOF 5.5MM - PAD ATTACHED VINYL PLANKS PRICE DROP! REGULAR 3.99 FROM 99¢/SQFT
WATERPROOF 6.5MM - PAD ATTACHED LUXURY VINYL PRICE DROP! REGULAR 3.99 FROM $1.99/SQFT
WATERPROOF 4.5MM - LOOSE LAY LUXURY VINYL PRICE DROP! REGULAR 4.99 FROM $2.99/SQFT



8MM THICK CLICK LAMINATE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 1.99 FROM 99¢/SQFT
WATERPROOF + PAD 14MM LAMINATE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 3.99 FROM $1.99/SQFT
LAMINATE STAIR TREADS PRICE DROP! REGULAR 89.99 FROM $59.99/EA



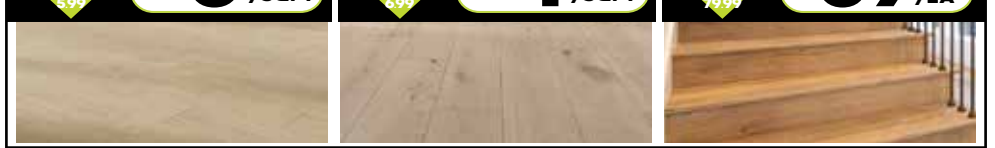
12"X 12" PURE WHITE PORCELAIN TILE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 1.99 FROM 99¢/SQFT
12"X 24 CALACATTA PORCELAIN TILE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 2.99 FROM $1.79/SQFT
24"X 24 LUXURY PORCELAIN TILE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 3.99 FROM $1.99/SQFT



3"X 6" SUBWAY TILE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 9.99 FROM $1.89/SQFT
2" HEXAGON MARBLE TILE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 9.99 FROM $5.99/SQFT
5' X 8' AREA RUGS PRICE DROP! REGULAR 199 FROM $99/EA



3/4" WHITE OAK HARDWOOD PRICE DROP! REGULAR 5.99 FROM $3.99/SQFT
3/4" WHITE OAK 6" WIDE HARDWOOD PRICE DROP! REGULAR 6.99 FROM $4.99/SQFT
HARDWOOD OAK/MAPLE STAIR TREADS PRICE DROP! REGULAR 79.99 FROM $59.99/EA



SHOP ONLINE 24/7
SOURCE FLOORING
SOURCEFLOORING.COM
1362 VICTORIA STREET NORTH KITCHENER
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8AM-9PM SATURDAY 9-6 SUNDAY 10-5

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2026

Lest we forget

Green recounts living through air raids in Britain

ROBIN KRAFFT

Post Correspondent

Despite his early memories of growing up in Liverpool during the Second World War, and enduring some of the heaviest bombing in the UK outside of London, Bill Green joined the Royal Air Force at the age of 20, in 1957.

After completing his basic training, he was told he had an aptitude for mechanical and went to trades training just outside Blackpool. He decided to focus on engines and became an aircraft mechanic. He was trained on engines for piston aircraft, and later worked on jet engines.

"After you repair them, you have to run them," Green said. "The first time I got to ground run a jet aircraft, it was a wet start (the engine was flooded with gas). There was a 30-foot flame coming out the back, and I was watching the temperature gauge praying please don't reach 600 please don't reach each 600°."

The flame went out, and Green survived, but there were many dangers, accidents and challenging situations during his service.

"You get distracted for a second, and you're dead," Green said. "Those big four-engine jets are quite an adrenaline rush. The first time you get in those, with instruments everywhere, it's a bit overwhelming."

Green recalled an amusing incident at RAF Shawbury. He had just run an aircraft up, and a plane was taxiing in. Princess Margaret was coming to visit.

"A man in white coveralls was coming over towards me," Green said. "He was asking if I knew where the crew for the helicopter was. I told him we could use the phone in the CO's office and was walking him over there, thinking I think I know this guy. About half-way to the office, I realized it was Prince Philip. When we entered the CO's office, his surprised reaction was something to behold. He nearly knocked over his desk as he stood up to salute."

After two years of service, Senior Aircraftman Green was preparing for a new position in Australia.

"I was going through security checks to go to Australia for an intercontinental ballistic missile project, but it got cancelled," Green said. "You had to be cleared. You had to sign the official Secret Act. You lose your civic rights to be able to call a lawyer. If you talked, they could lock you up. You were interviewed about your political views, and they even went around to your neighbours.They wanted to make sure you weren't some sort of communist spy or had any leanings. When Australia was cancelled, they sent me to Singapore."



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

SAC William Green (wearing a cap) and colleagues standing in a monsoon drain at RAF Tengah in Singapore in the early 1960's. The larger plane in the background is a Canberra. The smaller plane is a Meteor. The Canberras were replacing the Meteor as the new recon aircraft.

CONTINUED TO PAGE 7

Tillsonburg Branch 153 Legion

REMEMBRANCE DAY
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 11

Silent Walk 10:30 am
From Veterans' Memorial Walkway & Rolph St
To the Cenotaph

CENOTAPH SERVICE 10:45 AM
200 Broadway

Silent Vigil at Cenotaph
Tuesday November 10 at 8:00 pm to
Wednesday November 11 8:00 am
Varnavair #153 Air Cadet Squadron

Service live streamed on
Town of Tillsonburg Facebook



Sobeys Canada's Family Grocery Store

678 Broadway St., Tillsonburg
Open 7 days a week
7am-9pm

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2026

Lest we forget

Green recounts living through WW II British air raids

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Green was posted to RAF Changi for staging and aircraft servicing, saying that it was a good base to be on. It had a cinema, sailing club, an Olympic-size pool, and various sports, and Green got into archery.

"It was an undeveloped city at the time," Green said. "If I hadn't grown up in slums, I wouldn't have been able to handle it. The tallest building was the Bank of China, at six stories."

Green recalled an aircraft coming in from Cambodia while he was at RAF Changi. He had learned enough Malay to get by, as well as some Mandarin, but he couldn't communicate with the flight crew who only spoke French. A passenger removed his coverall to reveal an expensive looking suit and asked in impeccable English, asked, "May I be of assistance?"

As they were talking, a line of Rolls Royces was pulling up. Green began to excuse himself, saying, "I think there's someone important coming."

The gentleman smiled, and said, "I believe they are here for me."

Green learned later that he was a visiting Prince or Prime Minister of Cambodia and graciously accepted his thanks when he returned to express his gratitude to Green for looking after his flight crew.

He was later posted to RAF Tengah as a Canberra expert, which was a jet-powered bomber. Green had to accept all of the aircraft, and show the pilots how to start them. There was no one else on the base that was familiar with the Canberra.

"They were replacing their aircraft with the Canberra," Green said. "I wasn't much of an expert. I learned how to start them by reading the pilot's manual. There was a fuel-pump problem, and my first job was to change the fuel pumps. It took me two hours to get it out, and two more to get the new one in, cursing the Rolls-Royce engineers all the while. Then we took it up for a test flight. When the pilot pushed it to it's absolute limits, we could see the curve of the earth. It's something you can't forget, when you see that."

The service manual arrived a week later. When Green looked up how to change the fuel pump, the first instruction was to remove the engine from the aircraft. The whole process should have taken three days. His CO wanted to know how he did that, and if he could write it down. In retrospect, Green compared it to solving a Rubik's cube and then being asked to write down how you did it, after the fact.

RAF SAC William Green served from 1957 to 1962, completing his five-year commitment. Although he was encouraged to continue, Green demurred, influenced by his time in Singapore.

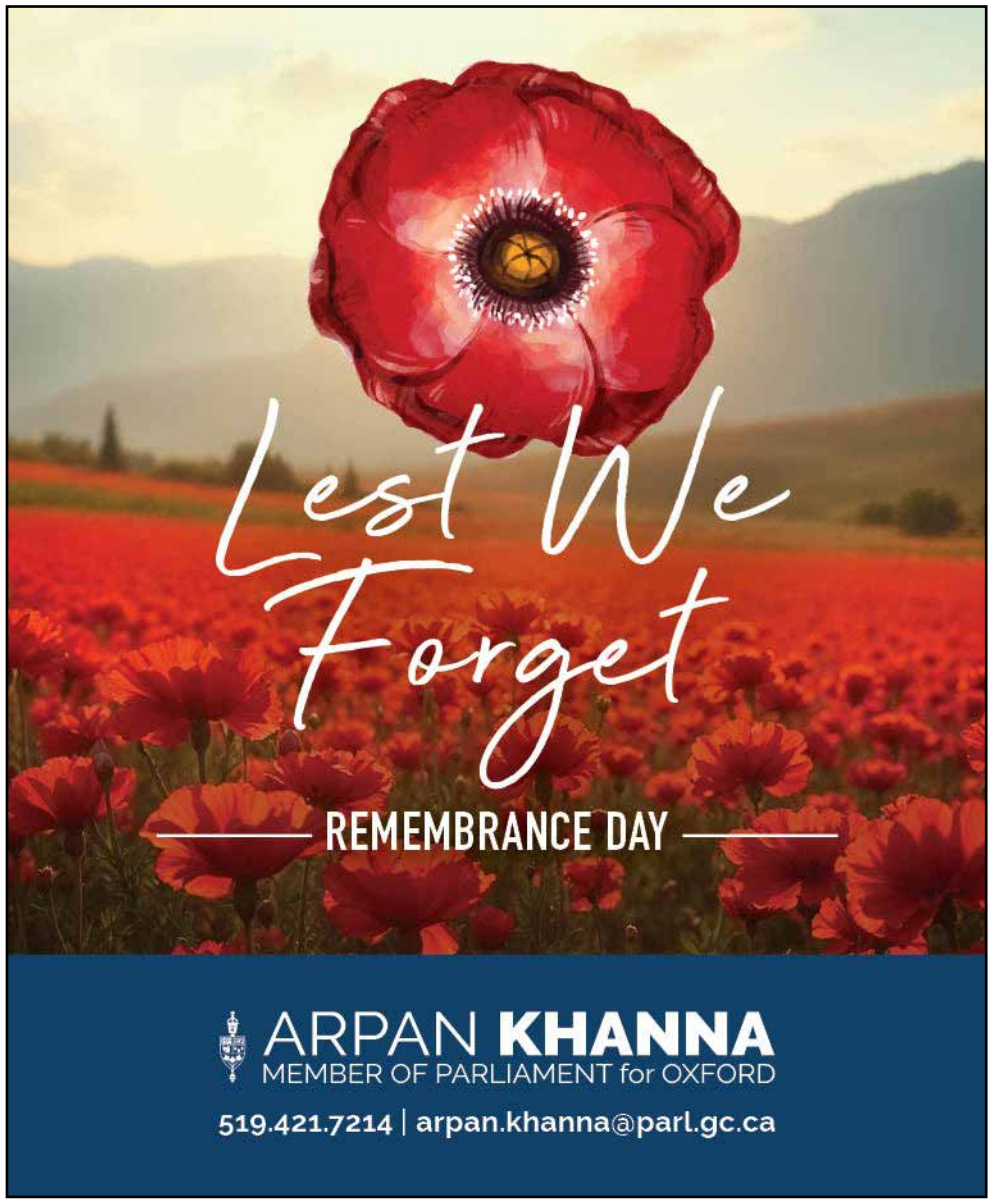
"While at RAF Changi, we had visiting aircraft, Comets and Britannias, that we would service and refuel before they went on to Hong Kong. That's what made me decide not to go on and continue as a civil aircraft mechanic. You have so many people's lives in your hands. It's one thing to be responsible for one person's life, but a few hundred, no."

At 25, Green returned to civilian life and used his technical and mechanical skills for another 60 years, innovating and designing things that (mostly) remained on the ground.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

The 81 Squadron's darts team. The Base Commander is seated at the rear of the table (center) with RAF SAC William Green on the right with his cup for being the dart seasons highest scoring player.



VERHOEVE
MAURICE J. VERHOEVE FUNERAL HOMES
Burial and Cremation Services Inc.
519-842-4238
PROUD TO HONOUR OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN.
HOME OF THE FREE BECAUSE OF THE BRAVE.
LEST WE FORGET
TILLSONBURG, ON LANGTON, ON
WWW.VERHOEVEFUNERALHOMES.COM

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2026

Lest we forget

Korean War vets remember the impact on children

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

Two Korean War vets recalling their days overseas, both talked about the impact the conflict had on that country's children.

Taking place from 1950 to 1953, the Korean War started when the North Korean forces invaded South Korea. The United Nations backed South Korea with a contingent of forces from Canada, the United States, and 21 other countries.

Local Korean War veteran Don Mulholland said the worst part of the conflict was seeing the small children trying to gather food and feed themselves.

"To see those kids, how rough it was for them, it was pathetic," he said.

Fort Erie's Romeo Daley described a similar experience, saying barbed wire had to be put around the area where soldiers ate because the children would take food. He said they gave the children whatever leftover food they had. Daley was in town for a presentation by Ted Barris on his book on the war on Oct. 16.

"At 19 years old, I'd never seen anybody so poor, so bad," he said. "There were children with no clothing, no food, and only eight to 10 years olds, looking after their younger siblings because their parents were dead."

He recounted one incident in which a child was repeatedly given a can of rations and kept coming back. He followed him and found he was taking it back and sharing with 10 others. After knocking the can open with a rock, it was passed around amongst the children, with each putting two fingers in, taking some food and then licking it off before moving it on.

His regiment, the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, started an orphanage in the country after the war.

Mulholland, who many may know for his time as the manager of the local LCBO outlet, grew up in Lynden, and joined the Royal Canadian Regiment in London in November 1950.

"I thought it would be exciting, and it was," he said, explaining why he joined.

He was assigned to the Second Battalion RCR, and sent to Fort Lewis, WA, to train as reinforcements for the troops there. Mulholland was then sent to Wainright, AB, and was one of the members of the Second Battalion pulled out to form the Third Battalion, whose purpose was to train newly enlisted men in Petawawa.

Mulholland wanted to be where the action was, and be with the guys he trained with. He was told the quickest way there was with the Canadian Pay Corps, which pays the soldiers.

He was sent to Korea with the pay corps and traveled with the battalion to pay them, but he was never on the front lines. He then spent the second half of his time in Korea in the infantry and "rode shotgun" in a military vehicle.

"They told us to take this guy, drop him off somewhere up towards the line," he said. "Then we do that again with someone else."

Although his passengers were typically dropped off behind the front lines, some situations were still scary. He recalled one where they saw enemy vehicles approaching. They pulled over and hid behind bushes until it was safe to come out.

Daley grew up in northern Ontario, near Timmins, and was 18 when the Korean War started. He wanted to join the air force, but couldn't because he was colour blind. His second choice was a paratrooper, and he was assigned to the Princess Patricia unit.

He was on patrol in Korea with the rank of lieutenant, and his sergeant was killed in action. After he returned, he was promoted to Bren gun operator and corporal.

He said women were often killed and raped during the conflict.

"Unless you've been there, you have no idea what it's like, and the women and children suffer the worst," he said.

After the war, Daley stayed in six years and took jump training. After the war, he heard of a job at Canada Customs and moved to Fort Erie.

In civilian life, Daley joined the movement to raise awareness of the war. Korea is often called the 'Forgotten War' as it is lost in the shadows of the First and Second World Wars. Some governments also resisted calling it a war because the soldiers were fighting for the UN. Daley believes it was because the US didn't want to pay Korean veterans benefits, but it took until 1992 for Canada to call the conflict a war.

"It's not Canada's forgotten war, it's forgotten victories," he said. "Every battle we were in, we lost soldiers but never lost a battle."



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Don Mulholland, left, and Romeo Daley are both veterans of the Korean War. They attended the Tillsonburg Military History Club dinner with author Ted Barris talking about his book on the conflict.

Noted Canadian author speaks on Korea

Canadian military author Ted Barris, author of Deadlock in Korea: Canadians at War 1950-53, spoke at the Tillsonburg Military History Club's annual fall dinner, where Don Mulholland and Romeo Daley were guests.

He provided background on the conflict, describing some of the battles, including one where a Canadian destroyer, the HMCS Cayuga, rescued thousands of American fighters backed into a corner by the ocean.

Barris talked of some of the atrocities at the Prisoner of War camps, and that the camps weren't identified as required under the Geneva Convention. As a result, the camps were sometimes bombed and strafed with bullets by their own planes.

Prisoners were also indoctrinated and questioned beyond what was allowed under the convention. Barris said returning POWs after the war were assessed by military intelligence, and even though some may have resisted torture to say anything, they were not given a passing grade for being patriotic. They also were never apologized to.

Barris touched on the 4077 MASH, which actually was a military facility in Korea and was the subject of the television show MASH.

"Although episodes were what military medicine looked like in the Korean War, it was satirical about the US involvement in Vietnam," he said.











REMEMBRANCE DAY 2026
Lest we forget

Captain Nigel Suarez (Ret'd), musician, instructor, mentor and historian

ROBIN KRAFFT

Post Correspondent

Recognized as a significant leader for youth in the Canadian Armed Forces, Nigel Suarez started his military service when he joined the Navy League Cadets in Toronto at the age of 10. Two years later, he joined the Sea Cadet Corps Vanguard in Scarborough.

"It was as a Cadet that I first became interested in music," Suarez said. "The corps had a band, and I discovered that I was good at it. Over time, my interest deepened."

He attended the Royal Military College for the summer and experienced a full-service band when he was 13, playing the trumpet. At 18, he became a staff adet and earned a salary for the summer. He was responsible for mentoring cadets, teaching them music and overall leadership.

"That experience taught me that I really enjoyed mentoring people," Suarez said. "When I left the Cadets, I joined the 48th Highlanders of Canada Military Band, playing trumpet and drums. It was the first time I played in a semi-professional capacity."

In 1996, Suarez enrolled in the Canadian Forces as an Officer Cadet. He successfully completed his Basic Officer Qualification at CF Base Borden.

"I was promoted to second lieutenant and got my commission in 1997," Suarez said. "It is a document, but it carries certain legal responsibilities. It gave me the authority to command others, and the responsibility to observe and follow orders. It was given by the Queen and signed by the Governor General as her representative."

