

# The Paris Independent

Issue #248

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2026

FREE

**AROUND THE WORLD WITH STONETOWN TRAVEL**

210 Mill St., New Hamburg, ON N3A 1P9  
226-333-9939 newhamburg@stonetowntravel.com  
TICO#5003193

150 Queen St E, St. Marys, ON N4X 1B4  
519-284-2332 agent@stonetowntravel.com  
TICO#5003192

**www.stonetowntravel.com**

**JOIN US ON ONE OF OUR GROUP TRIPS**

**TROPICAL COSTA RICA**  
JAN. 25 - FEB. 2, 2027

**SHAMROCK ROYAL IRELAND**  
JUNE 25 - JULY 10, 2027

**CROATIA, SLOVENIA & THE ADRIATIC COAST**  
SEPTEMBER 11-22, 2027

**Stacked**  
PANCAKE & BREAKFAST HOUSE

1070 Rest Acres Rd Unit 2,  
Building- A4, Brant | 519-442-0440

Open Everyday | 7 AM - 3 PM

stackedpancakehouse.ca

**\$6.99 Breakfast Special**

MON - FRI  
7 AM - 9 AM  
Dine-in Only

Questions about selling?  
Get expert advice



**Alex Faux**  
REAL ESTATE BROKER  
(519)802-6709 DIRECT  
alexfaux.ca



**exp**  
REALTY BROKERAGE

RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL - INVESTMENT



**GRADE 8S VISIT HOUSE OF COMMONS** (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

North Ward Public School's graduating Grade 8 class poses with Flamborough-Glanbrook-Brant North MP Dan Muys during a visit to the House of Commons on June 3 as part of the school's annual Ottawa trip. The students had the rare opportunity to step onto the floor of Canada's Parliament, learn how the House of Commons operates, and gain a firsthand look at the country's democratic institutions. See inside for the full story.

## Paris Lions mark 95 years with free Canada Day celebration

CASANDRA TURNBULL

Managing Editor

The Paris Lions Club is inviting residents to celebrate Canada Day with a free day of music, family activities and community spirit while helping the organization mark a milestone 95

years of service.

The Canada Day celebration will take place July 1 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Lions Park, featuring live entertainment, free swimming, hot dogs, ice cream, face painting, balloon twisting, caricature artists and other activities for all ages.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## New long-term care facility proposed near Park Lane Terrace

CASANDRA TURNBULL

Managing Editor

A proposal that would pave the way for a new 256-bed long-term care home in north Paris generated questions from residents and councillors last Tuesday, with much of the discussion focusing on what future residential development could eventually look like on the remaining lands.

County of Brant council held a statutory public meeting June 9 regarding a zoning bylaw amendment application for 295 Grand River St. N., a 12.6-hectare property owned by Omni Quality Living (Southwest) LP, the operator of the existing Park Lane Terrace long-term care home.

The application seeks to establish zoning permissions and create four development parcels through future severances. Those parcels would accommodate a new long-term care facility, future mixed-use development, and future residential development, while retaining open space and natural heritage lands.

Under the proposal, one parcel would be re-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



**Sandra Etherington**  
Real Estate Broker

Selling Paris, Brant, Oxford County & Brantford Real Estate  
**519-754-5217**  
sandra.etherington@century21.ca

You can count on my 35 years of experience in Real Estate sales.

**CENTURY 21.**  
Heritage House Ltd.



**THANK-YOU PARIS!**

*Horsfall's*  
**Garage**

50 Curtis Ave N, Paris  
**519-442-4422**

**Hours:**  
Monday - Friday  
8 am - 5 pm

Proudly Serving Paris & Area for the past 40 years

# Family-friendly event at Lions Park to feature live music, free swimming, food and children's activities

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Live entertainment will begin with Brantford singer-songwriter Tim McDougald from 10 to 11:30 a.m., followed by award-winning Canadian performer Sarah Smith from noon to 2 p.m. Local favourites Frisky Business will close out the day with classic rock hits from 2:30 to 4 p.m. The Glass Slipper Company and stilt walker Doug Hunt will also be on site throughout portions of the celebration.

For the Lions Club, the event is about more than celebrating Canada Day. It is also an opportunity to thank the community that has supported the organization since it was founded in 1931.

"The Paris Lions 95th anniversary is a significant milestone for our club," said club member and past president Rod Laframboise. "After much discussion on how we might celebrate our achievement, we thought we should use the occasion to give back to the community which has supported us for so many years. Canada Day seemed like the perfect time because people have less obligations and are looking for family friendly events on their day off. One of the first major projects started 95 years ago was the formation of Lions Park, so it was only appropriate to hold our cele-

bration at that venue."

Laframboise said organizers intentionally selected performers with broad appeal to create an event that residents of all ages can enjoy.

"In addition to being well known local artists, the entertainers cover a wide selection of genres providing something to be enjoyed by all different age groups. It is our intent to make this a special celebration for as many residents as possible."

Second vice-president Ted Bickell said the club wanted the anniversary celebration to focus on the people who have supported the organization over the decades.

"We ponder this for about 6 months as to what the Lions Club of Paris was going to do for the 95th Anniversary. We talked about having it just in house where you would just invite the local dignities and other Lions groups and the district governors of A15," said Bickell. "But it's the people who have supported us over the 95 plus years since 1931."

The family-oriented celebration reflects the organization's long-standing commitment to community service, a tradition that has helped shape many of Paris' most recognizable public spaces.

Among the club's most significant projects was the development of the communi-

ty swimming pool, which opened in 1959 after years of fundraising. Lions members later acquired and transformed swampy land north of the pool into what would become Lions Park, investing thousands of volunteer hours and dollars into creating recreational facilities, picnic areas and green space for residents to enjoy.

Since then, the club has spent countless hours volunteering in the community so it was only fitting that their celebration was one of giving back and giving thanks.

"Our goal was to create a fun filled family-focussed event," said Laframboise. "The Canada Day celebration is our way of saying 'Thank You' to our community that has supported our club for 95 years."

Bickell said the free swimming, food and activities are intended to bring families together while highlighting the club's ongoing role in the community.

"The Lions Club of Paris is trying to bring attention to our community that we are here and proud of the 95 years of service and giving back," he said. The club is always seeking new volunteers to help ensure it remains a vibrant part of the community for generations to come.

While the club's projects have evolved over the decades, member Ken Linington said the organization's focus has always

remained the same: serving the community where it is needed most. From vision screening programs and environmental initiatives to supporting youth activities and health research, he said the Lions have adapted to meet changing community needs while remaining committed to volunteer service.

"The Paris community has often embraced the many efforts of the club," said Linington. "When you turn 95, we wanted to acknowledge that significant milestone and thank the community that has been so good to the Lions Club."

Whether the celebration evolves into a larger annual tradition remains to be seen, but organizers hope the anniversary event will draw residents to Lions Park.

"We are hoping for a large crowd," said Laframboise. "The Paris Lions are continually looking at ways to improve our community and holding a Canada Day party may be another good way of doing that."

Bring a lawn chair, grab a free hot dog, enjoy some live entertainment and spend Canada Day with friends, family and neighbours at Lions Park. With activities running throughout the day, the event aims to offer a fun, free way for the community to celebrate together.

## North Ward students get a firsthand lesson in Canadian democracy during Ottawa trip

CASANDRA TURNBULL

Managing Editor

For North Ward Public School's graduating Grade 8 class, a recent trip to Ottawa provided more than just lasting memories with classmates before heading off to high school.

As part of the four-day excursion from June 1 to 4, 34 students and four teachers had the opportunity to visit Parliament Hill and step onto the floor of the House of Commons with Flamborough-Glanbrook-Brant North MP Dan Muys.

The June 3 visit offered students a rare behind-the-scenes look at Canada's federal government. Unlike public tours, which are limited to viewing the House of Commons from the galleries above, MPs are permitted to bring groups directly onto the chamber floor before Parliament is in session.

Muys met the students at the Parliament Visitor Welcome Centre before guiding them through security screening and introducing them to the workings of Parliament as the group made its way through West Block, home of the House of Commons while the Centre Block undergoes extensive renovations.

Inside the chamber, students learned about the roles of government and opposition members, the Speaker, parliamentary

clerks, simultaneous translation services, and the technology used to broadcast proceedings across the country.

"The students like the opportunity to sit in the seats, including the Speaker's Chair and take photos... the more interactive part of the tour," Muys said in an email to the Paris Independent.

Students were eager to ask questions throughout the visit, ranging from how voting takes place in the House of Commons to the purpose of various screens and features within the chamber.

Muys said one memorable interaction came when he met a North Ward student whose family operates Big Dog Diner in Paris. Having recently attended the restaurant's soft opening, the connection stood out among the many conversations he had with the group.

The tour also included a stop at the Room of Remembrance, where books containing the names of Canadians who died in military service are displayed. The pages are turned daily so that each name is revealed in rotation over time.

Muys believes visits such as these are an important part of helping young Canadians understand how democracy works and why civic participation matters.

"Democracy works best when people participate," he said. "We may not always agree with the outcome, but we have a say."



Flamborough-Glanbrook-Brant North MP Dan Muys speaks to North Ward Public School's Grade 8 students on the floor of the House of Commons during their visit to Parliament Hill on June 3.

He noted that governments at all levels play a significant role in shaping people's daily lives and said it is important for students to see Canada's democratic institutions firsthand.

As the students prepare to enter high school, Muys hopes the experience encourages them to stay informed about current events and become active participants in their communities.

"I always encourage young people to

get involved in politics," he said. "Support candidates and parties of their choosing. It is their future."

The visit was coordinated through the school's Ottawa trip organizers and Muys' office, which arranged access to the House of Commons floor and provided each student with a Parliament of Canada pen as a keepsake from the experience.

Muys said he hopes to make it an annual tradition.

# Long-term care home expansion could pave way for future north-end development

## Proposal would add 256-bed long-term care home in north Paris

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tained for the existing long-term care facility, while a separate parcel would be created for a proposed new long-term care home. Additional lands would be zoned to permit future residential and mixed-use development, including apartments, commercial uses at grade, and a range of housing types such as single-detached, semi-detached, duplex and triplex dwellings.

Ryan Cummins, senior planner with the County of Brant, presented the application and emphasized that the presentation was for information purposes only.

He noted that if approvals are ultimately granted, construction of the new long-term care facility could proceed relatively quickly, while development of the remaining lands would require additional applications, studies and public consultation.

The applicant is highly motivated to get that portion of the application up and running, Cummins said of the long-term care component.

According to information presented to council, the proposed five-storey building would contain approximately 256 long-term care beds and would be located north of the existing Park Lane Terrace facility. Access to the building would be provided from Ann Wilson Way, adjacent to the Paris Fire Station.