From 1996 to 2007, Suarez served as one of the directors of music for the Regional Cadet Music Advisor (RCMA), responsible for all music training for the province. This involved travelling to different Cadet Corps across Ontario, teaching music, military band drills and the formal military aspect of things.

The long history of military music predates Confederation, and was originally provided by British regimental bands. When the British regiments returned to England, some musicians remained in Canada and organized militia bands. Military music is an important aspect of military life, marking important ceremonies and fostering morale.

"There's an appropriate choice of music depending on the event," Suarez said. "Salute, inspection, march pass, and ceremonial parades; each one has their own music. My role was to teach cadets and officers the reason why things happen the way they do. Every army unit has a specific march associated with them. Navy and air force each have one march. It was a matter of knowing they exist and where to get the information."

One of the most memorable experiences he recalls was a National Cadet Tattoo, which included a formal military parade, drills and displays.

"All of the regions across Canada were present," Suarez said. "We travelled to Red Deer for a week to train for it and performed in Edmonton for three nights. There were 300 Cadet musicians. It was the first time I could meet all the RCMAs from across Canada, something we almost never got to do. I was the Principal Percussion Instructor for this massive band."

Suarez went on to describe how special it was because they could do things a normal band couldn't do, such as an authentic performance of Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture.

"We had sea, army and air present," Suarez said. "The Sea Cadets had their field crew and 12-pound field guns. Cannon fire is written into the score of the 1812 Overture, and we were able to play the cannon part with blanks. That was something we couldn't ordinarily do."

From 2007 to 2014, Suarez transferred to the Supplementary Reserve and achieved the rank of captain, but he retired from service because of his civilian work with the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA). In 1999, he started as an immigration officer at Pearson International Airport, and was simultaneously an air force officer in the Cadet Instructor Cadre.

"In the summer, I was able to take time off from the CBSA to do the summer camp work full-time, but in 2005 I became a criminal investigator," Suarez said. "It involved shift work, and ongoing investigations that made it harder and harder to do. As much as I loved the military, they were competing interests. There was a human smuggling case at the airport that I needed to investigate and follow through on."



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

17 year old Nigel Suarez (left) playing the trumpet during a musical performance, HMCS Ontario, located at the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario in 1988.

Suarez became very good at dealing with cases that involved organized crime and matters of national security. He credits his military training for teaching him problem solving and the ability to multitask. Much of what he was doing was mission oriented.

"I learned tools as an officer and a cadet," Suarez said. "They very easily transferred to organized crime cases and any type of immigration or criminal case or any complex problem. I learned how to take a big complex thing and figure out step by step how to deal with it."

Suarez was most certainly still serving his country. His first big terrorism case involved an individual coming into the country who was confirmed to be with Hezbollah and had ties to Al-Qaeda. He also took on a lot of human trafficking cases because he had already dealt with the immigration side of things.

His understanding of the legislation and experience with complex issues landed him an assignment in Ottawa where he served as a senior policy advisor until 2016.

A few years later, bored at home during the pandemic, Suarez started looking through archives, exploring cadet history. He found a photo taken in 1899 of a group of Toronto Cadets that piqued his curiosity.

"Doing that research got me interested in the history of the Cadet Corps, and I went down a bit of a rabbit hole," Suarez said. "Even today, there is a section of the National Defense Act that authorizes Cadet Corps that traces back to 1862."

He has now become an amateur cadet historian and has been tracing the cadet movement through time and how it evolved in legislation. After retirement, Suarez and his wife, Susan, left Ottawa and moved to Tillsonburg last October.

Reflecting on what the cadet program has meant for him personally, its importance has always extended beyond music and military traditions.

"When I was young, there were people who took the time to teach me, encourage me and give me opportunities I might not otherwise have had," he said. "Those experiences helped shape my life and my desire to serve Canada. I hope young people today have those same opportunities. I also believe it is important to understand the history of the cadet movement, because knowing where it came from helps us appreciate why it still matters."







REMEMBRANCE DAY 2026

Lest we forget

Heroes among us: Local veterans given Quilts of Valour



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Tom Brown, President of the Tillsonburg Legion, Louise Rischel, and Marsha Fishleigh, Regional Representative for Quilts of Valour proudly show off Louise's quilt.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Tom Brown, Randall Boughner, and Marsha Fishleigh after honouring local veteran Boughner with his Quilt of Valour.

LEAH BAUER

Post Contributor

On Sept. 24, two local veterans were honoured for their military service with handmade Quilts of Valour during the Veterans' Coffee Hour.

Marsha Fishleigh, regional representative for Quilts of Valour, and a veteran herself, presented the quilts alongside her husband Brad, who is also a veteran. The presentation honoured Louise Rischel, and Randall Boughner for their years of service to Canada.

"Not everyone has the ability to answer the call to the country," Marsha said during the presentation. "The individuals that do sign a blank check for their country, up to and including their life. These individuals know that freedom is not free. And we want to thank them."

Quilts of Valour is a volunteer initiative that provides handmade quilts to Canadian veterans as a gesture of appreciation, comfort and support.

The Quilts of Valour initiative began following the war in Afghanistan, inspired by an Albertan mother whose son was killed in action. After visiting wounded soldiers who remained with her son before medics arrived, she wanted to find a way to honour those who had served alongside him.

Marsha described the quilts as "a hug for each veteran" and a way for Canadians to welcome veterans home and thank them for their service.

Louise Rischel, was honoured for her impressive trailblazing career that began at 17. After two military personnel visited her graduating class, she quickly enlisted and began basic training in 1978.

Following initial training as an electronics technician, she transferred to administration and served at several bases across Canada.

Rischel volunteered to be a part of the "Women at Sea" trial, which gave female military personnel the opportunity to serve aboard Canadian naval ships, an experience which led to her becoming the first woman to board a Canadian destroyer at sea. She was eventually promoted to Master Seaman.

Rischel went on to serve as Executive Assistant to the Canadian Admiral at the NATO headquarters in Norfolk, Virginia.

Another highlight of her career was in 1991 when "much to her husband's jealousy" she flew in an F-18.

She credits her military service with teaching her loyalty, teamwork, integrity and responsibility. She continues to volunteer with local festivals, schools and the Legion.

Another veteran honoured at the Quilts of Valour presentation was Randall Boughner. Boughner was celebrated for his lengthy military career, including 25 years as a medic with the Airborne Service Commando.

During his service, Boughner completed 84 full-equipment jumps from a CC-130, in addition to other airborne jumps. He was also trained in mountain operations.

His postings included CFB Petawawa, Halifax, CFB Gagetown, New Brunswick, and bases in Alberta.

Boughner served overseas in Bosnia from 1998 to 1999 and in Kosovo from 1999 to 2000.

From 2000 to 2005, he returned to the Canadian Forces Medical Services School as an instructor for medics and preventive medicine technicians.

During the presentation, Marsha thanked Boughner for his service and presented him with a Quilt of Valour quilt.

The presentation also highlighted the broader work of the volunteers who make the quilts and raise funds to support veterans.

For Marsha, the quilts provide more than warmth.

"They are a hug for each veteran," she said, offering them as a tangible expression of gratitude for those who have served.

John R. Hanselman
Barrister, Solicitor
& Notary Public
138 Eagle Street
Delhi, Ontario, N4B 1S5
Phone: (519) 582-0770
Email: info@jrhlaw.ca

J&S Collision and Refinishing
Honouring All Who Served
56843 Green Line RR3,
Tillsonburg
(519) 688-0246



DOOR WORLD
a division of E&E McLaughlin
519-842-4671 info@doorworld.ca doorworld.ca



SIMCOE LIGHTING & Decor
625 West St., Simcoe
(at the corner of Hillcrest Rd.)
simcoelighting.ca
519-428-9927
Stop in today to brighten your home for the season!

Zehrs™



400 SIMCOE ST, TILLSONBURG
(519) 842-9031
OPEN DAILY: 7AM-9PM





Coffee Hour meetings provide an important year-round social space for veterans to remember

ROBIN KRAFFT

Post Correspondent



(ROBIN KRAFFT PHOTO)

Veterans gather at the Tillsonburg Legion for a biweekly coffee hour meeting to share stories and check in with one another. There's plenty of laughter, but continued service, mutual support and understanding are also integral aspects of every meeting.

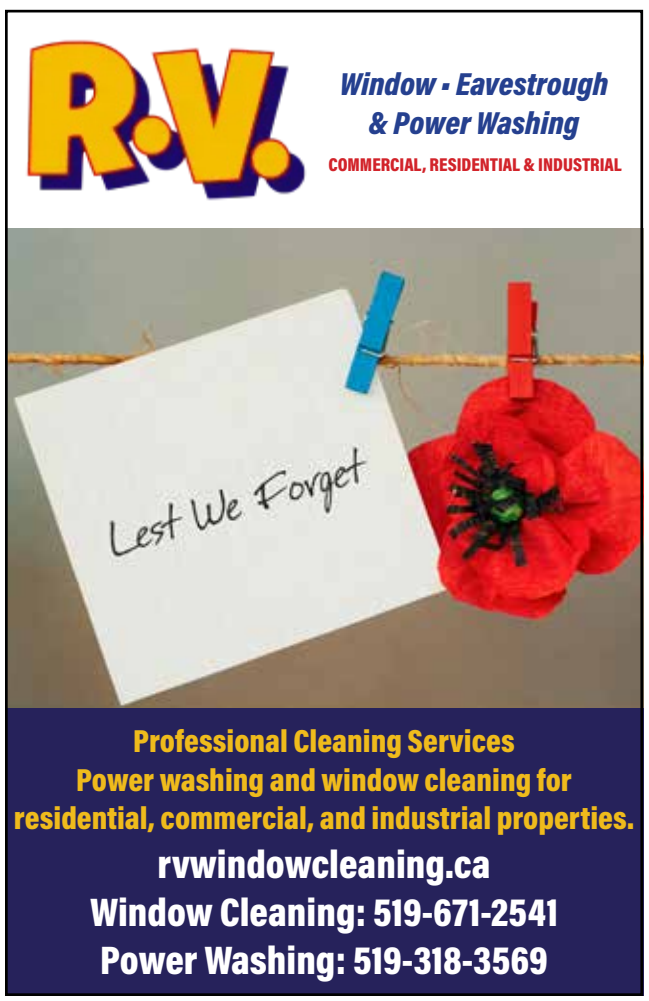
Tillsonburg and area veterans gather for a coffee hour meeting every other Thursday at the Royal Canadian Legion Varnavair Branch 153.

The meetings involve a few announcements, updates, and requests for volunteers, but the primary function of the gathering is to socialize, check in, and talk about their latest adventures.

"We reminisce and share stories, but it's also a buddy check," said Bob Rischel. "We know who comes a lot. We're not trying to pry, but you know, a lot of us are a little older."

At the Oct. 22 meeting, Legion President Tom Brown asked for volunteers to assist with placing the poppy drape over the anti-aircraft gun every morning for the duration of the poppy drive and removing it each evening. Hands went up.

CONTINUED TO PAGE 13







REMEMBRANCE DAY 2026

Lest we forget

Coffee Hour meetings provide an important year-round social space for veterans to remember

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

There were a few comments from the group from those who contributed to the drape, some who sewed, crocheted or knitted.

"You knitted?" one member teased another.

The response was: "Well, there may have been a few beers involved," followed by general laughter from the group.

There is always camaraderie and humour, but there's commitment and service, too.

"During Remembrance week a few of us also visit a few of the senior homes to reminisce with some of the veterans," Brown said. 'They are very pleased to see us and have a chat."

The group also meets at the Legion and carpools to London twice a year to visit and share a meal with the veterans at the Parkwood Institute.

"It's great to see how happy they are when we come," Rischel said. "They often say that every day is the same, rinse and repeat, 'and then you guys come.' They want to hear stories. It's a beautiful facility."

Rischel and his wife, Louise, also a veteran, try to attend every meeting. They moved from Kitchener to Straffordville in 2019. Louise often brings homemade baked goods to the meetings, in addition to treats from the Legion kitchen staff.

The Coffee Hour was initiated by Legion President Tom Brown, Claude Bolduc, and Darrell Ball, when the pandemic restrictions were lifted a few years ago.

Ball started as a Cadet in 1969, at 12 years of age, later becoming a Cadet Commanding Officer in 1976.

"I was Primary Reserve at the same time; that was allowed back then," Ball said. "The Cadet Corps was my life, and I enjoyed it all. I have 20 years of service with the Air Cadets."

Originally intended to be a way to reconnect with fellow veterans, they posted flyers up around town and attendance grew quickly. A month after the Coffee Hour started, Don Mulholland came up with the idea for the red veteran t-shirts.

"Three or four of us got it going," Ball said. "It was a great support. Now we're one of the biggest coffee hours in Southwestern Ontario. It gives us connection, we can talk. It's the one room where everyone understands."

M&M FOOD MARKET
A PROUD CANADIAN COMPANY
LEST WE FORGET
REMEMBRANCE DAY
51 Simcoe St, Tillsonburg, ON N4G 2H6
519-842-4641

Oldridge heating & cooling
Established 1961 • Locally Owned
Your local, full-service heating, ventilation, and air conditioning technicians
Servicing residential communities and industrial businesses in the Tillsonburg, Delhi, Aylmer, Ingersoll, and surrounding areas.
"We give you comfort"
oldridge@execulink.com | 519-688-2947
www.oldridgeheatingcooling.ca

THE COPPER MUG
Remembrance day
Lest We forget
79 Broadway St, Tillsonburg
519-842-6227

Lest We Forget
KornerPerk est. 2017
101 Broadway, Tillsonburg
Open Tue to Sun: 8 am to 2 pm, Mon: Closed

LUBRICARE
14 MINUTE OIL CHANGE, OIL RUSTPROOFING
11 NOVEMBER
REMEMBRANCE DAY
LEST WE FORGET
127 Simcoe St, Tillsonburg • 519-842-5230

LEST WE FORGET
COURTLAND BAKERY
217 Main Street, Courtland
To order please call 519-688-2023

CORREY & RITA'S
NOFRILLS
Lest we forget...
November 11
671 BROADWAY ST, TILLSONBURG, ON
(519) 688-0709

Rhythm Automotive
Lest We Forget

TILLSONBURG GUN SHOP
Lest We Forget
TILLSONBURGGUNSHOP.COM

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2026

Lest we forget

Station Arts Centre exhibit with military history club pays tribute to veterans

ROBIN KRAFFT

Post Correspondent

Members of the general public are invited to view the Tillsonburg Military History Club's annual Week of Remembrance exhibit at the Station Arts Centre from Monday, Nov. 9 to Saturday, Nov. 14.

The Tillsonburg Military History Club was founded in 2006 by Robin Barker-James. He and club member Jerry Turner initiated the first exhibit, with the intention of bringing a message of remembrance to the public through a special display.



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

This vintage poster from the Second World War gives an idea of the constant threat civilians were in under in Europe. A gas mask from the day is displayed with it.

"For a number of years after the club's founding in 2006, the Week of Remembrance was held as a display at the Tillsonburg Town Centre," said Randy Wallis, Vice President of the Tillsonburg Military History Club. "At that time, Robin Barker-James displayed many items from his extensive collection of militaria for the public to view. Along with this display, Jerry Turner would also show his ongoing research into Tillsonburg and Oxford County military history."

The Station Arts Centre has been hosting the Week of Remembrance exhibit for the past 10 years.

"Through their generous support, they have offered us an entire room to display our message of remembrance," Wallis said. "Since the passing of Robin Barker-James and Jerry Turner, I along with Diane Ladoucer, have taken on the ongoing message of the Week of Remembrance. Our goal is to honour the sacrifice and remember the service of Canada's soldiers and our allies through actual historical artifacts used during the conflicts in our history."

The displays now come from Wallis' own collection of militaria. He has been an avid collector for over 50 years.

"During the Week of Remembrance, I try to incorporate as many Tillsonburg and Oxford County related items as possible," Wallis said. "We also try to include many items that relate to the service and sacrifice of all branches of Canadian and allied military. We try to bring into focus the home front effort during wartime as well."

A collection of commonwealth bravery medals will be featured this year, with their origins and military significance.

"I will also display original World War 2 Canadian uniforms and equipment," Wallis said. "I will have a memorial to two young Canadian soldiers who gave their lives in World War 2, and another in World War 1. Everyone is welcome and we are looking forward to your visit."



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

The Tillsonburg Military History Club display at the Station Arts Centre includes many items from the First and Second World Wars, including uniforms and other items from the collection of member Randy Wallis.

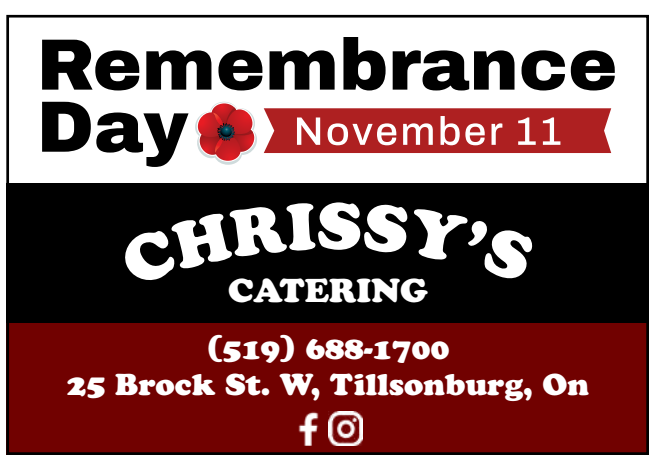












REMEMBRANCE DAY 2026

Lest we forget

Escaping from the Russians to join the RAF

CHES SUKOWSKI

Post Controbutor

Czeslaw Sulkowski was born June 14, 1917 in Jekaterynoslaw, Russia (later changed to Dnieper, Ukraine) His father (Jan), was Director of Trade for the coal mine and smelter (Dneprovsky Plant) which was mainly run by Polish immigrants.

The Russian communist government had plans for occupied Poland and its citizens. Hundreds of thousands of Polish landowners with their entire families, were deported deep into Russian territory.

On Apr. 13, 1940, the NKVD came at 3 a.m. and told my father, his mother and younger sister Wanda to pack up and to walk five kilometres to the railway station. They were all being shipped to Siberia. Dad took his one chance to escape south to join the Polish Army in Persia. .

There, he joined the Polish Carpathian Division, where he was trained to fight in the mountains. The Polish Army then came under British command. The army were planning to send him to commanding officer school, but soon after he wrote his RAF tests to become a pilot and was selected to join the air crew in England.

They were shipped on the famous luxury passenger cruiser Il' d' France with hundreds of troops to prepare for the Battle of Britain. In England, he trained with the Polish 307 Night Squadron called Night Owls on a Tiger Moth, and passed his licence. He then moved to flying Oxfords in a large Aerodrome in Newton. He graduated flying Double Engine Oxfords, and was training on the Lancaster bomber, but the war was finally over.

In 1950, he met and married Edith Vessey of Sheffield, England on Sept. 14.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

He was given a free pass to travel to Canada in 1951 where started his new life with his new bride. They arrived in Halifax on the" Ascania" Feb. 26, 1951.

He trained as a diesel mechanic, and worked at a number of trucking companies in St. Catharines for over 25 years. They raised four children, two boys and two girls, in St. Catharines and resided in two places - St. Catharines and a farm near Tillsonburg.

In 1975, he bought a farm with his son, and together they built and renovated two homes on 50 acres of land. They resided on the farm for over 14 years. Dad had major health issues, including very severe rheumatoid arthritis and needed special care. He was moved into the The Parkwood Veterans Hospital in London in 2004 for that care. Dad passed away at Parkwood Hospital Oct. 15, 2009 at 92 years of age.



Czeslaw Sulkowski. (CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)







REMEMBRANCE DAY 2026

Lest we forget

Harvard association co-founder credited with important shot in Second World War

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

Although his father was credited with knocking German Gen. Erwin Rommel out of the Second World War and took out several enemy trains, his son Jim feels Charley Fox's greatest contribution was raising awareness about the war, including through the Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association.

Charley Fox grew up in Guelph, and signed up with the air force in Hamilton in 1943. Charley trained in Harvards and earned his wings in Dunnville. He graduated second in his class and was selected to remain in Canada to train other pilots.

Before heading overseas, Charley learned about the hazards of combat when a trainee in a Hurricane came up from below him and knocked the engine out of his Harvard. The plane went down, but Charley was able to escape and parachuted to the ground from 1,000 feet up.

He headed overseas in August 1943 and went into active combat. Charley was referred to as 'the old man' by the other pilots in Europe, although his son jokes he was only 23, but he was married and had a son on the way when he left Canada.

He flew three flights on D-Day.

"Dad shared the comment that it was a spectacular sight," Jim said. "He had never seen so many ships and landing craft."

Charley's squadron went to France in 1944, and that summer they were assigned to look for "targets of opportunity," which included German trains and military convoys.

"They happened to spot a German staff car on the backroads of France," Jim began the story that made his father famous.

Charley and his wingman attacked, not knowing until later that they took out Rommel. Although the German general survived the attack, he had injuries that forced him to return to Germany. At the same time, there were two or three assassination attempts on German leader Adolph Hitler. He found Rommel was involved and sentenced him to death. Many believe that due to Rommel's popularity, he was given the choice of either committing suicide or facing a firing squad. With the former option, he was guaranteed his family would be unharmed.

"He committed suicide although the German people were told he died from injuries from the attack," Jim said.

Charley gained a reputation for attacking trains, and earned the nickname 'The Trainbuster'.

"He had a pretty good knack of how to approach trains," Jim said. "His record was that he put a lot of trains out of service."

Charley was shot up 11 times during the war, including having a hole blown in his wing, but was never shut down. He took part in a ceremonial flight to mark the end of the war on May 8, 1945. Charley spent the next few months ferrying enemy planes to England before returning to civilian life.

Jim recounted that, as a two-year-old, his mother lived with his grandparents, and his dad came home. His mother asked where his dad was.

"Me, as a two-year-old, I ran into the living room and picked up the picture of my dad," he said, explaining that was all he knew of his dad to that point.

That changed, and he accompanied his father to many of his talks in later years. Charley joined the reserve air squadron until it was disbanded. He then flew sold aircraft to buyers across the continent. The family went through some ups and downs until Charley landed a job with a London shoe manufacturer, Lyons. He moved up through the company and retired as vice-president, and he continued to live in London.

A big life change for Charley started when he became involved in the fledgling Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association in 1980.

"It was through CHAA he got to talk about some of his wartime experiences," Jim said. "That opened the door to talking about his experiences."

CONTINUED TO PAGE 17





REMEMBRANCE DAY 2026

Lest we forget

Pilot nicknamed 'The Trainbuster' for knocking out trains

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Charley went into schools and talked about the war. He didn't finish high school, and Clarke Road Secondary School in London thought enough of him to present him with a Grade 12 diploma. Jim became a teacher and moved to Kitchener.

Jim remembers one trip he took with his father to Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida, where both Canadian and American personnel work. He did a presentation, but it was the casual talk in the bar after that impressed his son.

"My dad was on a bar stool, and he was surrounded by American and Canadian airmen, asking about his strategies, about how they came up from underneath a plane. It was amazing to see the respect," Jim said. "He was treated like royalty when he got down there."

Charley worked to help the Harvard association get the planes flying again, and often served as the commentator when they flew at air shows across Canada and the U.S.

He was honoured with a Paul Harris Fellow, the highest honour in the Rotary Club by the Kitchener-Waterloo club. An overpass in London was also named after him.

"He was a humble person really," Jim said of his father. "He didn't expect to have these tributes. He was asked to be honorary colonel of the squadron he was in."

While the Harvard association became a big part of his life, he was leaving a presentation to cadets at the Tillsonburg Airport in 2008 when he was killed in a car collision near the airport at 88 years of age.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Charley Fox in dress uniform standing in front of a restored spitfire.

"We figured he was distracted and pulled out in front of another car," Jim said. "It's ironic he survived his experiences in the war, was shot up 11 times but never shot down, and was killed on a side road outside Tillsonburg."

A full military funeral was held, as well as a memorial ceremony in Ottawa with the 412th Squadron, for which he was honorary colonel.





Explore the makers that make us on the Oxford Handcrafted Trail

ROBIN KRAFFT

Post Correspondent

If you're looking for a destination to enhance your country drive, searching for a unique gift or a new creative adventure, you'll want to embrace the Oxford Handcrafted Trail as your essential guide.

Funded in part by the Ontario Ministry of Rural Affairs, this new tourism trail offers an opportunity to discover local artisans, handmade products and creative experiences. The goal is to celebrate the region's diverse maker community. It's an opportunity to meet artisans, explore studios and shops, and gain firsthand experience in the handmade arts. (tourismoxford.ca)

The trail features trip itineraries with designated stops, connecting handcrafted experiences in close proximity to one another that can be accomplished in a single day. Tillsonburg residents who want to explore closer to home can explore the trail by neighbourhood.

"In Tillsonburg this would include architecture, pottery, the visual arts, culinary, fibre arts and quilting," Oxford County Tourism Manager Meredith Maywood said. "All of these mediums are represented on the trail in Tillsonburg. Visitors can also look for events and classes in town and plan a trip around it."

You can explore many other destinations throughout Oxford County by neighborhood, create your own adventure, or delve into a particular medium.

Curated itineraries by medium include: kiln; canvas and the creative arts; arts co-operatives and galleries; sculpt; shop local art; meals and murals; savour and settle in; stories in every stitch; botanicals and bites; brick, beam and beauty; paper and prose.

"We're getting ready to load maps for the 'Explore by Medium' experiences," Maywood said. "We want it to be easy for people to get out and explore the region."

The response so far has been fantastic, with 40 package requests on the first day, and high engagement on social media and the website. The Oxford Handcrafted Trail opened in September, but will be an ongoing, year-round endeavor.

"There are over 300 events every year in handcrafted venues and they're primarily indoors," Maywood said. "It tends to pick up after the summer season. Some people like to give the gift of a creative experience. A group of friends with similar interests can spend a day together learning something new."

Tillsonburg's Cherished Pieces, for example, offers regular upscale quilting retreats at Elmhurst Inn and Spa, and a variety of workshops and classes here in town.

Maywood has worked in tourism since 2014 and has explored many handcrafted arts herself. After meeting so many local creatives, she was inspired to share the wealth.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Cherished Pieces owner and operator Cynthia Hildebrand shows a sample of the colourful possibilities available in her store where you can explore unique classes and workshops.

Originally, the idea came from celebrating the story of woodworking in Oxford County.

"Through that process, a lightbulb went off realizing all handcrafted artists and their stories could be celebrated through a diverse trail celebrating the Handcrafted Arts. It's my dream to see people have a thriving career in the creative economy, allowing more artists to make a living sharing what they love, and cultural organizations to have increased attendance and support," Maywood said. "There is an amazing maker culture here, now and historically. We have so many stories in all mediums. There's a lot for the generally curious to explore."

The tourism trail will benefit more than just the makers in their individual communities.

"People come to the area and are learning about a new destination," Maywood said. "They develop an affection for it; they build a relationship with a town. We hope it's a lifelong friendship. Visitors and residents having a stronger appreciation of the handcrafted arts and the attention to detail and care that go into making them can lead to more people signing up for artisan classes, people purchasing local handcrafted items that speak to them, and more visitation to Oxford County."

In Tillsonburg, people may be introduced to destinations like the Station Arts Centre. Executive Director and Curator Tabitha Verbuyst expressed her enthusiasm about the Oxford Handcrafted Trail and its potential impact.

"Being a part of this trail also brings in new ways to explore Oxford County as a whole; visitors and locals are provided with the tools and resources to explore places in their backyard they may not have known about before, which is another valuable component and really broadens the tourism experience," Verbuyst said. "I really look forward to seeing the trail continue to grow, continue to connect people with our creative hands and experiences, and continue to strengthen the cultural core of Oxford County."

You can plan your trip at TourismOxford.ca/handcrafted, but Tourism Oxford has also produced a series of zines for the Handcrafted Trail. The first zine (a self-published, niche booklet) is available at each designated destination.

Some locations also offer limited-edition covers to collect, protect and store your Oxford County travel zines. The covers feature artwork by local artists. New zine editions will be released throughout the year, including themed trip itineraries organized by medium.

Betty's Marketplace, located at 87 Broadway Street, is currently carrying both the zine and the covers. Owner and Operator Lindsay Rennie is thrilled to be included in anything that shines a light on local, handcrafted arts.

"Being in the small business scene for almost a decade now, we understand the importance and fundamental need for buying and supporting local businesses and artists," Rennie said. "Oxford County and Tillsonburg have so much to offer, and with Tourism Oxford's curated zines, they make it fun and informative to tour our beautiful county so you can find these hidden gems. With over 80 vendors just in our store, we get to showcase local talent every day, and it makes our hearts happy to know that we are keeping people's dreams alive, one sale at a time. If you haven't been in to pick up a zine yet, or don't know about the Handcrafted Trail, stop in and chat with us!"



(ROBIN KRAFFT PHOTO)

Lindsay Rennie, owner and operator of Betty's Marketplace, poses with the first of the Oxford Handcrafted Trail zines and limited edition covers.

Support our local snowmobile club and **ENTER TO WIN A $20,000 GIFT CARD** to

CHESTERMAN POWER PRODUCTS
McKEE Sport and Garden Ltd.
Lockhart's Motor Sport
DAVIDSON'S POWERSPORTS

Use it toward a snowmobile, ATV, side-by-side, dirt bike, seadoo, or your preferred item!

SOUTHERN SNO RIDERS

Visit our **Facebook, Instagram (Southern Sno Riders), or the QR code** to purchase tickets. $65/each. Draw held November 28th.

Proceeds go to bridges, warm up shacks, & land owner relations.

Get your tickets **here**!

Don't forget to purchase your 2027 trail permit! Visit ofsc.on.ca for details.

A big **THANK YOU** to our landowners for letting us use their trails! Please stay on the trail & ride responsibly.

HALLOWEEN

Station Arts Centre's Moon Market a success

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Attendance increased from last year and continues its steady climb.

Asked the reason for the increase, Fortner said, "A big part of it is marketing. We've been pushing it a lot more on socials, but it's also building its reputation."

Estimates put attendance between 1,500 and 1,800 people who converged downtown for Downtown Spookytown trick-or-treating at the stores. Fortner said some businesses went through 800 to 1,000 treats, while one reported 1,200. Parents weren't included in that count.

"For three hours, that's pretty big," she said.

Thursday night was Witches Night Out in Tillsonburg, where witches descended on downtown, seeking special drinks at bars and shopping at retailers that stayed open late. New this year was a booklet that participants had stamped to form a bingo line to enter in a contest. Fortner said more than 300 booklets were handed out.

The Moon Market

This year marked the first time the Station Arts Centre held its Moon Market in conjunction with BIA activities. The event featured 13 different vendors, with wares ranging from pottery and fiber arts to woodworking. Multiple sites were set up for witches to grab a photo, in partnership with Garden Gate. Special 'Witch's Brew' was available in both alcoholic and non-alcoholic versions in conjunction with Chrissy's Catering and the Kinsmen Club, and a DJ played spooky and dance music.

"There were people lined up waiting to get in," said Cailey Coderre, the station's social media lead, who was dressed up as the Scarlett Witch for the evening.

Station Arts Centre Executive Director Tabitha Verbuyst estimated in excess of 500 people came through for the night.

"I would say it went really well," she said. "It was a great opportunity for people in the community who have never been in the Station Arts Centre, or wanted to go visit the Station Arts Centre and haven't, to see it for the first time."

She is hopeful that will pay dividends down the road and people will return.

Verbuyst believes the passport system worked well and encouraged participants to explore all of downtown.

"We do a lot of things around the holiday season; it was good to do something with the Halloween season," she said.

Asked about the most popular costume for the night, Verbuyst pointed to the witch.

"In partnership with the BIA event, that was the go-to costume, but we've seen a lot of different costumes," she said.

A growing success

Halloween has become a big thing in downtown Tillsonburg, with only Turtlefest being larger. Fortner started downtown Halloween activities when she began with the BIA four years ago. She believes it's one of the largest downtown Halloween celebrations in the area.

"A lot of BIAs do the trick-or-treating downtown, but in terms of the haunted house and Witches Night Out, I haven't seen anything locally run by a BIA," she said.

Denying a spell was cast on the people of Tillsonburg and area to attract them to the event, she did agree, "It's catching on . . ."

Fortner is already looking forward to next year's Halloween.



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

This young trick-or-treater had assistance carving a jack-o-lantern as part of Downtown Spookytown on Oct. 24.



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Carved pumpkins lined the planter in front of the Tillsonburg Town Centre after about 100 of those who visited the downtown took the free opportunity to try their hand at pumpkin art.



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Faith Hogarth, left, and Jaslyn Chevers were busy serving special witch's brews at the Station Arts Centre as part of the Moon Market. The drinks and servers were sponsored by the Carriage House and the Kinsmen.



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

This coven of witches visited the Moon Market last Thursday, as well as checking out the downtown. Left to right are: Kathy McCormick, Jenny Thomas, Heather Mabee and Kim Dew.



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Nancy O'Hara, left, and Amanda Hosanna went all out while designing their witch's costumes. O'Hara won the costume contest at the Station Arts Centre for the best witch look.

Tillsonburg

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Notices

Record Voter Turnout in the 2026 Municipal Election

The 2026 Municipal Election saw the highest voter turnout in Tillsonburg's history, with **39.9%** of eligible electors casting a ballot. A total of **6,708 residents voted**, helping shape the future of our community and local government.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the democratic process. Whether you voted online, by telephone, your engagement demonstrates a strong commitment to the future of Tillsonburg.

Give Your Pumpkin a Second Life!

Halloween may be over, but your pumpkin can still make a difference! Instead of sending it to the landfill, consider giving it a second life through The Great Pumpkin Rescue. Unpainted and untreated pumpkins can be composted, used in recipes, or donated to help feed local farm animals.

Pumpkin drop-off is available November 1 to 7 at the Tillsonburg Transfer Station during regular operating hours. Help reduce waste and support a more sustainable community by keeping your pumpkin out of the trash.

Don't Forget About Fall Leaf Collection!

The Town's annual Loose Leaf Collection Program is now underway and will continue through November 27. As there are no scheduled collection zones, residents are encouraged to place leaves at the curb and leave them out until they are collected. To help crews work efficiently, please keep leaf piles free of branches, brush, and other debris. Do not place leaf piles around streetlight poles, traffic signs, fire hydrants, utility pedestals, or mailboxes.

Leaves, brush, and other yard waste can also be dropped off at the Transfer Station (50 Newell Rd.) throughout the season. If you have any collection-related inquiries, contact the Customer Service Centre.

Culture Corner

"Oh Kitschy Tree!"- Ornament Contest

November 2 - November 25



Do you have what it takes to create the kitschiest, tackiest, most over-the-top Christmas ornament? Join our festive crafting showdown where glitter, pom-poms, googly eyes, tinsel, and plastic flair reign supreme! Prizes & Bragging Rights await the winner of the Golden Glue Gun Trophies!

Kitschy Christmas Ornament Workshop

November 18 | 1:30 p.m. and/or 6:30 p.m.



Get ready to deck the halls with glitter, googly eyes, pom-poms, and pure holiday nostalgia! This "Kitschy Christmas Ornament Workshop" is all about embracing the bold, bright, and wonderfully weird side of the holidays. Whether you love vintage tackiness or just want to make something fabulously fun, this is the ultimate DIY event to let your creativity shine.

$35.00 (Taxes included) | All ages welcome!

Hardy Avenue Asphalt Improvements

Road Improvements Begin November 9

As part of the Town's 2026 Asphalt Maintenance Program, Hardy Avenue will undergo asphalt milling and resurfacing from the Community Centre access road to Sanders Street. Construction is scheduled to begin the week of November 9 and is expected to be completed by November 27, weather permitting.

During construction, portions of Hardy Avenue will be closed to public traffic and signed detours will be in place. The Community Centre access intersection and public parking areas will remain open; however, vehicle access to the Lions Den and South Pool entrances will be temporarily unavailable during road closures.