Much of the public discussion centred on lands identified as Parts 7 through 11 on the concept plan, which would be reserved for future residential and mixed-use development. Residents expressed concerns about density, traffic impacts, building heights and what future zoning permissions could mean for homes backing onto the site.

Marc Burns, a Bradbury Crescent resident, told council he supports the need for additional long-term care beds and recognizes the community's need for housing and infrastructure.

"My concerns tonight aren't about whether development should occur but understanding what should be approved and that residents have right to participate before changes happen behind our homes," Burns said. Burns questioned what zoning would ultimately apply to lands behind existing



Artist's rendering of a proposed five-storey, 256-bed long-term care home planned for 295 Grand River St. N. in Paris. The facility, proposed by Omni Quality Living, would be constructed north of the existing Park Lane Terrace home and forms part of a broader development application that also includes lands for future residential and mixed-use development.

homes and what portions would remain open space.

Cummins responded that the lands are proposed to accommodate a broad range of residential uses consistent with the property's Community Node designation in the County's Official Plan, including mixed-use apartments, commercial units and various housing forms. He added that more detailed questions would be addressed through future planning applications.

Coun. Steve Howes said several constituents had contacted him with questions about the proposal and sought clarification on references to future development contained throughout the planning documents.

"Throughout this document there is a reference to the word future a couple of times," said Howes. "I think it would help for everyone to understand just what future means." Howes asked whether development on the residential lands could begin

as early as next year.

Cummins said the severance application must first be processed and satisfy a number of conditions, including requirements related to improvements to Ann Wilson Way. He estimated the earliest severance application could return to council in September, while a draft plan of subdivision for a development of that size could take several years to complete.

The proposal also requires future improvements to Scott Avenue and Ann Wilson Way and must demonstrate conformity with the Grand River Street North Corridor Class Environmental Assessment before additional development proceeds. No decision was

made Tuesday.

The public meeting forms part of the planning review process, with staff expected to return to council at a future date with recommendations on the zoning bylaw amendment application.

## 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

**GRANT  
HAVEN  
MEDIA**

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

## The Paris Independent

**Publisher**

Stewart Grant • [stew@granthaven.com](mailto:stew@granthaven.com)

**Editor**

Chris Whelan • [editor@theparisdependent.com](mailto:editor@theparisdependent.com)

**Managing Editor**

Cassandra Turnbull • [managingeditor@theparisdependent.com](mailto:managingeditor@theparisdependent.com)

**Graphic Design**

Michelle Foster • [parisdependentnews@gmail.com](mailto:parisdependentnews@gmail.com)

**Business Development**

Heather Dunbar • [heather@granthaven.com](mailto:heather@granthaven.com)

**Billing Administrator**

Jen Gaetan • [jen@granthaven.com](mailto:jen@granthaven.com)

**Contributors**

Michelle Malvaso, George Le Gresley, Rubyyy Jones, Heidi Pflieger, Paul Knowles, Karon Sinning, Jeff Johnston, Wayne Wilkinson, Emma Bowman, Gary Chalk

36 Water St. St. Marys, ON, PO Box 2310 N4X 1A2

[info@theparisdependent.com](mailto:info@theparisdependent.com) | 519.655.2341 | [granthaven.com](http://granthaven.com)



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



# OPINION

## Letters to the Editor

### Letter writer has concerns with the proposed airport annexation and future expansion

**Dear Editor:**

I am writing as a concerned resident and member of a multi-generational farming family to express my opposition to the proposed airport-related annexation and to the broader implications this process may have on our community, our farms, and our quality of life.

Like many residents in the affected area, I have been left with more questions than answers. Decisions that could permanently alter our community appear to be moving forward without meaningful consultation with the people who will be most directly affected. Residents living near the airport, along with those whose properties border the proposed annexation area, deserve to understand what is being planned and how those plans will impact their lives.

One of my greatest concerns is the possibility of changes to airport operations that could result in increased air traffic. For years, residents have already experienced ongoing helicopter training activity and aircraft noise. Additional airport growth, expanded operations, or future runway modifications have the potential to significantly increase noise levels and disrupt the peaceful rural character that residents have chosen for their homes and families.

Equally concerning is the apparent lack of publicly available studies regarding the potential impacts of these proposals. If environmental, noise, traffic, agricultural, economic, or quality-of-life studies have been completed, they should be made available to the public for review. If they have not been completed, then residents are being asked to accept significant changes without the information necessary to properly evaluate the consequences.

The proposed annexation also threatens valuable agricultural land. The farmland in this area is not simply vacant land waiting for development. It is productive farmland that contributes to our local economy, food supply, and rural heritage. The fields, woodlots, and natural areas surrounding these farms provide important habitat for native wildlife that has already faced increasing pressure from urban expansion. Once farmland is lost, it is rarely recovered.

For many families, including my own,

these farms represent generations of hard work and sacrifice. At one point, four generations of our family lived and worked on our farm at the same time. The land is more than an asset on a balance sheet; it is part of our family history and identity. Generations have invested their lives into building and maintaining these farms so that they could be passed on to future generations.

The speed at which this annexation process appears to be moving is deeply troubling. Such significant changes should be approached carefully, transparently, and with meaningful public engagement. Instead, many residents feel that decisions are being rushed before all facts have been presented and before affected property owners have had a genuine opportunity to participate in the discussion.