Thank you for your patience as these important roadway improvements are completed. For more information visit **tillsonburg.ca/news**.

Active Living & Learning Opportunities

Become a Certified Lifeguard This November



Ready to take the next step toward a career in aquatics? The National Lifeguard certification course provides the professional training required to work as a lifeguard at public pools across Ontario and Canada. Participants will develop advanced rescue skills, fitness, judgment, and emergency response techniques. The course runs November 13-22 and is the final step toward becoming a certified lifeguard.

Keep Your Certification Current



Current National Lifeguards can renew their certification on November 22 through the National Lifeguard Recertification course. This recertification is designed to refresh essential lifeguarding knowledge and skills, ensuring guards remain confident and prepared to respond in emergency situations.

Aquatic Schedule Update



Please note that there will be no drop-in aquatic programs on Saturday, November 22 to accommodate National Lifeguard training and recertification courses. We appreciate your understanding and encourage participants to plan their swims around this temporary schedule adjustment.

Register for Fall Swim Lessons



A new session of swim lessons began November 2 at the Tillsonburg Community Centre. Lessons are available for a variety of ages and skill levels, helping participants build confidence, improve technique, and develop lifelong water safety skills. Register early to secure your spot in the upcoming session.

Questions? We're Here to Help!



Our staff can help you find the right program, answer registration questions, and provide information about course prerequisites and schedules.

519-688-3009 ext. 4446 | recreation@tillsonburg.ca
Dive in and join us this fall!

Town of Tillsonburg
Customer Service Centre
10 Lisgar Ave, Tillsonburg N4G 5A5

Hours: Monday to Friday (8 AM to 5 PM)
Phone: 519.688.3009
E-mail: csr@tillsonburg.ca

www.tillsonburg.ca

Tillsonburg

Community Calendar NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Community Swim 1:00 - 3:00 pm Free Community Skate 1:15 - 2:35 pm	**2** "Oh Kitschy Tree!" Ornament Contest Begins!	**3** Community Skate 10:00 - 11:20 am Community Swim 1:00 - 3:00 pm	**4**	**5** Community Skate 10:00 - 11:20 am	**6** Community Skate 3:30 -4:50 pm	**7** Community Swim 1:00 - 3:00 pm
"Oh Kitschy Tree" Ornament Contest						
8 Family Fitness Swim 9:00 - 10:30 am Community Swim 1:00 - 3:00 pm Community Skate 1:15 - 2:35 pm	**9**	**10** Community Skate 10:00 - 11:20 am Community Swim 1:00 - 3:00 pm	**11** Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Cenotaph 10:45 am	**12** Community Skate 10:00 - 11:20 am	**13** Community Skate 3:30 -4:50 pm	**14** Community Swim 1:00 - 3:00 pm
"Oh Kitschy Tree" Ornament Contest						
15 Family Fitness Swim 9:00 - 10:30 am Community Swim 1:00 - 3:00 pm Free Community Skate 1:15 - 2:35 pm	**16** Inaugural Council Meeting 6:00 pm	**17** Community Skate 10:00 - 11:20 am Community Swim 1:00 - 3:00 pm	**18** Kitschy Christmas Ornament Workshop 1:30 pm & 6:30 pm	**19** Community Skate 10:00 - 11:20 am	**20** Community Skate 3:30 -4:50 pm	**21** Community Swim 1:00 - 3:00 pm
"Oh Kitschy Tree" Ornament Contest						
22 Community Skate 1:15 - 2:35 pm	**23** Council Meeting 6:00 pm	**24** Community Skate 10:00 - 11:20 am Community Swim 1:00 - 3:00 pm	**25** "Oh Kitschy Tree!" Ornament Contest Final Day!	**26** Community Skate 10:00 - 11:20 am	**27** Christmas Open House & Lighting on the Lawn 7:00 pm Community Swim 7:30 - 9:30 pm	**28** Christmas Open House Community Swim 1:00 - 3:00 pm
"Oh Kitschy Tree" Ornament Contest						
29 Christmas Open House Community Swim 1:00 - 3:00 pm	**30**			Hardy Avenue Asphalt Improvements Construction is expected to begin the week of November 9 and be completed by November 27, weather permitting.		

Didn't find what you were looking for?

Check out all our other programs!

FREE Community Event Highlight



Legend

- All Ages
- Town Hall
- Adult Program
- Museum
- Youth Program

2026

CONNECTED. ENRICHED. INSPIRED.

SPORTS



Delhi Hungarian Hall

71 King Street • 519-582-2460

Fall Christmas Market

Over 25 Vendors.
Sat. Nov. 21, 2026
10:00 AM till 3:00 PM
Free Admission

Chicken & Cabbage Roll Dinner
Fri. Nov. 20th, 2026 - By Reservation & Payment - Dinner Serving 5 to 6:30 P.M.

- Chicken & Cabbage Rolls
- Mashed Potatoes & Gravy - Coleslaw
  Dinner Roll - Coffee, Tea & Dessert
- Adults $30.00
- $15.00 Children 6 to 12
- 5 and under Free

Bulk Xmas Orders

Wednesday December 23th, 2026
Breaded Chicken - $30.00 for 10 pcs.
Cabbage Rolls - $28.00 per. doz.
Breaded Pork Schnitzel -$6.00
Perogies - $15.00 per. package
ColeSlaw - $6.00 per container
Don't wait for the last minute to order



Gemini program in midst of TVRA playoffs, Brown qualifies for OFSAA cross country provincials

JEFF TRIBE

Post Correspondent

The Gemini football program's coaches liked the great majority of what they saw from their teams in junior/senior playoff matchups against the St. Thomas Parkside Stampeders Friday, Oct. 30 in St. Thomas.

The greatest exception would however be their respective games' final scores.

"Proud of how they fought and kept in the game," said junior coach Jordan Fitzmorris of a 21-6 Thames Valley Regional Athletics AA quarter-final loss. "They never quit to the very end."

"Proud of our boys this year," said senior bench boss Sean Van Beers after a 15-8 defeat. "Our seniors especially."

The senior game's turning point came in the first half's final three minutes, a touchdown-scoring turnover which broke a 7-7 tie. Parkside would add the lone point of the second half, rounding an eight-point win behind a defence Van Beers described as 'phenomenal.'

"Absolutely phenomenal."

The Gemini defence also played a strong game credited coach Lee Janzen, giving up a touchdown on the opening drive.

"And that was it."

Gemini quarterback Landon Dodsley linked up with receiver Kypton Lofthouse for the Gemini first-half major, place kicker James Strathearn adding the point after.

"Our guys battled the entire game," credited Van Beers of what he described as an old-fashioned physical match between two Oxford-Elgin rivals, a 'struggle' as befitted post-season action. "It was close."

Depth proved an issue for Tillsonburg, which entered the game down two key players, Terren Janzen due to injury, Kiah Cato to illness. Those who were able to be there however, left every bit of their effort on the field.

"It was a good game," coach Janzen concluded. "The guys played great."

The junior Gemini faced what Fitzpatrick described as a well-rounded team, with speed and size.

"It wasn't our day," he said, an ability to move the ball frustrated by minor issues in multiple trips to the red zone.

"We were marching on them and hanging in with them," he said. "The score didn't reflect how close the game actually was."

Tillsonburg's Silas Hawel scored the Gemini touchdown on a strange play, a fumble recovery following which he, and everyone on the field paused in apparent confusion.

"He picked it up and stood there," said Fitzpatrick, among those yelling at Hawel to 'Run!', a message received on the third transmission. "He got some speed on and pounded it into the corner of the endzone."

This year's Gemini juniors were a young group continued the coach, a mixture of Grade 10s and 9s, a number of the latter prominent on defence.

"It's a good group too," he said, the coaching staff's closing speech focussed on their future potential.

"They will be a force to be reckoned with."

Gemini junior boys' cross country runner Ethan Brown is also in his equivalent of playoffs, finishing an impressive second at Western Ontario Secondary Schools Athletic Association (WOSSAA) championships in Strathroy, Thursday, Oct. 29. Brown completed the junior course in 17:29 minutes, 12 seconds behind the first-place finisher from Parkside and two seconds ahead of two runners in joint third.

Brown's regional silver medal finish qualifies him for Ontario Federation of School Athletics Associations (OFSAA) championships in Sudbury, Monday, Nov. 9.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Gemini cross country runner Ethan Brown earned a WOSSAA silver medal and OFSAA berth Thursday, October 29 at Strathroy. He qualified to compete in provincial championships Monday, Nov. 9 in Sudbury.

Both girls' basketball teams were scheduled to open their TVRA post-season with preliminary round games against Lord Dorchester Tuesday, Nov. 3, the seniors (after a regular season finale at home to St. Thomas St. Joe's Monday, Nov. 2) on the road in Dorchester, the 3-5 juniors at home to their 1-7 counterparts.

TVRA AA SENIOR FOOTBALL	
PARKSIDE	15
GEMINI	7
JUNIOR	
PARKSIDE	21
GEMINI	6
TVRA SOUTHEAST SENIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL	
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27	
WOODSTOCK ST. MARY'S	33
GEMINI	31
JUNIOR	
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27	
ST. MARY'S	34
GEMINI	24
TVRA SOUTHEAST SENIOR BOYS VOLLEYBALL	
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27	
ST. MARY'S	25, 19, 24, 25, 8
GEMINI	13, 25, 20, 18, 15
JUNIOR	
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27	
ST. MARY'S	27, 25, 25, 25
GEMINI	29, 18, 16, 13

CONTINUED TO PAGE 23



PROVIDING FIRST-CLASS DOOR INSTALLATION, REPAIR SERVICES, AND LOCKSMITHING SERVICES IN SIMCOE, TILLSONBURG AND SURROUNDING AREAS FOR BOTH RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

DOOR WORLD
a division of E&E McLaughlin

519-842-4671 info@doorworld.ca doorworld.ca

Gemini program in midst of TVRA playoffs, Brown qualifies for OFSAA cross country provincials

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

Winners of those games will advance to quarter-finals Thursday, Nov. 5.

The Gemini senior boys' volleyball team was scheduled to hit the road for a Tuesday, Nov. 3 preliminary round game against the Woodstock CI Red Devils, with a berth in Thursday quarter-finals on the line. The Gemini junior volleyball squad finished the season with a fourth-place 5-3 regular season record, earning the right to host the Ingersoll DCI Blue Bombers (also 5-3) in a Thursday, Nov. 5 quarter-final.



(FILE PHOTO)

Junior Gemini running back Vincent Vanhooydonk (right) battles to escape Blue Bomber defenders Kayson Stewart (left) and Dean Bayer (centre).

Tillsonburg Thunder split weekend games

MICHAEL HOLLY

Post Contrubutor

Friday night hockey in Elora is always a tough place to play, especially if Colin Dunne for Elora is between the pipes.

Tillsonburg opened the scoring at 13:13 of the first. Luke Sinclair ripped a bar-down shot past the glove of Dunne from Dylan Watson and Jaden Vansevenant. Elora tied it up at the 12:15 mark.

The Thunder took the lead again at 14:27 of the second by Braden Roberts, unassisted. Elora scored two quick ones but Roberts answered from Sinclair, and tied it up at 3 at 2:31 of the second.

Elora scored on the power play and then a give-away deep in the Thunder end to make it 5-3 Elora. An empty net goal sealed the Elora win at 6-3.

New head coach Brayden Walker seemed to inspire the Thunder as it was an extremely intense game.

A Sunday matinee game brought the Thunder to visit the Milverton Four Wheel Drives.

There is a long history between these two teams as it is always a rough and tumble affair, and this game did not disappoint. The Thunder opened the scoring in the first with one by former Stratford Irish player Matt Montgomery, from Vansevnant and Jeffery Leaist. Jordan Medeiros, from Justin Abraham, added another to end the first at 2-0 Thunder.

The Drives scored two quick ones to tie it up in the second, but the Thunder responded with a goal from Sinclair from Vansevenant and Roberts, and a blast from the point through the Drives tender by Leaist from Hunter Monkhouse and Abraham.

The Drives scored one late in the game on the power play to ensure the third period would be interesting. But the Thunder took control, and endured with a goal by Leaist from Liam Kidder and an empty net goal by MacLean, from Monkhouse and Tyler Alexander, to seal the Thunder 6-3 victory.

The Thunder travel to new OEHL team the Ridgetown Rebels on Saturday, Nov. 7, for a 6 p.m. puck drop. The Thunder have never played the Rebels so I am sure it is going to be an interesting game. The Thunder come home on Nov.14 versus the Milverton 4 Wheel Drives, who will be looking for some redemption. This is the Remembrance Day game and a Legion Color Guard will be present.

See you all at the rink.

tillsonburgpost.com

FOREVER YOUNG DENTURE CLINIC
DENTURES WITH A Woman's Touch!
DON'T WAIT - CALL NOW AND PUT YOUR BEST SMILE FORWARD THIS FALL!
DENTURE PROVIDER FOR THE NEW CANADIAN DENTAL PROGRAM
Complete Dentures, Partial Dentures, Relines, Repairs.
289-922-9277
32 UNION ST. SIMCOE
(ACROSS POST OFFICE)
WWW.FOREVERYOUNGDENTURES.COM

Tillsonburg Plumbing Centre
(T.D. Logan Plumbing & Heating LTD.)
(519)688-9754
JEFF FISCHER
OWNER
128 Tillson Ave, Tillsonburg ON | loganplumbing@outlook.com
www.tillsonburgplumbing.ca

50/50 WINNERS
Knights of Columbus
"We All Win"
OCTOBER 2026 WINNERS
Brad & Grace Ling • Debra Pattyn
Brian & Colleen Hanley • Jayden Desaro
Doreen & Kin Fairhurst

PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR HOUSE IS
Keep your dollars in Canada to strengthen communities and support local businesses, including your local newspaper.
News Media Canada
Médias d'Info Canada
BUY CANADIAN ADVERTISE LOCAL

Club Oxford sees tie in A, B-Line leading B

JEFF GWYN

Post Contributor

ReMax Realty and Birds Golf are tied at the top of Club Oxford's A Division, while B-Line Trucking is driving solo to lead B Division.

Oct. 22

A Division

Fody's 3, Health Hut 1

Fody's got into the win column with this one, playing a basic game and capitalizing on their chances. There was a solid defensive effort as well. Health Hut had trouble getting chances in close. They put in a good effort but couldn't break through the Fody's defence.

Brett Ferguson had a goal for Fody's. Jordan Hill had a goal for Health Hut.

ReMax 7, Birds 0

ReMax came out strong and didn't give Birds a chance for much tonight. They had all their lines going and pressured almost every shift. Birds had trouble getting into the offensive zone and were hemmed down in their own end most of the game.

Jordan Kobayashi had a hat trick for ReMax. Greg Buchner had the shutout.

Royal LePage 6, Source 5

Royal LePage started strong in this one. They were able to tilt the game in their favour at key times and pressured all game. Source found a spark midway through the first to get back into the game. Some late-game effort almost got the tie, but they just fell short.

Adam Jensen had three points for Royal LePage. Kevin VanKooten had three points for Source.

B Division

Glass 2, RND 1

Glass played a good game where they fought hard for chances. They were able to kill off a late two-man disadvantage to secure the win. RND had some good plays down low but couldn't cash in when needed. A good battle between these two teams.

Nate DaCosta had a goal for Glass. Nick Brotz had a goal for RND.

B-Line 8, Airmount 0

B-Line is a juggernaut. They have the speed to rush every shift and do not let their opponents get many second chances. Airmount had a few rush chances but couldn't get rebounds or bounces in this one.

Kevin Hmiel had four assists, and Luke DeCarolis had three points for B-Line.

Carquest 3, JP Mortgages 2

They had a solid effort offensively and buckled down defensively when short-handed. JP Mortgages had many chances in this one. They pushed hard and got shots, but couldn't get the breaks they needed.

Chad Homick had a goal for Carquest. Kyle Boughner had a goal for JP Mortgages.

Oct. 25

A Divison

Birds 4, Health Hut 1

Birds broke through in the first period after a very even start. They were able to make plays down low to keep pressure on all night. Health Hut matched up pretty well, except for a couple minutes of the first. A solid effort but they couldn't get those second chances to go in tonight.

Dan King had three points for Birds. Travis Whiteside had the goal for Health Hut.

Source 4, Fody's 3

A very even tilt. Source was digging deep to get the win in this one. They were able to use their rushes to get some great chances in this one. Fody's was able to pressure throughout the game and had some great chances that didn't bounce their way.

Justin Rowles had three points for Source. Christian Clifford was an offensive force for Fody's.

ReMax 4, Royal LePage 3

ReMax has found a rhythm and are so dangerous from the back end. They made some great outlet passes and quick rushes to get their offense tonight. Royal LePage was able to get some secondary scoring tonight. They had great speed but just couldn't hang on for the tie.

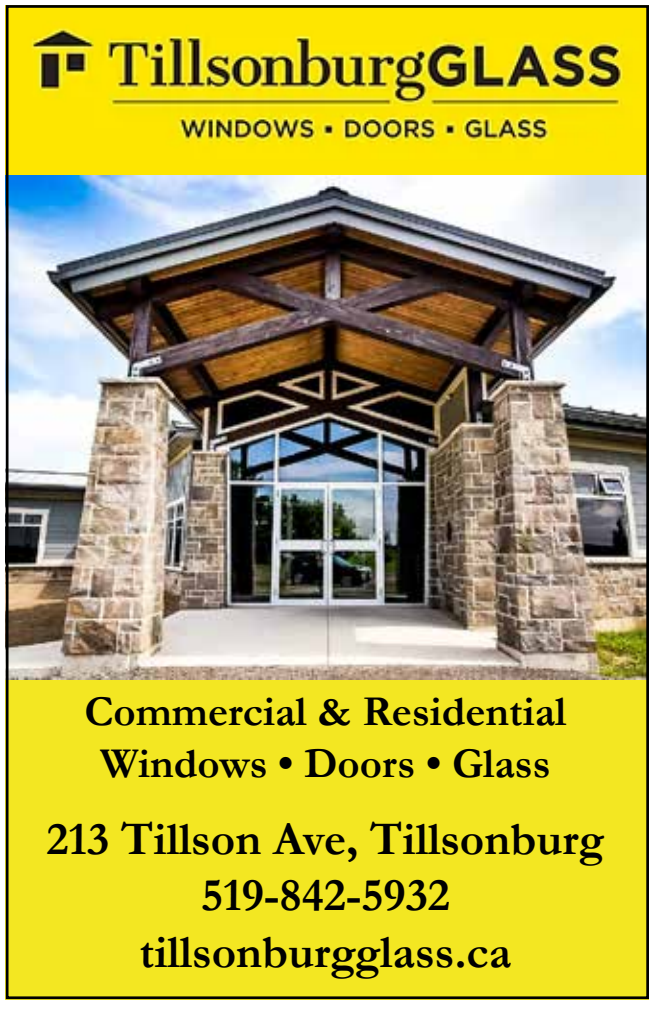
Dylan Ralf had three assists for ReMax. Kurtis Bull had two assists for Royal LePage.