I am also concerned about what these boundary adjustments may mean for the future. If municipal boundaries are moved to bring the city immediately adjacent to existing rural properties, residents naturally wonder whether further expansion will follow. Many of us fear that this annexation may simply be the first step toward additional urban encroachment into surrounding agricultural lands.

Should future property acquisitions occur, residents are understandably worried about their ability to fairly negotiate for land that may have been in their families for generations. No amount of compensation can truly replace a family farm, the memories attached to it, or the opportunities that are lost for future generations.

Ultimately, this issue is about more than municipal boundaries. It is about preserving communities, protecting farmland, respecting residents, and ensuring that decisions affecting thousands of people are made openly and transparently.

I respectfully ask that all annexation discussions be paused until comprehensive studies are completed and released publicly, meaningful consultation is undertaken with affected residents, and all alternative solutions have been fully explored. The people who live, work, and farm in these communities deserve a meaningful voice in decisions that will shape their future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

*Adam Parsons | Brantford*

### Letter writer: True leadership requires meaningful consultation

**Dear Editor:**

Please accept this letter as my formal objection to the proposed annexation of approximately 1,317 acres of County of Brant land—specifically encompassing the Brantford Municipal Airport—by the City of Brantford, as well as any subsequent infrastructure developments, including the West Brant Access Route.

I am writing this not only as a deeply concerned resident of the Oakhill community but as someone who has dedicated their entire professional life to the concepts of ethical leadership, accountability, and the eradication of systemic bullying.

For 33 years, I have taught leadership skills to youth across Canada and internationally. I am a TED speaker, a best-selling author of six books on leadership and youth empowerment and have been formally recognized by the Governor General of Canada for my service with the Meritorious Service Medal, the highest honour for a civilian. Most recently, I was acknowledged and commended by Prime Minister Mark Carney for my work across Canada, the United Kingdom, and Europe in equipping children with leadership attributes and anti-bullying skills.

It is precisely through the lens of leadership and anti-bullying that I view the current municipal restructuring process. True leadership requires transparency, empathy, and a commitment to protecting the vulnerable. Instead, the rushed, provincially facilitated negotiation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has left local citizens feeling utterly disregarded. Many residents in Oakhill and the surrounding county communities feel that they are being structurally bullied by an aggressive municipal expansion that overrides their democratic input.

Forcing rural homeowners into city boundary lines without robust, transparent public consultation is an exercise in raw institutional power, not collaborative leadership.

Beyond the direct impact on local residents, this process represents a profound failure of ethical leadership regarding our relationship with neighboring Indigenous communities. I object to this annexation and the broader infrastructure plans on the following specific grounds:

**Profound Disrespect for Indigenous Concerns, Values, and Sacred Grounds:** The proposed land transfers and infrastructure expansions directly intersect with areas of immense cultural and historical significance to the local Indigenous community. Proceeding with plans that threaten to disrupt a known or suspected burial ground is deeply disrespectful and violating. To push forward

without authentic, meaningful consultation, and without completely accounting for Indigenous values, violates the core tenets of truth and reconciliation. A project built on the desecration of sacred ancestry is entirely unacceptable.

**The West Brant Access Route Backdoor:** There is deep, justified concern that this 1,317-acre land transfer is a tactical maneuver to secure the land corridors necessary for the heavily contested West Brant Access Route (historically the Oak Park Road Extension/BSAR). This project has faced fierce, sustained resistance from county residents, city residents, and Six Nations community members for years precisely because of its severe environmental, cultural, and treaty-right implications. Using an airport annexation to advance a stalled highway project lacks political and moral integrity.

**Destruction of the Oakhill Neighbourhood and Community Identity:** Oakhill is defined by its quiet, rural character. Residents intentionally invested in this area for its larger lots, lack of urbanized infrastructure (such as sidewalks), and reliance on well and septic systems. Forcing urbanization and city-level property tax rates onto these households alters the very lifestyle they have financially and emotionally committed to.

**Severe Environmental Degradation:** The lands surrounding the airport and the projected corridors for the West Brant Access Route contain vital agricultural acreage and delicate ecosystems. Expanding airport infrastructure and constructing a major transportation corridor will result in the loss of prime agricultural soil, disrupt local watersheds, and destroy natural habitats.

**Irreparable Impact on Property Values and Noise Pollution:** Transitioning the airport to city control with the explicit intent of expanding runways to invite commercial and cargo traffic will introduce severe noise pollution directly over residential zones. This, coupled with the potential construction of a heavy-traffic access route, will systematically erode property values for families who paid a premium for a peaceful environment.

A true leader listens to the community and honours the sacred heritage of the land before drawing lines on a map. I urge both councils and the provincial facilitator to halt this annexation process, reject the current MOU, and initiate an open, transparent, and authentic public consultation process that genuinely respects Indigenous rights, environmental boundaries, and the well-being of local residents.

*Scott Graham*

*Oakhill Community resident*

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

SUBMIT YOUR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR BY EMAILING THEM TO [INFO@THEPARISINDEPENDENT.COM](mailto:INFO@THEPARISINDEPENDENT.COM)

All letters must be signed by the writer and are subject to editing for length and clarity. The opinions expressed in the letter are those of the writer, and not necessarily those of the Paris Independent. We make no representation or warranty of any kind, express or implied, regarding the accuracy, adequacy, validity, reliability, or completeness of this information. If you have opinions to share, email your letter to [stories@theparisdependent.com](mailto:stories@theparisdependent.com)

# Legion Market marks start of summer fun at Branch 29

RUBYYY JONES

Cultural Correspondent

Summer in Paris means the return of community gatherings, outdoor events and opportunities to connect with neighbours. At the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 29, that tradition continued June 13 as residents turned out for the Legion's biannual market, one of many events the branch is hosting this season.