CLUB OXFORD A DIVISION	GP	W	L	T	PTS
REMAX REALTY	5	4	1	0	8
BIRDS GOLF	5	4	1	0	8
ROYAL LEPAGE REALTY	5	2	2	1	5
SOURCE FOR SPORTS	5	2	3	0	4
HEALTH HUT	5	1	3	1	3
FODY'S AUTOMOTIVE	5	1	4	0	2

CLUB OXFORD B DIVISION	GP	W	L	T	PTS
B-LINE TRUCKING	5	5	0	0	10
TILLSONBURG GLASS	5	3	1	1	7
RND CONSTRUCTION	5	2	3	0	4
AIRMOUNT FARMS	5	1	2	2	4
CARQUEST AUTO PARTS	5	1	3	1	3
JEFF PROUSE MORTGAGES	5	0	3	2	2

Tillsonburg Post is available for free in print and online: **tillsonburgpost.com**





12 Weeks of CHRISTMAS

The Country Table
FROZEN FOOD OUTLET
www.countrytable.ca



Frozen Soups Breakfast Favourites



Easy Meal Solutions Ontario Pork

More to discover in store! Visit our website for full product list.

Monday - Friday: 9am - 6pm
Saturday: 9am - 5pm
Sunday: 11am - 4pm

Located at 2 Vance Drive Tillsonburg, ON

Thank you to those who served and sacrificed. Lest we forget.

Celebrating over 30 years of locally family owned business.

THE COPPER MUG
YOUR FRIENDS ARE ALREADY HERE

Fresh made foods, in house smoked meats and lot of love. Just like Mom used to make.

• Live Entertainment • Karaoke
• NTN Trivia • Fundraisers
• Birthdays • Anniversaries
• Meetings • & More

79 Broadway St. Tillsonburg
519-842-6227



CANADIAN-MADE WOMEN'S FASHION
Flagship store for RAPZ Lifestyle Clothing
149 Broadway Street, Tillsonburg
willowboutique.ca | (519) 842-3848

CASH IN A FLASH!
BUY • SELL • LOAN

NEEDFULL THINGS Pawn Shop
75 Broadway, Tillsonburg • 519-842-3388



Good Food, Great Company & Holiday Cheer!

Celebrate the holiday season at The Copper Mug! Whether you're catching up with friends, enjoying a meal with family or taking a break from the holiday hustle and bustle, there's always something delicious waiting for you.

Enjoy great fresh made food, refreshing drinks and a welcoming atmosphere that makes every get-together special.

Gather your friends, raise a glass and make The Copper Mug part of your holiday celebrations!



25 Spruce St., Unit 10, Tillsonburg
Open Mon. to Sat. 10 AM to 5 PM | Closed Sun.

CHRISSY'S CATERING



(519) 688-1700
25 Brock St. W, Tillsonburg

Flowers for Fall





SHOES! LIQUIDATION — 400 Simcoe St, Tillsonburg

WE WANT YOU TO PAY
THE LOWEST PRICE!

WORKBOOT OUTLET - 1ST QUALITY BRANDS
OFFERING BONUS SAVINGS TO ALL LOCAL COMPANIES AND EMPLOYEES

TRUCKLOADS OF SHOES ARRIVING DAILY

SHOES! — Factory Outlet — 65 Donly Dr N, Simcoe

20,000 SQ FT OF THE LATEST BRANDS AND STYLES

SIMCOE LIGHTING & DECOR
Bright Ideas for Your Home

Celebration
30 YEARS OPEN HOUSE
NOV 21 – 28 | M-F 9-5 S 9-3

Note: Closing early Wed Nov 25 @ 3:00 for Christmas Party

All Anniversary Tag ALREADY MARKED DOWN Too 30% OFF | Save another 20% OFF (on marked items)
While quantities last!!!

Store wide all in stock white tag take additional 10% OFF!!!
While quantities last!!!

Excludes the FLYER Sale Promotion!!!

Door Prizes Refreshments
Gift Certificates available Great Price On Decor Pieces

625 WEST ST. W., SIMCOE, ON
519-428-9927 | SIMCOELIGHTING.CA

RIDDLES

What has branches, but no fruit, trunk or leaves?

A bank.

What thrives when you feed it but dies when you water it?

A fire.

What do you buy to eat but never consume?

Cutlery.

Two fathers and two sons are in a car, yet there are only three people in the car. How?

They are grandfather, father, and son.

A bus driver goes the wrong way down a one-way street. He passes the cops, but they don't stop him. Why?

He was walking.

Where is the only place where today comes before yesterday?

The dictionary.

What can you put in a bucket to make it weigh less?

A hole.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Solutions on Page 39

PET OF THE WEEK

SPONSORED BY:



CALLIE

Abby's Place
"Quality Pet Boarding"

Located just minutes east of Tillsonburg in a peaceful rural setting where your pets will experience the comforts of home with the freedom of the great outdoors.



Contact us:
colleen@abbysplace.ca | 519.878.7877
165295 Neidert Line RR #2, Otterville, ON
abbysplace.ca

Nominate your pet to be Pet of the Week by emailing info@tillsonburgpost.com

WORD SEARCH

OCTOBER NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

H H G R J P D W P I H O M P A E B A F W
B R R Z S L C W G Z G P O U T D Z S E H
U S O T Z C Q F U V Q T T T C B W U I N
V T V L K B M G B N C J Y C K G Z S V L
R A A M L Q S V K W J X X Z M O V U B Q
F R W T I E X J Y U A B I F M D B G W M
E L J W B L R M Z C L I K M Y E T X R Y
P I Y V B N W C E Z F P N A M D I Y B O
B N U D F R J A O S U J G W E U A L T N
C K X Q U R U P U A S L Q X R D W K F M
E H R T U B E S F K S I P H H I V M G Z
L S F Q W V A N S R E T R G K V G R N L
E J G S V K K I C I A E E E Y L E H O Z
C P J F M T T A A H A A B R T G A B T K
T X D C J X M J L T R N W R S I X W Y H
I Y X V I K J C C D T I A A E Q R Q K Q
O Q X Q B A U Q L O K A O S K W T E C B
N G Q X W I E N E X M P C T S Q E I S A
T A G V D P G Y P T C S Z K S E A R L V
D R R Q W A L B E R T A V O T E T C S J

FLYDUBAI ATTACK
ROLLER COASTERS
ALBERTA VOTE
FRENCH RIOTS
BC ELECTION
MESSI RETIRES
STARLINK
RUSSIAN ASSET
CFB WAINWRIGHT
MILWAUKEE BREWERS

The Royal®
AGRICULTURAL WINTER FAIR

OPENS FRIDAY

THE COUNTRY COMES TO THE CITY



YOUR FAMILY'S FARM ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BUY TICKETS NOW

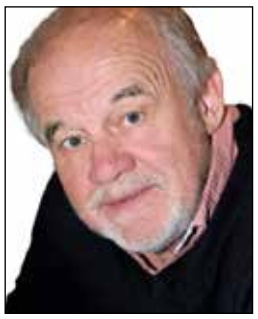
OR VISIT ROYALFAIR.ORG

NOVEMBER 6 - 15, 2026

EXHIBITION PLACE, TORONTO

Milk Dairy Farmers of Ontario Est. 1969 · SEMEX® · LONGINES · University of Guelph · Ecclestone Horse Transport · Ford Ontario Ford Dealers

Living Retired: 'I Am Floored!'



LIVING RETIRED

GARY CHALK

Non-Pulitzer Prize Winning Columnist

Soon, Jan and I will be replacing the existing perfect wood flooring throughout the main floor of our house. In its place we will install new perfect wood flooring throughout the main floor of our house. Just saying.

The reason for new flooring is because the dark, shiny colour of our current flooring shows the dust; we cannot keep it clean. Well, I am the person responsible for vacuuming, so why is Jan not replacing me? It would cheaper.

Jan likes the idea of a new floor. Me? For a while I was on the fence.

Based on our research a crew of professionals — let's call them what they are: 'RIPPER UPPERS' — will enter our home brandishing heavy duty crowbars and proceed to smash the living daylights out of our existing 2,800 square feet of flooring. Jan will sob uncontrollably, "Gary, with all this mess do you think we made the wrong decision." I will do my absolute best to console her, "Jan it's too late to turn back now. I didn't want to do this in the first place."

But before the demolition phase can begin Jan and I have to do two things. First, we need to store all the things that Jan calls 'knick knacks.' Our friend Martha calls them 'dickey doo's.' I call this stuff 'crap.' For instance, we need to carefully hand wrap and pack a two-piece wire-like thingy that sits on top the fireplace mantle with lavender-scented beeswax candles that I was instructed by Jan, "Gary, whatever you do never light these candles!"

The second chore Jan and I have to do is move into our basement. I will set up some closets for our clothes. Jan? She will gather the essentials that everyone needs to live temporarily in their basement: decorator pillows! "Gary, this way we will feel right at home."

The experienced professional RIPPER UPPERS say we should plan on being basement dwellers for — their exact words — "About a week. But then again what do we know?"

As I understand it, the demolition phase is complete when our current perfect wood floor is heaped haphazard in an overflowing dumpster parked in our driveway — AND — a gazillion mice have entered through the doors that were left wide open by the RIPPER UPPERS and set up their home in our home for generations of future breeding!

Living Retired in the basement while the RIPPER UPPERS hammer nails in our subfloor before installing the new flooring is only one of the challenges Jan and I must survive. This is what I mean…

"Gary, I am going to my exercise class. Have you seen where we stored my Lululemon leggings? I left them on the dryer after I washed them."

"Dear. I hung them on the makeshift closet hanger I made. It's out in the garage beside the lawnmower overtop the winter tires beside the can of lawnmower oil and bug killer."

Eventually, the job will be done, and we will move back up from the basement and set things up to resume our lives. Jan will bring back the decorator pillows for the love seat and chairs in the living room, the decorator pillows for the sectional in our family room, the decorator pillows for the kitchen, and the decorator pillows for our dining room.

Me? I am responsible for doing something I have never ever considered doing — ***I CANNOT BELIEVE I AM SAYING THIS!!!*** — calling a duct cleaning company to come and suck all the sawdust out of our vents!

Ring. Ring. Ring.

"Hi, this is '*The Annoying Duct Cleaning Company*.' We specialize in repeatedly calling homeowners at all hours of the day pestering them to see if they want their ducts cleaned. How can we annoy, err, rather, help you?"

"Yes, I would like to make an appointment for you to come to our house and clean the ducts."

Silence.

"Sir, can you hold the phone please? I need to let my colleagues listen in on the call. We have never had someone call us asking us to clean their ducts. Is this a joke? Do you realize you interrupted me? I am trying to work! ***YOU ARE SO RUDE! GOODBYE!! #%X!!!"***

CLICK!

Living Retired written by humour columnist Gary Chalk is published throughout Canada ands USA. To receive Living Retired by email each week, or to book Gary to bring his unique sense of humour to your service club, corporate event, or retirement party contact Gchalk@me.com

A heartfelt thank you to the Tillsonburg community for your continued support.

Thanks for celebrating our grand reopening with us!

We are proud to continue serving the community we call home.

Sobeys Canada's Family Grocery Store

Scan to view our latest flyer and store details:

678 Broadway St., Tillsonburg
Open 7 days a week: 7am-9pm

Edward Jones

> edwardjones.ca

Your retirement questions answered.

- Retirement planning
- Investing - RRSP, TSFA, RESP
- Business planning
- Estate planning
- Wealth protection strategies

Let's get started



KEEGAN A ALVESTAD
Financial Advisor

594 Broadway Street
Unit #3
Tillsonburg, ON N4G 5K9
519-688-9591
keegan.alvestad@edwardjones.com

MKT-14771A-C-AD1 AECSPAD



LOCAL MATTERS.



Remember that time when **Amazon** sponsored your church fundraiser?



Remember when **Facebook** bought a case of Girl Guide cookies to support your daughter?



Remember when **Google** provided free pizza to your child's soccer team when they won the championship?

News Media Canada
Médias d'Info Canada

Neither do we!
Local businesses live here. They play here. They invest here.
They need our support, now more than ever.

CANADA'S NEWS MEDIA.
CHAMPION THE TRUTH.

Dolly Parton was a musical legend, and much more

JEFF HELSDON
Editor

When Dolly Parton died on Aug. 25, she left the world, and in particular the part of the world she called home, a better place.

Parton was born in Sevier County, Tennessee, in 1946 in a one-room cabin. This was a poor part of the state, and the Parton family's 12 children grew up poor. Dolly sang from a young age, singing on the radio at 10 and performing on the Grand Ole Opry stage at 13.

I have to admit I am not the biggest Dolly Parton fan, and I didn't realize she wrote "I Will Always Love You" until I saw a Carrie Underwood Christmas special in 2009 where the two stars performed the song together. I was more familiar with Whitney Houston's version from the movie The Bodyguard.

After her death, I was astounded to learn Parton wrote both songs the same day.

Beyond her musical talent, what impressed me about Parton was her philanthropy and how she improved life in Sevier County.

Pigeon Forge, Tennesee, and neighbouring Gatlinburg, are in Sevier County. Those who have been there saw the neon, show theatres, the Dollywood theme park, moonshine distilleries, which overall portrayed a commercial success nestled in the Appalachian Mountains outside Great Smoky Mountains National Park. What they didn't see was Parton's influence in shaping the area where she grew up into what it is today.

The opening of Dollywood in the mid-1980s started a turnaround that has brought millions of people from across the globe to Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg. Parton's goal was to bring economic prosperity to the area, and she succeeded.

This isn't to say that Parton funded every commercial venture in the area, but she was the catalyst that got it started.

In the 1980s, the high school dropout rate in Sevier County was about 35 per cent. Parton initiated the Buddy System, which had Grade 7 and 8 students sign a pledge that they would both stay in school until they graduated Grade 12. If both students stuck to the commitment and graduated, Parton personally paid them $500 each. As a result, the dropout rate dropped to just six per cent.

Parton is more widely known for her Imagination Library. Parents who register receive one book per month by mail from birth until their child starts kindergarten. Parton was inspired to start the program because her father was illiterate.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has grown over the 31 years it has existed. More than 31 million people have registered for the program across the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and Ireland. Last month's televised tribute to Dolly raised more than $1 million to help sustain the program.

I wasn't aware of this program when my children were old enough to qualify, but if I had been, I would have signed them up.

Parton has truly made a difference to the people of eastern Tennessee, and the world. Imagine the impact if everyone successful in the music world did the same.

UPCOMING SHOWS IN TILLSONBURG

NOVEMBER 5 - ALEX HURDING
The Copper Mug
Free Entry – 8 p.m.

NOVEMBER 6 - KINGS AMONGST MEN
The Copper Mug
Free Entry – 8 p.m.

NOVEMBER 7 - LINDSAY & JAY
The Copper Mug
Free Entry - 8:30 p.m.

THE COPPER MUG
• Live Entertainment • Karaoke • NTN Trivia
• Fundraisers • Birthdays • Anniversaries
• Meetings • & More
Fresh made foods, in house smoked meats and lot of love, just like Mom used to make.
79 Broadway St, Tillsonburg
519-842-6227

PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR HOUSE IS
Keep your dollars in Canada to strengthen communities and support local businesses, including your local newspaper.
News Media Canada
Médias d'Info Canada
BUY CANADIAN ADVERTISE LOCAL

Tillsonburg Post is available for free in print and online: **tillsonburgpost.com**

Overheard at the Coffee Shop

Brought to you by: Tim Hortons

Tillsonburg locations: 401 Simcoe St., 73 Oxford St., 200 Broadway St.

ALL SUMMER LONG SHE WAS A SWEET, CLASSY MOM....THEN HOCKEY SEASON STARTED.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

Have you heard something humourous around town that you think might be of interest to others? Either email them to us at info@tillsonburgpost.com with the title "Overheard at the Coffee Shop" or call 519.655.2341.


PROTECT YOUR VEHICLE FROM ITS WORST ENEMY, RUST.
KROWN
The ultimate vehicle rust protection since 1986.
BOOK YOUR RUST PROTECTION APPOINTMENT TODAY!
TIRECRAFT Helping Canadians Get Ahead
M&J Tirecraft
327 Simcoe Street, Tillsonburg, ON
519-842-3321 | tirecraft.com

Nominations open for 20 Citizens Who Make Oxford Better award

LEE GRIFFI

Post Contributor

Oxford County MP Arpan Khanna is inviting residents to nominate individuals who go above and beyond to strengthen their communities and make Oxford a better place to live.

Nominations are now open for 20 Citizens Who Make Oxford Better, an initiative which will recognize 20 outstanding residents whose actions and contributions have made a meaningful, positive difference in Oxford County.

"Our communities are only as strong as the people who step up to make a difference," said Khanna. "Across Oxford, there are incredible people who give their time, support their neighbours, volunteer with local organizations, mentor young people, and lend a helping hand when someone needs it most. Many of these individuals do their work quietly, without ever expecting recognition. This initiative is an opportunity to celebrate their contributions and thank them for everything they do."

He explained the idea grew out of the Coronation Medal ceremony, which was such a heartwarming and inspiring event.

"We wanted to create another way to recognize and celebrate the individuals in our community who go above and beyond, bring hope to others, and inspire positivity through their contributions."