This past weekend featured a glorious Saturday, perfect for the event which featured vendors both inside the building and on the perimeter under tents. Vendors offered a range of goods: local artists, handmade items, small businesses, and tasty treats too. Inside the Legion there was an enormous prize table for the raffle and 50/50 draws, along with the vendors and seating for folks wanting to escape the sun. There were so many volunteers who made this market possible, it was great to see volunteers of all ages too!

Out on the patio, the fundraising barbecue stayed busy throughout the day, serving up the usual hamburgers, hot dogs and fries, along with a new addition to the menu — jalapeño sausages.

They were said to have a “real kick,” though this reporter chose not to put that

claim to the test. These BBQs run every Saturday at the Legion from 12 pm to 4 pm and all funds go to supporting Legion 29 and its operations.

The Paris Legion has a few more exciting things coming up this month, starting on June 17 with an outdoor concert featuring the Ayr-Paris Band. This free community event begins at 7:30 pm.

On Father's Day they'll have their standard Saturday BBQ, with the an extra special addition to the menu: pulled pork with coleslaw and potato. Enjoy that special Father's Day feast with music on the patio.

Pourly Done Trivia is back on Friday June 26th at 7 pm, offering pints, points and quips. On Saturday June 27th, for the first time ever, there will be a Pride event featuring Big Cityyy Arts' Drag Bingo and local Drag performers, this event will be ticketed, tacky and truly outrageous.

If you've never stopped by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 29, this summer might be the perfect time. The branch welcomes everyone, not just veterans, and is always looking for volunteers. With a busy calendar of events, many of them free, and a fantastic patio to enjoy during the warmer months, there's never been a better time to check it out. Find out more at <https://parislegion29.ca/>



(RUBYYY JONES PHOTO)

Volunteers and patrons gather under the barbecue tent during the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 29's biannual market on June 13. Pictured are (from left) Barry Humphrey, Bonnie, Gloria Stewart (seated), Darlene Murphy and Branden Chen. The market featured local vendors, raffles and a fundraising barbecue, with proceeds supporting Legion programs and operations.

## Letters to the Editor

### Letter writer: Harassment discourages public service

Dear Editor:

I enjoyed Chris Whelan's editorial Public Trust is the first step to Public Service. He raises some excellent points. I feel there could have been a bit more balance if the editorial had also acknowledged the general nastiness of the public toward our elected officials. Much of this nastiness seems to stem from the misplaced notion that Brant County Council is responsible for the growth in Paris.

Brant County Council, like all municipal governments in Ontario, are "creatures of the province". The number of people who blame growth in Paris with County Council instead of the Province is laughable. While Brant County is responsible for execution of growth-related infrastructure the REASON for the growth does not rest with council. If you are mad about growth in Paris, blame the growth plan allocation that the province has assigned to Paris which

County Council are legally obligated to accommodate. I believe we would get excellent candidates running for local office if they believed they could contribute to the best of their ability; and be respected for stepping up, rather than being harassed whenever someone disagrees with a decision. Communication about how decisions are made is useful, but this should not be conflated with the idea that townsfolk have a say in the final decision. This is why we elect councillors! We elect councillors to represent us. We don't own them. Perhaps we'd get more candidates running for council if we accepted: a) they are human, b) we need to let them do their job, c) you have no business criticizing if you didn't vote; and if you need to criticize, keep it civil and work through the existing system rather than whining on social media, d) if you are not happy with them at the next election, vote them out!

Jon Lynne-Davies | Paris

### Councillor says facts must remain central to public debate

Dear Editor:

In last week's edition I was quoted, accurately, as stating "I absolutely encourage more residents to step up and stand for election". And I respect Chris Whelan's journalistic right to offer an opinion in relation to that statement, even if I may not agree with him on every point.

Chris went on to say I labelled him as a "fear monger" - close but not quite accurate - I actually said he was scaremongering in relation to a statement he made about the condition of our infrastructure. And in this case Chris's failure to provide context to my comments and the lack of factual support to his statement re the condition of infrastructure undermines the integrity and underlying message of his reporting. It should be taken as read that journalists do their own due diligence before opining. It's a matter of public trust.

Chris seemed to believe we were building a \$38 million indoor pickleball court! I had to correct him on the numbers, the scope, and the public engagement and appetite for the provisionally planned facility. He went on to say that the County's infrastructure is crumbling under

our feet - again I had to correct him on that and gave him the facts, supported by analysis and reported by independent consultants (R.J.Burnside and Associated Ltd. and Watson and Associate Ltd.). The overall condition of our core infrastructure is good to average. Council has taken/is taking the necessary and prudent steps to ensure long term sustainability of our core and non-core infrastructure. For more information, readers should view the recordings of Council meetings of July 22 2025 and July 23 2024.

I said to Chris in our personal online exchange that "Suggesting that the County's Infrastructure is crumbling under our feet is both untrue and scaremongering (there I said it!)". And I will continue to exercise due diligence over facts and statements by others that I know to be incorrect or misleading. But I will do so respectfully and impersonally even if others don't or they somehow label the exercise of due diligence as "bullying". Fact provision and factchecking is crucial to demonstrate the soundness and credibility of public processes and statements - and the maintenance of public trust.