The inaugural 20 Citizens Who Make Oxford Better initiative will celebrate people whose contributions reflect the very best of Oxford. This includes volunteers, community builders, service club members, mentors, local leaders, dedicated neighbours, and everyday citizens whose actions have a lasting, positive impact on others.

"Behind every strong community are people who dedicate their time and energy to making it a better place," added Khanna. "Whether they are volunteering their evenings and weekends, supporting families in need, or bringing people together, these individuals help make Oxford the incredible community we are proud to call home. I encourage everyone to think about someone who deserves recognition and take a few minutes to nominate them."

Volunteerism is something on the decline today, but Khanna is hopeful the initiative could turn that trend around by recognizing the people who do give so much of themselves.

"Absolutely. Volunteers are the heart of Oxford. They give their time and energy to make our communities stronger, often without expecting anything in return. Oxford is a special place because of the people who step up to help their neighbours. Through this program, we want to recognize these incredible individuals, celebrate their contributions, and inspire more people, especially the next generation, to get involved and give back."

He added everyone has something to contribute, and even a small act of service can make a big difference.

Nominations will be reviewed by a committee that will carefully consider each submission against the established criteria.

"Our goal is to make sure every nomination receives fair, thoughtful, and thorough consideration," said Khanna.

The awards will be presented at a special ceremony in early 2027, where recipients will be recognized for their outstanding contributions to the community. Additional details, including the date and location, will be announced in the coming weeks.

To be eligible for consideration, nominees must be a current resident of the federal riding of Oxford, be nominated by another individual or organization, have demonstrated a positive contribution to the Oxford community, reflect the spirit of the initiative through actions and conduct that positively impact others and the community, and be 14 years of age or older.

Residents are encouraged to nominate someone who has made a meaningful difference in their community.

To submit a nomination, visit https://arpankhannamp.ca/20citizens/. Nominations close on Jan. 17, 2027.



Welcome to "Just Ask Grannie Bobbie", Grannie wisdom for today's generation. Sponsored by The Numbers Game, running Nov 12th–Nov 22 at Theatre Tillsonburg, this hilarious Canadian comedy is about second chances and asks the question: Do opposites really attract, or do they just drive each other crazy?

Grannie Bobbie is a character in Theatre Tillsonburg's upcoming production of The Numbers Game. We never meet her, but she's full of wisdom and wit, and her advice guides the other characters. In partnership with the Post, Theatre Tillsonburg will share a sample of her advice through opening night. Feel free to enjoy her advice and even seek it out directly by emailing your questions to granniebobbie1@gmail.com?

Opinions stated here are strictly those of Grannie Bobbie and not reflective of the paper or its editorial staff and are for Entertainment Purposes Only.

Dear Grannie Bobbie

I feel trapped between my aging parents and my ungrateful teenagers.

I am a mother of two high-schoolers, and my husband and I both work full-time. Lately, I feel like I am being pulled apart in opposite directions.

My 78-year-old mother's health is declining, and she needs help with everything from grocery shopping to doctor appointments. Meanwhile, my kids treat our house like a hotel and me like their personal chauffeur and chef. When I ask them to pitch in or visit their grandmother, I am met with eye-rolls and slammed doors. My husband is supportive, but he is equally overwhelmed trying to manage his own aging father's finances.

I feel like I have no time for myself, my marriage, or my career. I am constantly exhausted, drowning in guilt that I am failing everyone, and harbor a growing resentment that I can't seem to shake. How do I balance taking care of the people I love without completely losing myself in the process?

— Sandwiched and Suffocating

Dear Sandwiched and Suffocating

Pull up a chair, take a deep breath, and let an old rugby player hold your hands for a moment. I have walked in your shoes, and I promise you, the ground beneath you is stronger than it feels right now.

I can hear the gears grinding in your head from all the way over here. You're running yourself ragged trying to be everything to everybody, and all it's doing is turning you into a wet noodle. I've been right where you're standing, and let me tell you, you can't plow a field by turning it over in your mind.

Here is what 80-plus years of living has taught me: A starved mule can't pull the wagon. You're no good to your mother, or your kids, if you're running on fumes. Lock yourself in the bathroom for a hot bath, or go sit on the porch alone for 30 minutes. The world won't stop spinning if you take five.

As for your kids, the youth must learn the weight of the bucket. By doing everything for them, you are keeping them weak. Let them pack their own lunches, wash their own clothes, and feel where your exhaustion comes from. You aren't doing those teenagers any favors by playing their maid. If they can roll their eyes, they can scrub a toilet. It isn't cruel to demand their help; it is how we raise children to become decent adults.

Your mother doesn't need you to be perfect; it's time to call in the cavalry. Scale back where you can and look to your community for support, it takes a village at any age.

This miserable, hectic stretch feels like it'll last forever, but it's just a passing storm. Don't let the daily grind ruin the whole coffee, and the few good years you've got left with your folks, or the last few years your kids are under your roof.

Honey, drop that heavy sack of guilt into the nearest ditch. You're doing just fine. Now go wipe your face, put your foot down with those kids, and remember to take care of yourself first. Remember, the sun's going to set either way; make sure you've got something left to enjoy.

Thinking of you and yours.

Your Grannie Bobbie.

TDI New Homes Presents
THE BRIDGES ESTATES
The Bridges of Tillsonburg Golf Course and Tillsonburg Developments Inc. present
"The Bridges Estates"
The Best Place to Live
OUR MODEL HOMES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING!
LOCATIONS: 15 Greenhill Drive, 18 Greenhill Drive, Tillsonburg. We have a staged townhome as well as a bungalow. Come by and see our floor plans!
TILLSONBURG Developments Inc
Nested within The Bridges property, The Bridges Estates will be comprised of Exclusive Premier detached homes on a variety of lots and sizes as well as Executive Freehold Town Homes.
The Bridges Estates represents an opportunity to have your Exclusive New Home built using "Craft" style designs representing a timeless brand of stunning homes.
Our Design Team will work with you to achieve your goal of creating a truly defining Home.
Please contact our Sales Team for further information or to make an appointment for Your Future at The Bridges Estates.
519.842.4251 | thebridgesestates.ca



Museum escape room gave a chance at Tillson fortune

JEFF HELSDON
Editor

Imagine E.D. Tillson had a hidden will, and there is a chance to gain a portion of his fortune in gold if you find it.

This entirely imaginary premise is at the center of Oscar's Puzzle: A Museum Escape Room. E.D. Tillson, who built Annandale House and is the son of town founder George Tillson, had a passion for Oscar Wilde and incorporated many of his concepts into the house's decor.

The house's paintings and designs are integral to Oscar's Puzzle. The concept challenges participants through a series of clues to gain a brick of Tillson gold.

The story, which Annandale House curator Kate Bakos presents while posing as the Tillson attorney, is that E.D. had a will other than the one naming his son Benjamin and wife Hattie as heirs. Sleuths have 45 minutes to solve the clues.

Participants are divided into two groups and must solve a series of puzzles, riddles, math problems, mazes, and use their powers of observation to earn subsequent clues and progress through the event. Each clue reveals a code that, if correct, lets the amateur detectives move on to the next one. After solving all the clues, each group is presented with half of the will, which they then piece together to reveal the fortune.

"I hereby bequeath to this fortunate finder all the gold, riches and treasures concealed within my library, along with the honour of being the person clever enough to uncover my final secret," the will read. "To Benjamin and Hattie, I leave my fondest regards, but no claim to the fortune described herein."

Kathleen Watkin, Culture and Heritage Program Coordinator at Annandale, started the escape room concept last year and wrote this year's.

She said the concept is designed to: "Get people in the museum, get them behind the stanchions, get people to enjoy a part of the museum you usually don't get to see, and get people out to have fun."

Last year's feedback was that participants wanted to get behind the stanchions and ropes, and closer to the artifacts in the house without touching them. This year's concept did that.

Oscar's Puzzle sold out, and Watkin already heard there was interest in a murder mystery next year. The answer to whether it will happen will be the next puzzle for the people of Tillsonburg.



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)
Kathleen Watkin displays one of the bars of Tillson gold participants in Oscar's Puzzle can receive for successfully completing all the challenges.

tillsonburgpost.com



RUMMAGING AROUND

(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

St. Mary's Catholic Women's League held its fall rummage sale at the church on Oct. 24, drawing hundreds of people. The event featured used clothing donations, but also many other items. Proceeds from the event are donated to the Alzheimer's Society, Upper Deck Youth Centre, and are used to assist the St. Vincent de Paul Society and a CWL-sponsored scholarship for high school students.

Avondale
United Church
60 Harvey St.
(519) 842-5532
Sunday Service
10:30 a.m.
All are Welcome
"Inspiring people to know Christ"

Worship With Us



2027 PLAYBILL JUST ANNOUNCED
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS!



2027 Flex Passes
AVAILABLE NOW!
EARLY BIRD PRICES FOR FLEX PASSES OF:
2 TICKETS - $105
4 TICKETS - $210
5 TICKETS - $260
Lock in a great price now and choose your performances later.
Any play. Any date. Any seat.*
Early Bird rates available until Dec. 31, 2026
Plus $6 handling fee on order
* Subject to availability
BLYTH FESTIVAL
1.877.862.5984 | blythfestival.com

Grappler's Grove expands to new location on Bell Mill Road

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

Grappler's Grove is bringing a new sport concept to Tillsonburg.

Grappling is defined as any matrial art where strikes (hitting) isn't allowed, explained Andrew Leliveld and John Froese, two of the three owners. This includes jujitsu and wrestling.

The business' roots are in jujitsu, and involved the third partner, Joel Stringer.

"He and I were practicing jujitsu at the time," Leliveld said. "We were quite passionate about it."

Stringer is from Elmvale, and got to know Leliveld after his brother lived with him in North Bay. Stringer then started dating a Tillsonburg girl, who eventually became his wife, and he moved to town.

"He and I always dreamed of opening a jujitsu gym," Leliveld said.

Instead, he ended up selling real estate, but the dream of a gym didn't go away.

Leliveld also trained with Froese occasionally, despite the age difference between them. Froese, who owns an excavation company, started in jujitsu after his sons got involved. Froese then reached out to Leliveld professionally in 2024, asking him to help find a location for a gym.

"Unbeknownst to him, I had already been in conversation with Joel about starting a jujitsu gym," Leliveld said, saying that started the partnership.

The business started in 2025 in a temporary space at Lightweight Gym while renovations continued at the current site at 1,418 Bell Mill Side Road. The new location opened in January.

The location offers jujitsu, freestyle wrestling, and kickboxing classes. Andrew Redden, who owned Iron Monkey MMA in Woodstock, teaches MMA.

Leliveld believes jujitsu is the most effective self-defense for one-on-one situations.

"We try to take our opponent to the ground, where the ability for the other participant to generate dynamic power is greatly reduced, plus it is a much safer and more controlled environment to subdue an attacker," he said.

Leliveld was a high school wrestler and made it to OFSSA. He explained that, compared to wrestling, the goal in jujitsu is to have an opponent submit through a choke or joint lock.

Local Brayden Ambo is the wrestling coach at Grappler's Grove. He won at OFSSA, wrestled at university, and represented Team Canada at the Pan-American championships.

Classes are offered for both adults and youth from Monday to Friday. Youth birthday parties that include both grappling and non-grappling games are offered. Saturdays are open mat time, with no teaching, but people are welcome to come and take part in various grappling pursuits. Saturdays are also a time for one-on-one time with instructors.

Grappler's Grove youth wrestlers competed in Ingersoll in May and earned three gold medals, plus other hardware. The facility will host its own tournament on Nov. 28.



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Grappler's Grove owners John Froese, left, and Andrew Leliveld demonstrate one of their jujitsu moves on the mats in the facility. The business's facility at 1,418 Bell Mill Side Road opened in January.

Khanna tackling home invasions with bills

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

With two home invasions making the news within a week, Oxford MP Arpan Khanna is calling for all-party support for a bill to tackle the issue.

One of the invasions hit close to home in the north end of Oxford, where two individuals, one of whom was armed with a shotgun, forced their way into a home on 29th Line in Zorra Township, shortly after midnight on Oct. 26. According to police records, a physical altercation ensued between the homeowner and the two suspects that resulted in the shotgun being discharged. One of the suspects was struck and sustained unknown injuries. The suspects fled in a vehicle and are still at large. The homeowner sustained minor injuries.

Although police believe this incident was targeted and assured the public is not at risk, that was not the case in a home invasion in Toronto last Thursday. In that incident, a father and his two daughters were shot, and the mother was struck with a hammer.

"Home invasions are happening across our country at an alarming rate," Khanna said. "Toronto Police released stats yesterday that said there were 119 home invasions in 2026 alone, a 50 per cent increase from last year."

The Oxford MP said the Liberals say crime numbers are down, yet the number of incidents and people's worries say otherwise.

"Canadians don't feel safe in their own homes; that's the one place where everyone should feel safe, that's where your family is, your most precious belongings are," he said, saying that's a dramatic swing from a few years ago when people kept their doors unlocked and garage doors open.

Statistics say home invasions are already up 50 per cent over last year. To address safety concerns, the Conservatives have been exploring ideas in consultation with police forces, premiers, mayors and other stakeholders. Khanna's Jail Not Bail Act, which was voted down on second reading, was one part of what he saw as a solution. While researching that bill, it was found that home invasion is not a standalone offence.

"There is no criminal code offence for home invasions; it results in multiple offences like break and enter, robbery, forcible confinement," Khanna said, adding that when the multiple charges go to court, "it gets pleaded down to one small charge so the actual criminals never get a hard sentence for that."

In partnership with his colleague MP Michael Guglielmen, Vaughan-Woodbridge, the Conservatives tabled the Safe at Home Act two weeks ago. If passed, this legislation would make home invasions a standalone offence with a five-year minimum sentence. It would also strengthen the bail laws for repeat home invaders.

In addition, six months ago, Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre and his team announced the Stand on Guard Law. This legislation would give home occupants more rights when it comes to self-defence.

"It would allow reasonable force to be used to defend your family, to defend your belongings," Khanna said. "As a father, I can tell you if someone broke into my house, I would use any possible means to keep my family safe. It shouldn't be that my rights are trumped by the rights of the criminal."

CONTINUED TO PAGE 33

Oldridge heating & cooling
Established 1961 • Locally Owned
Your local, full-service heating, ventilation, and air conditioning technicians
Servicing residential communities and industrial businesses in the Tillsonburg, Delhi, Aylmer, Ingersoll, and surrounding areas.
"We give you comfort"
oldridge@execulink.com
www.oldridgeheatingcooling.ca
519-688-2947

RT Respiratory Services Inc.
Home Oxygen
Sleep Apnea Therapy
Your Hometown Respiratory Specialists
Serving the Community for 30 years and counting...
67 Simcoe Street, Tillsonburg

Two bills hope to address home invasion problem

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 32

In the meantime, Khanna said the Liberals are only proposing band-aid solutions and running television ads telling Canadians how safe they are.

"Every single day we are seeing that's absolute nonsense," he said.

Khanna also put in an order paper question asking the government how much was spent on the ads, money he said would be better spent on front-line policing or sent to victim services groups.

"It's the government's number one job to keep Canadians safe, and they are failing at that," he said.

Speaking to the incident in Zorra, he said this reinforces home invasions aren't just a city problem.

"Once they are finished the turf in the city, they are going to look for other easy targets. What we saw a few days ago in Zorra is very concerning for us," he said.

Both bills have passed first reading and should come up for second reading within six months. If passed at that stage, the bill would be referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights, which Khanna serves on as the opposition justice critic. Then the bills would need to come back to Parliament for third reading, adding up to a long process.

Khanna is suggesting all-party support could expedite the bills.

"Get it done, Canadians can't wait. Lives are at risk," he said, saying his request isn't without precedent. "When there is support across party lines, those can pass at a very fast rate. We are hoping they will put their partisanship aside and do what's right for Canadians."

Khanna met with Justice Minister Sean Fraser after the Post's press deadline and planned to discuss expediting passage of the legislation.



LITTLE ONES MARKETPLACE

(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Tillsonburg Kinettes Club held its first Little Ones Marketplace at the Tillsonburg Soccer Club on Oct. 24. With a format similar to a moms-to-moms sale, the event featured gently-used children's clothing and toys, as well as some new items. The club hopes to hold the event again next year.

Tillsonburg Post is available for free in print and online:
tillsonburgpost.com

SERVING TILLSONBURG FOR OVER 50 YEARS
TIME FOR MAINTENANCE OR NEW TIRES?
COME CHECK OUT OUR NEWLY RENOVATED BUILDING!



Why Choose Tillsonburg Tire?
- We use the latest equipment for repairs and maintenance.
- We are a Signature Tire dealer - Offering great value on new tires and wheels.
- Our team of experienced staff and technicians are up to date and ready to serve your needs.
- We offer hometown service in a convenient location near the downtown core.
- Convenience. Wait in our comfortable waiting room, or use our complimentary drop off and delivery service.

Tillsonburg Tire & Service
55 BROADWAY, TILLSONBURG, ON
tillsonburg-tire.ca | 519-842-5943

B.R.'s PLUMBING & HEATING
1 Vance Drive,
Tillsonburg, Ontario N4G 4M4
(519) 688-5999
Owners: Bart Rietveld and Brian Velthove

OxfordCounty
Growing stronger together

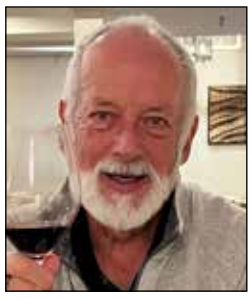
Make a difference in your community

Oxford County seeks volunteers to serve on Council boards and committees for a four-year term beginning in 2027.
- Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Agricultural & Planning Advisory Committee
- Active Transportation Advisory Committee
- Oxford County Land Division Committee
- Oxford County Library Board

As a board or committee member, you will provide advice and recommendations to County Council on matters that affect our entire community.

Learn more and apply by November 30, 2026
www.oxfordcounty.ca/committees

Grenada's ever-changing Underwater Sculpture Park



OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO!

PAUL KNOWLES

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

There is a conundrum that faces travel journalists: should we constantly visit new destinations, or is it okay to return to those we love? Well, obviously, it's ideal when we – and therefore, our readers – discover somewhere new. And that's usually the goal, and I usually manage to accomplish it.