John Bell | Councillor Ward 3

SUBMIT YOUR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR BY EMAILING THEM TO  
INFO@THEPARISINDEPENDENT.COM

All letters must be signed by the writer and are subject to editing for length and clarity. The opinions expressed in the letter are those of the writer, and not necessarily those of the Paris Independent. We make no representation or warranty of any kind, express or implied, regarding the accuracy, adequacy, validity, reliability, or completeness of this information. If you have opinions to share, email your letter to [stories@theparisdependent.com](mailto:stories@theparisdependent.com)

# HISTORIC PARIS

## PARIS PAST: Ninety-five years of heart, hustle, and community service with the Lions Club of Paris



By Chris Whelan

In the spring of 1931, the town of Paris, Ontario, was caught firmly in the iron grip of the Great Depression. With a modest local population of just over 4,100 people, the community was grappling with severe economic anxiety, factory slowdowns, and widespread hardship. Yet, it was precisely during this dark chapter of local history that a beacon of enduring optimism was ignited. On March 16, 1931, a group of forward-thinking, community-minded business and professional men gathered to officially charter the Lions Club of Paris.

Guided by the simple, powerful international motto, "We Serve," these charter members set out to prove that even when times were tough, a dedicated group of volunteers could profoundly alter the trajectory of their town. Ninety-five years later, as the club celebrates its nearly century-long milestone in 2026, that visionary spirit remains entirely unchanged.

From their very first meetings, the Paris Lions focused heavily on the health and welfare of local children who lacked basic necessities. In an era before modern social safety nets, the club stepped in to quietly fund dental care, tonsil operations, and

corrective eyeglasses for underprivileged youth. To combat childhood malnutrition during the leanest years of the Depression, the Lions also purchased and distributed crucial nourishment, including daily milk and cod liver oil, to local schools.

The club's most enduring legacy began in late 1931 with a walk through a hidden, overgrown meadow tucked between Laurel Street and the Nith River. Where others saw thickets, willows, and a cow pasture, the Lions envisioned a sanctuary for local families. Defying the Depression, they raised the funds, brought in a grader, cleared the brush, and installed the town's very first children's wading pool alongside teeter-totters, swings and picnic tables. On September 11, 1935, under Mayor Stewart, the land was officially deeded to the town, permanently transforming a relief project into the crown jewel of Paris recreation: Lions Park.

Beyond structural park projects, the Lions maintained a decades-long kinship with the Willett Hospital. Through shared leadership on hospital boards and dedicated fundraising, the club historically stepped up to fund vital patient needs—ranging from regional patient transfer and medical transport initiatives to modern five-figure pledges for local health infrastructure.

As Paris moved through the hardships of World War II and entered the roaring post-war era, the Lions Club expanded its ambitions right along with the town. By the 1950s, a major concern began to plague both the Lions and the town council: the safety of swimming in the increasingly polluted waters of the Nith and Grand Rivers.

The Lions boldly set their sights on a massive new vision—a modern, clean community pool. Over several years of relentless fundraising, the club accumulated nearly \$60,000 toward the project. In 1959, the Paris Community Pool officially opened to the public, providing a safe ha-



ven for generations of children to learn to swim.

The momentum carried directly into the 1960s. By 1964, records showed the club had poured more than \$102,000 into the town since its inception. In 1962, the Lions single-handedly brought structured youth sports to the forefront by establishing Little League Baseball in Paris. With 108 eager young players signed up, Lions members rolled up their sleeves and spent several hundred dollars designing and constructing a proper playing field at Lions Park, complete with a pitching mound, players' benches, and steel backstops.

As the decades rolled on, the avenues of service expanded. The Paris Lions became core supporters of guide dog programs, diabetes research, vision screening, and a massive pledge to help fund the Cowan Community Health Hub's waiting rooms and diagnostic spaces. To fuel these expensive endeavors, the club needed a reliable

fundraising engine. Enter the famous Paris Lions Food Truck.

For decades, the Lions' mobile kitchen has been a staple at major local gatherings, from the Vintage Motorcycle Rally to the annual Paris Fair. But nowhere is their culinary and community impact felt more dynamically than at the annual Paris Lions Maple Syrup Festival.

What started out years ago as a modest, one-block gathering in the downtown core blossomed into a massive regional signature event. In recent years, due to the major "Downtown Dig" reconstruction projects on Grand River Street North, the festival found a highly successful new home at the Paris Fairgrounds.

Today, the festival draws up to 5,000 visitors, transforms indoor exhibit halls with over 75 unique vendors, and features massive community line-dancing flash mobs. At the center of it all stands the Lions Food Wagon, where dedicated volunteers flip approximately 1,800 pancakes and fry 2,500 sausages in a single day, pouring every cent of profit right back into municipal initiatives.

Ninety-five years after those original business leaders met in the shadow of the Great Depression, the modern Paris Lions Club—now meeting regularly at the Paris Agricultural Society with a dedicated roster of local volunteers—continues to be the heartbeat of the community. From a simple wading pool in 1935 to the bustling Maple Syrup Festival of today, their mission has never wavered.

As we look back through the lens of "Paris Past," it is clear that our town would look vastly different without the tireless efforts of the Lions Club.

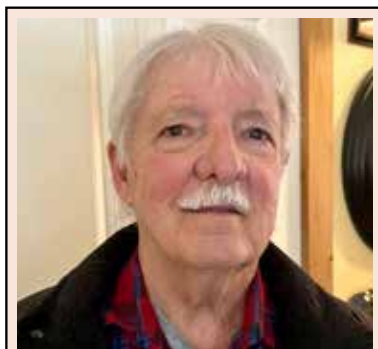
They didn't just build a park or flip pancakes; they built the very social fabric of Paris. Happy 95th Anniversary to the Paris Lions Club—here's to the next five years of service as you march proudly toward your centennial!



Lions Playground, Paris, Ontario, Canada.—3.



# THEN AND NOW: From stoves to sweets: The flavourful history of #52 Grand River St. N.



By **Wayne Wilkinson**  
Paris Historian / Artist

In my last article, we documented the rich history of #48 Grand River St. This week, we'll turn our attention to #52, which occupies the other half of this prominent red-brick block. This beautiful structure was built in 1901 by prominent parliamentarian and two-time mayor John

Fisher.

Long before the current brick building stood, this site was a hub of local commerce. In 1869, Pat Buckley took over his father's well-established stove and tinware business at this exact location. His father, John Buckley, had been operating in town since 1856. Looking at an 1892 photograph of the shop, it's easy to see he sold just about everything you would expect in a classic hardware store—including something quite revolutionary for the time: a rotary cylinder lawn mower, which can be seen sitting on the far left of the wooden sidewalk.

An 1893 advertisement indicates that Buckley also sold guns, pistols, and ammunition. The ad prominently features the famous "Art Garland Stove," manufactured by the Michigan Stove Works in Detroit. Established in 1871 by Jeremiah and James Dwyer, the company branded all of its heating and cooking stoves under

the name "Garland." Around 1890, they introduced the iconic "Art Garland" cast-iron stove. It was a true marvel of Victorian design, highlighted by decorative nickel-plated scrolling, art nouveau ornamentation, and glowing mica windows.

Tragedy struck in September 1900 when Buckley's store went down in flames during the Great Fire.

Undeterred, he rebuilt and was soon back in business at the very same location, operating out of the new building you see today at #52.

Following Buckley's departure after 1902, the storefront was occupied by two successive hardware businesses before transitioning in 1937 to the Dominion Gas Co.

In 1950, the LCBO moved into the space. Compared to a modern retail experience, it was a remarkably strange setup: absolutely no products were in sight. Customers had

to fill out a paper slip, hand it to a clerk, and wait as the clerk disappeared into the back of the store to fetch the request. Talk about liquor control!

The building returned to commercial retail in 1985 with the opening of a wonderful candy, fudge, and nut shop. "The Black Hat Country Store", owned by Dan Stubbs, was a local favorite until it closed in 1995. The space then made way for "The Art Depot" and, later in 2008, a Co-operators Insurance office.

Happily, the building returned to its sweetest roots in May 2025 with the opening of "Millers Candy Co." Owned and operated by hometown girl Maggie Henderson, this delightful destination allows people of all ages to feel like a kid again. The shop boasts a vast variety of nostalgic candies and, of course, delicious ice cream.

Now, you might assume the shop is named after an old Paris family, or perhaps a historic milling business down by the river. But the truth is much closer to home—and a wonderful surprise. Miller is actually Maggie's eight-year-old son! I guess that officially makes him the youngest proprietor in our town's long history. Welcome to the main street, partner!

*Some information obtained from the archives at the Paris Museum & Historical Society.*



## Weekend Quiz

By Jake Grant

1. What zodiac signs fall in June?
2. What important historical event occurred on June 6, 1944?
3. What is the oldest national park in Canada?
4. What was Blackbeard's real name?
5. In what Canadian town is the World Crokinole Championships held?
6. When did the Peasants' Revolt take place?
7. Who is the film The Social Network about?
8. What boarding device was used by ancient Roman ships?
9. Canada uses what measurement system?
10. What is Moscow's famed opera house?

This week's answers are found on pg. 18

## Stormwater Management Funding Strategy



Stormwater systems help manage rain and melting snow by directing water away from roads, homes, businesses, and properties. These systems play an important role in helping reduce flooding, protecting infrastructure, and supporting healthy waterways.

The County of Brant is exploring options for how stormwater services are funded and maintained in our community.

Visit [EngageBrant.ca/StormwaterFunding](https://EngageBrant.ca/StormwaterFunding)

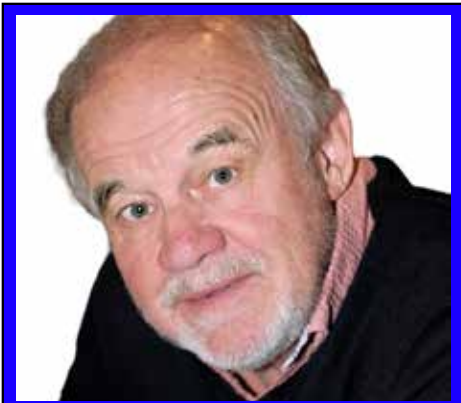
- Learn more about Stormwater Management in Brant
- Browse our Stormwater Management video library
- Stay informed and **subscribe to receive project updates** and future opportunities for engagement!

Learn more!