But there are some places so special that they almost demand our revisited attention. And the Underwater Sculpture Park at the Caribbean island of Grenada is one of those.

I first experienced the sculpture park in 2023. I had the great good fortune to be on the spot as many new sculptures were added to the attraction. And I was able to spend a lot of time with the primary sculptor who has produced the amazing works – Jason deCaires Taylor.

So when I got the invitation to return to Grenada, and pay another visit to the underwater attraction, I was delighted.

Here's the back story. Taylor, a very talented artist, is also an experienced scuba diver. He came to Grenada in 2004, planning to open a dive shop. That didn't happen.

But something much more significant did take place. He became aware of a bay on Grenada's west coast where all the underwater life had been decimated by a hurricane. To the artist in Taylor, this was an easel begging to be filled.

So he did. In 2006, the first sculptures were lowered into the bay. Life-sized or larger, they were intended to attract the attention of divers – including, of course, tourists – and also, to serve as artificial reefs that might encourage the regrowth and return of coral and other marine life.

The project grew – both expanding, and successfully fostering oceanic growth – eventually including over 40 sculptures by a number of different artists.

Then came 2023, when the "park" nearly doubled in size, with 31 sculptures added – again, most by Taylor – to bring the total to 75. The new sculptures included "Coral Carnival" – many large statues representing figures from Grenada's folk culture. The entire installation has been named one of the 25 wonders of the world, by National Geographic. And I was blessed to be on hand as the works were lowered into the sea, and then to be able to don my snorkel, and swim among them.

Taylor never sees his works as finished products. He loves the fact that as they remain in their aquatic setting, they inevitably change. Some of the changes to the earlier works involved the erosion of some features, but Taylor and his artistic colleagues have constantly improved their materials – always aware of causing no environmental damage – so today, the changes involve natural additions. Coral and sea plants grow on the sculptures, changing their appearance in often dramatic ways.

And I got to see this, up close and personal, on my return visit this year. I don't dive, but I do love to snorkel, and the works in the Underwater Sculpture Park are in water sufficiently shallow that snorkelers can get a very good look at each one without diving. Taylor says the sculptures are all at depths of no more than 8 meters.

During this 2026 trip, I and a few travel journalist colleagues went out on a tour with folks from Eco Dive, a dive shop deeply committed to environment protection and education. Led by a well-informed guide, we snorkeled around the Molinere Beauséjour Marine Protected Area (the official name of the bay) to see every one of the 75 works.



(PURE GRENADA PHOTO)

Vicissitudes by Jason deCaires Taylor is one of the early works in the Underwater Sculpture Garden, clearly visible to snorkelers as well as divers.

And yes, time and salt water have certainly collaborated with the original artists to bring continual change to the sculptures. The most exciting changes reflect the success this project has had in turning static pieces of art into living, artificial reefs. In my opinion, the pieces are continually becoming more beautiful, more interesting, and more compelling.

Taylor was also asked to create and place an underwater sculpture off the shore of another island – Carriacou – which is officially part of Grenada. Carriacou was slammed by Hurricane Beryl in 2024, but is well on the eay to recovery, and a visit – by small plane or ferry – can be a fascinating part of your visit to Grenada.

From time to time, I get asked for my opinion about travel destinations. Especially now, when many Canadians are avoiding travel to the U.S., people wonder about warm weather holidays including in the Caribbean.

I have not visited every Caribbean island. But having sampled quite a few, I can easily say that my favourites are the Windward Islands – those in the eastern Caribbean, including Dominica, Barbados, Grenada and their neighbours.

They are all great spots for a cold weather get-away. But Grenada is undoubtedly special, for a number of reasons – warm hospitality, superb beaches (especially Grand Anse), terrific food, unique culture, fascinating history (where else will you find a child's playground sharing a park with the hulks of abandoned Russian war planes?).

But first on my list of great Grenadian treasures is the ever-changing Underwater Sculpture Park. Grab your snorkel and go!

Paul Knowles is an author and travel writer, and Past-President of the Travel Media Association of Canada. To contact Paul about travel, his books, or speaking engagements, email pknowles@golden.net.



(JASON DECAIRES TAYLOR PHOTO)

The author was an on-the-spot spectator for the installation of 31 new sculptures in 2023.



(JASON DECAIRES TAYLOR PHOTO)

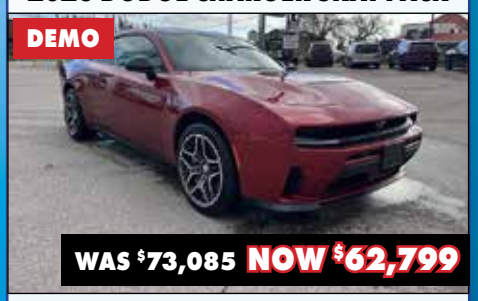
Coral and other sea life constantly changes the appearance of the sculptures, as the installation succeeds as an artificial reef.



USED CAR Clearance Event

RETIREMENT SALE! EVERYTHING HAS TO GO!

2026 DODGE CHARGER SKAT PACK



WAS $73,085 NOW $62,799

ST# 26-055
UNDER 500 KMS, 550 H.P, AWD

2026 DODGE CHARGER SKAT PACK



WAS $77,385 NOW $67,999

ST# 26-081
UNDER 400 KMS, 550H.P, AWD

2026 DODGE CHARGER SKAT PACK PLUS



WAS $86,080 NOW $73,799

ST# 26-066, 9,865 KMS, FULLY LOADED, AWD, GLASS ROOF, 550 H.P

2023 RAM 1500 4X4 SLT



$29,999
WAS $36,499 NOW $[illegible]

ST# F26-030, ONLY 75,000 KMS, WARRANTY, HEMI V8

2023 DODGE HORNET



$26,899
WAS $44,599 NOW $[illegible]

ST# 23-034A , GT PLUS, AWD, EXT. WARRANTY, ONLY 22,000 KM

2026 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT



WAS $44,985 NOW $39,999

ST# 26-116
UNDER 300 KMS, 6-SPEED, NEW CAR WARRANTY

2017 ALFA ROMEO GIULIA



$13,899
WAS $24,999 NOW $[illegible]

ST# 23-003B
LEATHER SEATS, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, 150K

2018 ALFA ROMEO STELVIO TI SPORT



$15,999
WAS $29,799 NOW $[illegible]

ST# F24-021A
ALL WHEEL DRIVE, LEATHER, ONLY 118K

2020 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN PREMIUM



NOW $21,499

ST# 27-00A
LEATHER SEATS, 164 K

2024 DODGE DURANGO CITADEL



$42,799
WAS $47,999 NOW $[illegible]

ST# F26-034, 37K, 6 PASSENGER, SUNROOF, LEATHER

2025 JEEP COMPASS 4X4



$32,500
WAS $38,190 NOW $[illegible]

ST# 25-136
ONLY 11,000 KMS

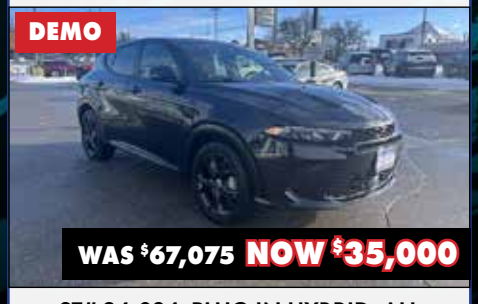
2023 VOLVO XC40 CORE



$30,000
WAS $37,500 NOW $[illegible]

ST# F26-036, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, NON PLUG IN HYBRID, 56845 KMS

2024 DODGE HORNET RT PLUS



WAS $67,075 NOW $35,000

ST# 24-034, PLUG IN HYBRID, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, 10,500 KMS, WARRANTY

2021 FORD EXPLORER ST



$35,000
WAS $45,499 NOW $[illegible]

ST# F25-045
91K, AWD, V6 , LEATHER

2025 RAM PROMASTER 2500



WAS $68,339 NOW $42,500

ST# 25-013, DEALERSHIP PARTS DELIVERY VAN, 51628 KMS, HIGH ROOF.

2024 HYUNDAI SANTA CRUZ PREFERRED



$31,899
WAS $34,999 NOW $[illegible]

ST# F26-031
62K, AWD, 4 CYL. ENGINE

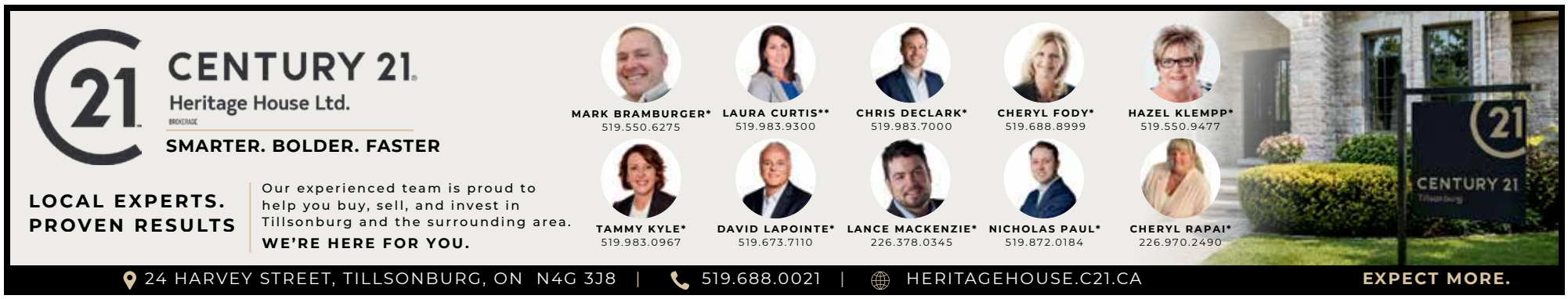
EICHENBERG CHRYSLER Jeep DODGE RAM

164 Simcoe Street, Tillsonburg
www.eichenberg.ca

*Prices exclude hst and lic. Plates

COMING EVENTS

SPONSORED BY



NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 6 | 10 AM - NOON
MESSY CHURCH
"WE HEAR YOU"
St.Paul's United Church 88 Bidwell St., Tillsonburg
Fun crafts, a chance to do some early Christmas shopping, snacks, games, music, story and of course... a hot meal. Children should be accompanied by an adult.

NOVEMBER 9 | 6 PM
TILLSONBURG FAIRBOARD ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTIONS
Tillsonburg Fairboard Office

NOVEMBER 9 | 7:30 PM
DELHI & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING
Delhi Friendship Centre, 418 Queen St., Delhi, ON
GUEST SPEAKER - Riem's Family Nursery, Specializing in Canadian Roses - Come out and join us. Enter at the parking lot off William Street.

NOVEMBER 9 - 14
THE TILLSONBURG MILITARY CLUB'S ANNUAL WEEK OF REMEMBRANCE
Station Arts Centre, 41 Bridge St W, Tillsonburg
Display featuring artifacts and other items dedicated to the memory of those who served and sacrificed for our freedom.

NOVEMBER 13 | 1 - 4 PM
KEN LIGHTHEART AND THE NORTHSHORE RAMBLERS
Tillsonburg Legion, 16 Durham St, Tillsonburg, ON
$7 cash at the door. All Welcome!

NOVEMBER 14 | 1 - 4 PM
GOOD OLD BOYS LIVE BAND
Tillsonburg Legion, 16 Durham St, Tillsonburg, ON
Only $8 cash at the door. Cash bar open. All Welcome!

NOVEMBER 14 | 1 - 4 PM
AUTHENTIC VICTORIAN TEA & MUSICALE
184 Oxford St., Ingersoll
Early Bird tickets: $50 https://sycamore-centre.raiselysite.com/ OR at ThriftCo, 50 Thames St.S. Gents & Ladies come assist Sycamore Centre drop-in space & the new transitional house Sycamore Home. https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=sycamore%20centre. Tasty edibles; refined entertainment; borrow costumes; photo-booth; prizes; purchases; Fun! Ph519 990 1240 Emailpeacetpau@gmail.com

NOVEMBER 14 | 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM
'MISTLETOE MAGIC' CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
St. Mary's Church, TILLSONBURG
St. Mary's CWL would like to invite you to their annual Christmas bazaar. With two locations you are sure to find something special. **In the Parish centre** you will find the Penny Table, handcrafted items made especially for you, greenery for all your outdoor Christmas decorating needs, homemade baked goods, fresh produce and preserves. **In the church hall** we offer indoor and outdoor Christmas decorations, tables laden with quality jewelry, fine clothing, as well as kitchen and miscellaneous items and the Silent Auction. A delicious lunch will be also be available. Join us for soup, sandwich, dessert and coffee or tea in the Bistro. We are fully accessible, with free admission. Please bring a bag or two to carry home your purchases. Located on Rolph St. in Tillsonburg. We thank you for your continued support.

NOVEMBER 14 | 10 AM - 2 PM
PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
60 Young St., Tillsonburg
Baking, Cabbage rolls, Canning, Crafts, Gently used Christmas decor. Luncheon available, Soup, Roll & Dessert, Tea & Coffee.

NOVEMBER 21 | 9 AM - 1 PM
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 155 Colborne St. N., Simcoe (corner of Union and Colborne)
Featuring a bake sale, Christmas cookie platters, "nearly new" table, crafts, toys, a coffee corner and...our delicious cabbage rolls! Admission is free!

NOVEMBER 21 | 9 AM - 1 PM
ST. JOHN'S CHRISTMAS MARKET
St. John's Anglican Church, 46 Ridout Street West, Tillsonburg
Vendor's Market, Christmas at Granny's Attic, Books, Puzzles, Bake Table, Famous Mincemeat, Blanket Draw and Nativity Scene displays. Join us for lunch! Admission is $2.00.

NOVEMBER 21 | 6 PM
SANTA CLAUS PARADE
Downtown Tillsonburg (See Tillsonburg and Area Optimist Club Facebook for parade route map)
Canada Post will be collecting letters to Santa. Donations to the Food Bank are welcomed.

NOVEMBER 21 | 7 - 10 PM, DOORS OPEN 5:30 PM
BRITISH BEAT 66 LIVE BAND
Tillsonburg Legion, 16 Durham St, Tillsonburg, ON
Check out the band at http://www.britishbeat66.com. Tickets $30 available at the Tillsonburg Legion 16 Durham Street. For more information call 519-842-5281.

ONGOING CLASSES, CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

MONDAYS & THURSDAYS
OTTER VALLEY TAI CHI
St. John's Anglican Church, 46 Ridout St. W., Tillsonburg
Spots still available in new Monday morning and Thursday afternoon classes. Mondays 9:00 – 10:30 am Introduction, 10:30 – 11:30 am Foundations. Thursdays 2:00 – 3:30 pm Introduction, 3:30 – 4:30 pm Foundations. Enjoy gentle exercise with others as you work to improve flexibility, balance and stamina. Call 519-688-9779, email ottervalley@canadiantaichiacademy.org, visit canadiantaichiacademy.org

WEDNESDAYS | 6 - 7:30 PM
CANADIAN TAI CHI ACADEMY TILLSONBURG
Classes take place at St Paul's United Church, Fox Alley South entrance off Ridout Street
Continuing sessions and Lok Hup occur from 7:30 – 8:30 PM. Additional practice sessions are available Fridays from 10:00 – 11:00AM. For more information: Email: tillsonburg@canadiantaichiacademy.org, Website: canadiantaichiacademy.org. Everyone welcome. Improve your health.

3RD TUE. OF MONTH | 6:30 - 8:30 PM
CAREGIVER CONNECTION
Revel Realty Woodstock, 111 Huron Street (Virutal/ hyrbid options available)
Are you worried about your child or youth? Parents and Caregivers for Mental Health (PCMH) is here to listen, support, and walk alongside you on this journey. Our free Caregiver Connection peer support groups offer parents and caregivers a community of support. Can't make it in person? Join one of our virtual or hybrid groups! **Visit family.cmho.org or email oxfordcounty@pcmh.ca for more information.**

OXFORD COUNTY DIABETES EDUCATION PROGRAM
Appointments are available at Alexandra Hospital Ingersoll and Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital and by phone
Are you looking for support with your Diabetes? Our Team of Registered Nurses, Registered Dietitians and a Social Worker is here to support YOUR goals. We can help with medication adjustments, lifestyle and diet changes, stress management, weight reduction strategies and more. **SELF REFERRALS ARE WELCOME.** Please call 519-485-9611 to book an appointment. Let's work together!

MONDAYS | 7 - 9 PM
MODERN SQUARE DANCING IS FOR YOU!
Thames Valley Dance Club
Looking for something to do in the evening or something new to try? Modern square dancing is a great way to learn something new, have fun, meet new friends, relieve stress, and get some exercise! All you need is comfortable shoes and casual clothing. No experience or partner is required and anyone over the age of 12 is welcome (children from 12-15 with an adult, please). **The 2025-2026 season has started at the Ingersoll Pipe Band Hall, 108 Wonham St. S. Ingersoll.** The first night is free, and after that the cost is $7.50 per person each Monday, paid monthly at the start of the month. For more information, contact Julie at 519-535-3314.

2ND TUES. OF MONTH (SEPT. TO MAY) | 2 - 4 PM
4TH TUES. OF MONTH (SEPT. TO MAY) | 7 - 9 PM
OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Church of the Epiphany, 560 Dundas Street, Woodstock Ontario N4S 1C7
If you have never belonged to a stamp club, now's the time. Meet new friends, grow your knowledge and collection. Contact: Don Eaton dheaton3e3@gmail.com. Website: http://www.rpsc.org/chapters/oxford

3RD WED. OF MONTH | 10 AM - NOON
LYNN RIVER PROBUS CLUB
Army, Navy & Air Force Club, Simcoe, ON. Corner of Water St. and Culver St. Simcoe. Enter via Culver St.
Our retired and semi-retired members enjoy diverse interest groups, friendship and fellowship. We have interesting speakers at our monthly meetings as well as time to socialise.
Current and prospective members are welcome to join us at the Army, Navy & Air Force Club, Simcoe, which is on the corner of Water St. and Culver St. Simcoe. Enter via Culver St. For more information, please visit our website at: lynnriverprobus239.com or email lynnriverprobus239@gmail.com

COMING EVENTS

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS | 7 - 9 PM
SATURDAYS | 10 AM - 12 PM
LEARN BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU (BJJ)
North Broadway Baptist Church
Thanks to donor support, we've been able to purchase mats and uniforms, and our instructors generously volunteer their time. This isn't a business—any donations go straight back into the program to help buy more uniforms, mats, and equipment. If it's within your means, a $20 monthly donation helps support the program, but if not, classes are completely free. **Classes are open to anyone 14 and older.** If you'd like to try a class, please arrive about 15 minutes early to sign waivers and get fitted for a uniform. Information can be found at: https://www.northbroadwaychurch.ca/nbmfa, https://www.facebook.com/northbroadwaymfa, https://www.instagram.com/northbroadwaymfa/ Inquires can be made at: nbmfa@northbroadwaychurch.ca

EVERY OTHER FRIDAY | 1 - 4 PM
BE FALL-ISH AND COME TO THE INGERSOLL COUNTRY MUSIC JAMBOREE
Masonic Hall, 190 Thames St. S., Ingersoll
Join us, walk ins welcome. Qualifications - love 50-70's country music. Perform, listen, dance & enjoy! October 16 & 30, November 6 & 20, and December 4.

WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS
TILLSONBURG BRIDGE CLUB
Two games weekly at the Tillsonburg Senior Centre - 45 Hardy Ave.
SOCIAL BRIDGE - Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. A relaxed, friendly game for learners, returners and everyone else.
DUPLICATE BRIDGE - Fridays, 1:00 p.m. Still friendly, but a bit more structured and competitive. Please arrive 10 minutes early.
Questions? tburgbridge@gmail.com or FB: TburgBridge

SATURDAYS, JUNE 6 - SEPT. 19 | 10 AM - 4 PM
PLATTSVILLE & DISTRICT HERITAGE SOCIETY
2026 EXHIBIT - HOLIDAYS & CELEBRATIONS THAT BRING US TOGETHER
Archive & Museum at Chesterfield, 816661 Oxford Rd 22, Bright (June 20 - visit us at Plattsville 175)
Donations accepted. Refreshments. For private viewing email plattsvilledistrictheritage@gmail.com or call 519.535.1417.

1ST AND 3RD TUES. OF MONTH
TILLSONBURG LIONS
The Tillsonburg Lions meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. You are invited to their dinner meetings in the Lion's Den at the Community Centre.
If you are interested in giving back to your Community contact Jim at 519 409 0876 for more information.....all are welcome.

1ST WED. OF MONTH | 7 PM
WAGNER MEMORIAL TEETERVILLE LEGION BRANCH 526 - MEMBERS GENERAL MEETING
The Wagner Memorial Teeterville Legion Branch 526 - 3890 Teeterville Road, Teeterville, ON
Not a member? Contact us to join. For More Information Call, the Legion 519-443-5588. www.teetervillelegionbranch526.ca

WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT ONE OF OUR EVENTS? WE WELCOME YOU!
The Wagner Memorial, Teeterville Legion Branch 526 - 3890 Teeterville Road, Teeterville, ON
You do not need to be a member to Volunteer, Just contact the legion and leave your name and number and purpose of your call. Someone will get back to you as to where you might be needed. Students and Adults welcome. **Open hours. Wed.-Fri. 3 pm-10 pm, Sat.1 pm-10 pm, Sun.1 pm-6 pm. For More Information call, the Legion at 519-443-5588 or teetervillelegionbranch526.ca**

VON OXFORD SUPPORTIVE CARE PROGRAMS
Navigating any form of grief can feel overwhelming; however, with the right support, guidance, and education, individuals can discover a pathway to help in the healing of grief.
VON Oxford Supportive Care Programs offer assistance for grief stemming from various circumstances, such as the death of someone, caregiving, serious illness diagnoses, and life transitions. Through education, connection, and compassion, our programs create a safe space for individuals to explore their emotions and learn effective coping mechanisms during the grieving process.

Contact us today to learn more about VON Oxford Supportive Care Programs: Email: oxford.griefsupport@von.ca, Phone: 1-888-866-7518. All Programs are Free-of-charge.



ROTARY BOOK SALE

(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Hundreds and hundreds of used books were for sale at the Tillsonburg Rotary Club's semi-annual book sale, held in the Tillsonburg Town Centre. The event ran from Oct. 19 to 24, and received extra traffic with Halloween activities in the mall on the Saturday.

Tillsonburg Post is available for free in print and online:
tillsonburgpost.com

WEEKEND QUIZ

by Jake Grant

1. What are the two birthstones for November?
2. What is the more common name for the Fibonacci sequence?
3. What is the color of liquid oxygen?
4. What is the largest power plant in Canada?
5. In what year did Korea split?
6. What is a popular 1990's slang for very short cutoff jeans?
7. What is a full moon in November called?
8. What kind of stone is the Taj Mahal made of?
9. What are the small bones that make up a backbone called?
10. What continent is Andorra in?

This week's answers are found on pg. 39



CLASSIFIEDS

OBITUARY

DANIEL DEAN BEHMAN
(APRIL 15, 1974 – OCTOBER 27, 2026)



It is with great sadness that we the family of Daniel "Dan" Dean Behman, wish to announce his passing at home, after a courageous struggle with illness, on Tuesday, October 27th, 2026, in his 53rd year. Dan was born in Thunder Bay, son of the late Bob and Judy (Dubois) Behman. Whether it was playing in the local rec league, watching and playing hockey with Nick and Katie or cheering on the Leaf's or the World Junior's tournaments, Dan loved everything hockey. Dan was a dedicated software developer for the last 10 years with TD Bank and before that was employed for 17 years with IBM. Above all else, Dan will be remembered as a dedicated husband, father, son, brother and son-in-law. Always a loving husband to his wife and best friend Kim (Botzang) Behman, of Tillsonburg. Proud father to Nick and Katie Behman, of Tillsonburg. Lovingly remembered by his sister Jolene Abick, of Thunder Bay, his caring in-laws Bob and Karen Botzang of Courtland and by his sisters-in-law Stacey DeSmedt (husband Daryl), of Langton and Kyla DeRuysscher (husband Jim), of Pinegrove. Uncle Dan was loved by all his nephews; Brayden (Rhiannon) and Jordan (Bryanna) Abick, Jason, Zackary and Bradley DeRuysscher and Jackson and Christopher DeSmedt.

Friends, relatives and neighbours were invited to attend public visitation on Monday, November 2nd, between 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. in the Maurice J. Verhoeve Funeral Homes Chapel, 262 Broadway, Tillsonburg. A Funeral Liturgy of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, November 3rd, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. in the funeral home chapel, by Rev. Fr. Seejo John, of St. Mary's Church. Family eulogies were shared just before the service, beginning at 10:45 a.m. Cremation followed with later inurnment in Tillsonburg Cemetery. Everyone who knew Dan is invited to share favourite memories and photos, express personal condolences or contribute memorial donations to the "Canadian Cancer Society" or to the "Verspeeten Family Cancer Centre" via Dan's online tribute page at www.verhoevefuneralhomes.com or by contacting the Maurice J. Verhoeve Funeral Homes - Burial and Cremation Services Inc., 262 Broadway, Tillsonburg (519) 842-4238, which has been entrusted with all funeral arrangements, with confidence.

PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR HOUSE IS

Keep your dollars in Canada to strengthen communities and support local businesses, including your local newspaper.

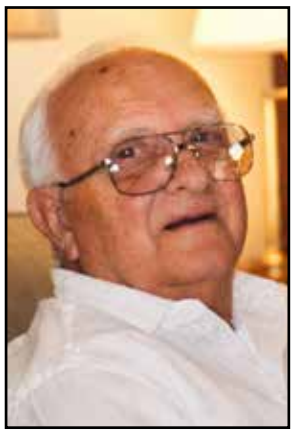
News Media Canada
Médias d'Info Canada

ADVERTISE IT'S LOCAL

Tillsonburg POST

OBITUARY

WILFRED RONALD (WILF) COWAN



Wilfred Ronald Cowan (Wilf) of London Ontario died peacefully in hospice on Oct 11, 2026, due to various health issues (and having a body that was 94).

Wilfred will be sorely missed by his wife of 76 years, Alice (nee Kyte) and their four children: Brad Cowan (the late Donna), Debbie Cadeau (the late Roger), Kathy (Art) Slater, and Arlene Moore (the late Gerry); as well as his six grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Wilf will be remembered for his sense of humour, his devotion to family, and his many catch phrases. If he wasn't exhorting his mates to "Get in the boat men!" he was threatening to "Sell out!" The latter was in reference to the many small businesses he owned over the years, from laundromats and bowling alleys to cakery decor.

But instead of selling out, he worked - very hard, starting from when he was a child in Tillsonburg. In fact, his uncles were compelled to cut his wages in half! A half-penny per tobacco worm instead of one whole penny... They were shocked by how many worms little Wilf could pick!

Ever the optimist throughout his life, Wilf was great company, whether vacationing with family and friends in warm climes, hosting at the cottage on Hope Bay, or (more recently) playing shuffleboard.

A Celebration of Life to remember and honour Wilf will take place at a later date, with details to follow. Online condolences may be shared with the family by visiting: www.mountpleasantcemetarylondon.ca

"Yet to all who did receive him [Jesus, the Christ], to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God"

John 1:12

TREES

For Sale: Shade Trees; Maples, Oaks, Birch, Beech, Honey Locusts, Elms, Magnolia, Hydrangea Tree, Tulip Tree, Crab apples, Ivory Silk Lilac, Chanticleer Pear, Golden Weeping Willows and more. Apples, Pears, Peaches, Plums, Apricots, Nectarine, Blueberry, Haskap etc. Lots of healthy strong Spruce, Cedars and White Pine for your privacy hedges and windbreaks. Hundred of flowering shrubs.
Reg Hours 7am- 6pm Mon-Sat at Martins Nursery c/o Emanuel Martin. 42661 Orangehill Rd., Wroxeter, ON

Tillsonburg Post is available for free in print and online:
tillsonburgpost.com

OBITUARY

JEAN (DICKENSON) WOOD
(DECEMBER 8, 1936 – NOVEMBER 1, 2026)



Jean Wood passed away peacefully at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital, on November 1, 2026. Jean was a resident of Tillsonburg and formerly of Ennismore, Cambridge and St. Helens (GB). Survived by her husband Henry (Harry) of almost 70 years, brother Ken and by her sons Gary (Lauralea), Jeff (Deirdre) and Cameron (Ainsley). Proud grandmother to Kristin O'Brien (J.B.), Emma Wood (Alex), Michael Wood (Emily) and Matthew Wood. Step-grandson Gavin Mast (Maggie). Great-grandchildren Hayden O'Brien, Haylee O'Brien, Logan O'Brien and Eleanor Wood. Also survived by nieces and nephews in Ancaster, Oakville and Great Britain. Predeceased by siblings Harry, Dorothy, George, Keith, Norman, Alan and Renee.

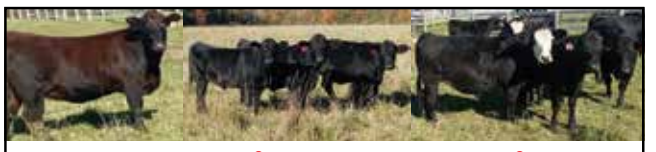
Jean was a former resident of Hickory Hills in Tillsonburg and enjoyed spending time with her friends in the knitting and colouring groups. She had strong faith, which guided her through life. She looked forward to weekly worship at Mount Elgin United Church.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Mount Elgin United Church on Thursday, November 12th, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. Interment to follow in Mount Elgin Cemetery.

Special thanks to Dr. Weiss and the staff at Tillsonburg Memorial Hospital (2 North & 2 South) for their care and compassion.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you consider a donation to TDMH Foundation or to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #153 via Jean's online tribute page at www.verhoevefuneralhomes.com or through the Maurice J. Verhoeve Funeral Homes, Tillsonburg (519) 842-4238.

COW AUCTION



Herd Dispersal Live Auction Sale
of 135 Bred Cows/Heifers
Saturday November 21, 11:00am
to be held at 554447 Mono-Amaranth TLine, Mono, ON
Preview on day of sale, or by appointment

Directions: Go west through Orangeville on Hwy 9 to County Rd 16 (Veterans Way at Greenwood Cemetery), turn north 5 miles to farm on East side. OR From Shelburne go east on Hwy 89 for 2 miles to Mono-Amaranth Townline, turn south & go 5 miles to farm on East side.Townline, turn south & go 5 miles to farm on East side.

Cattle: (79)Heifers: (18) Char, (17) Blk Simm, (33) Angus, (11) Red -1st time calvers, bred Angus & Limo, vacc. **(18) X-bred Heifers** - bred Black Angus, vacc. **(17) Angus Heifers** - bred Black Angus. **(10) Blk Angus cows** - all bred Black Angus, vacc. **(8) Charolais Cows** - bred Charolais, vacc. **(3) Mixed Cows** - with calf at side, vacc.
All Cows will be preg checked prior to sale.
Lunch Booth
Washroom Available
Terms & Conditions: Cash or cheque with proper I.D. on day of sale. Owner & Auctioneer will not be responsible for any accidents or loss on day of sale. All announcements on day of sale will take precedence over printed ads.

Auctioneers: Kevin McArthur (519) 942-0264
Scott Bessey (519) 843-5083
Email: mcarthurbessey@gmail.com
www.theauctionadvertiser.com/KMcArthur
- full listing & photos

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

DECKS & FENCES

Decks & Fences
Free Estimates!
Contact John:
519-872-1468
johnelmareimer@gmail.com

HEATING & COOLING

TILLSON MECHANICAL HEATING & COOLING
Sales, Service & Installation for all your heating and cooling needs!
Bill Szucsko & J.P Riches:
(519) 860-1766
admin@tillsonmechanical.ca

LAWN CARE

HAUL IT FORWARD
NOW BOOKING
2026 SPRING LAWN CARE
• WEEKLY OR BI-WEEKLY MOWING
• TRIMMING, EDGING & MULCHING
• AERATING & OVERSEEDING
• SPRING CLEAN-UPS
519-550-6350
haulitforward@outlook.com

MASONRY

JOHN'S MASONRY
226-993-0639
SMALL MASONRY WORK

PRINTING

Southern Ontario Printing
stand out
ph. 519.842.7330
137 Simcoe Street
Tillsonburg, Ontario
southernontarioprinting.com

ACCOUNTING

Need to catch up and file several years of income tax returns?
David Simmonds
MBA CPA CGA
Call me at
519-842-4279
• Agriculture
• Construction
• Manufacturing
• Transportation
• Professionals

AUTOMOTIVE

HARM'S AUTOMOTIVE
AUTO REPAIR AND PARTS
406 ON-19, Tillsonburg, ON
519-409-1555
harmsautorepair@gmail.com

FUNERAL SERVICES

Your Funeral Care Professionals
MURPHY FUNERAL HOME
159 Talbot Road, Delhi, Ontario
N4B 1Z7 (519) 582-1290
MFH.CARE

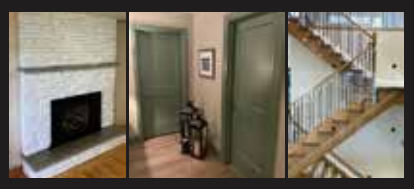
MORTGAGE SPECIALIST

Earn 8% to 13% interest investing in private mortgages secured by real estate.
David Simmonds MBA CPA CGA
Mortgage Agent Level 2 – Brokerage License 12728
519-403-5020
david@davidsimmonds.ca



PAINTING

CONTEMPORARY PAINTING AND DESIGN
Chris Imhoff
Owner
(548) 788-1189



ContemporaryPaintingandDesign.com
Chris@ContemporaryPaintingandDesign.com

VINYL WINDOWS



Courtland VINYL WINDOWS LTD.
NORTH STAR WINDOWS
VDK WINDOWS & DOORS
PREMIUM VINYL DECKING
MODERN WINDOW COVERING
SIDING & ALUMINUM PRODUCTS
5" EAVESTROUGH
519-688-2162
WWW.COURTLANDVINYLWINDOWS.COM

tillsonburgpost.com





SHOP LOCAL.
SAVE LOCAL
Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.
ADVERTISE LOCAL
News Media Canada
Médias d'Info Canada

Tillsonburg POST

SUDOKU

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

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Topaz and Citrine
2. The Golden Ratio
3. Blue
4. Bruce Nuclear Generating Station
5. 1945
6. Daisy dukes
7. The Beaver Moon
8. Marble
9. Vertebrae
10. Europe

NOFRILLS®

PRICE CUT EVENT



6 OZ CLAMSHELL

BLACKBERRIES OR BLUEBERRIES

SAVE UP TO 50%

1.99



4 LB BAG

FARMER'S MARKET ROYAL GALA OR AMBROSIA APPLES

SAVE UP TO 33%

3.99



WHILE QUANTITIES LAST

WHOLE PORK PICNIC

ONLY

1.99 LB



PKG OF 5

AVOCADOS

ONLY

1.98



WHILE QUANTITIES LAST

SPLIT CHICKEN WINGS

ONLY

3.49 LB



454 G

COCKTAIL TOMATOES

ONLY

1.99

App exclusive offers

Optimum™



$20

PC GROUND OR WHOLE BEAN COFFEE OR PC PODS

Get 5,000 pts

That's $5 value



LIMIT: 6, AFTER LIMIT: $3.48

COCA-COLA SOFT DRINKS

WOW!

2.98



CAMPBELL'S CHUNKY SOUP

SAVE 20%

$2



PLANTERS CASHEWS

SAVE 38%

$4

HALAL



Member Price $8.88

LEAN GROUND BEEF

LIMIT:4, AFTER LIMIT: $10.88

Non-Members $10.88

Members Save $2

FLYER PRICES EFFECTIVE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH TO WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH, 2026

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR ONLINE FLYER!

CORREY & RITA'S NOFRILLS®

671 BROADWAY ST, TILLSONBURG, ON
(519) 688-0709

OPEN DAILY FROM 7AM TO 9PM