EngageBrant.ca/StormwaterFunding



# LIVING RETIRED: 'Grand Pooh-bah of Tide Laundry Pods.'



By Gary Chalk  
Non-Pulitzer Prize  
Winning Columnist

## Living Retired

it comes to changing our clothes, it takes a special event – Y2K – before men think about changing our blue jeans.

With all my experience doing our laundry – I call myself the Grand Pooh-bah of Tide Laundry Pods – means Jan has more time to shop to replace her expensive sweaters that often come out of the washing machine looking like a Jerry Garcia tie-die T-shirt. She also replaces her leggings that didn't survive the 'Volcano' dryer setting. "Gary, even if you and I tried stretching these leggings out they wouldn't fit a Barbie doll!"

"Sort of like a tug of war, Jan?"

"Gary, I am at the end of my rope!"

Then, she added – something I have never heard her say before – "I am tired of always having to shop for new clothes." SMACK! My head hit the dryer!

Like all women who have had it up to their brightest whites, Jan was exasperat-

ed! So last week, she launched a friendly takeover of our laundry room beginning with explicit instructions AND a demonstration of what goes in the washer and the dryer. At what setting. And for how long. Jan says I exaggerate but this is what I remember...

"Gary, see this sweater? It goes in the washing machine AFTER you soak it in tepid water in Eucalyn for twenty minutes in the laundry sink. Then, and only then, you put it in the washer, set at Delicate Rinse. Then, when you remove this sweater from the washer you don't put it in the dryer. Instead, you lay it out on a towel to dry. IS THERE ANY PART OF THIS YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND?"

Jan continued. "Gary, see these slacks? They go in the washing machine as a separate load. Do not add Downey Fabric softener. And before you place them in the dryer gently stretch them."

Jan was on a roll...

"Gary, apparently you have never looked in the cabinet overtop the dryer because if you did you would see there is a box of something called dryer sheets. Watch me. See how I remove one sheet and place it in the dryer? It is not rocket science."

Jan stepped over toward where we store

the broom and dustpan...

"My goodness what do we have here Mr. Grand Pooh-bah of Tide Laundry Pods? This is called a laundry hamper. If you look carefully, you will see it has three sections. One is for dark clothes. One is for light clothes. And one section is where you place the dirty towels. Watch this, Gary. It is on wheels so you can move it over to the washing machine."

All this information had my head, well, spinning like the final rinse cycle on our washing machine!

They say that practice makes perfect, even when you're Living Retired. Jan's teachings have worked. Now when I do the laundry the brights are brighter, the lights are lighter, and Jan's summer dresses made of viscose are still very 'viscose-y.'

Despite how Jan feels about my lacklustre laundry loads, I refuse to throw in the towel.

*Living Retired is written weekly by humour columnist Gary Chalk and published throughout Canada and USA. Living Retired On The Radio is heard Thursday mornings. To inquire about keynote presentations contact Gchalk@me.com.*

# Hamilton General Hospital nurses celebrate their remarkable 70-Year reunion

PARIS INDEPENDENT CONTRIBUTOR

**Editor's Note:** This article was prepared in part by Paris resident Elaine Sales, a member of the Hamilton General Hospital School of Nursing Class of 1956B who attended the group's 70-year reunion celebration in Hamilton.

Seventy years after stepping into their crisp white uniforms for the first time, nine members of the Hamilton General Hospital School of Nursing Class of 1956B gathered once again—this time at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton—to celebrate a

milestone few groups ever reach.

The women, now in their late 80s and 90s, have been reuniting almost every year since their graduation in 1956. Their bond was forged during three intense years of training, study, and service while living together in residence at Hamilton General Hospital. In those days,

student nurses lived on-site, worked long shifts, and learned by doing—an experience that shaped not only their skills, but their lifelong friendships.

Their training took them far beyond the General. The class rotated through maternity wards, tuberculosis sanatoriums, and mental health hospitals—where they again lived in

residence—gaining hands-on experience in every corner of the healthcare system. These were formative years in Canadian nursing, and the Class of 1956B stood at

the heart of it.

This year's reunion drew classmates from across Canada and beyond, including the United Kingdom, Calgary, Georgetown, Mississauga, London (Ontario), and St. Catharines. They shared memories and stories of spouses, children, grandchildren, and even

great-grandchildren—four generations touched by the legacy of these nurses.

Over the decades, members of the class have built careers that stretched across continents. Many served as nurses in hospitals, clinics, and community settings, while others lived and worked in places as far away as Australia, California, New Mexico, and Arizona. Their reunions have been held in Hamilton, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Mulmur, and Oakville, each gathering filled with stories, laughter, and the kind of camaraderie that only shared service can create.

At the Warplane Heritage Museum, the nine classmates enjoyed a guided tour, a leisurely lunch, and hours of reminiscing—recalling not only the challenges of early nursing life, but the joy, purpose, and deep friendships that carried them through seven decades.

Their 70-year reunion is more than a celebration of time passed. It is a tribute to a generation of nurses who shaped modern healthcare, supported one another through every season of life, and continue to demonstrate the strength of community formed in service.



Members of the Hamilton General Hospital School of Nursing Class of 1956B (plus one cleverly disguised mannequin) and Paris resident Elaine Sales is back row, third from the left, gathered at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton to celebrate their 70th reunion. The nine classmates, now in their late 80s and 90s, travelled from across Canada and abroad to reconnect, share memories, and celebrate seven decades of friendship forged during their nursing training.

As the women posed together for a photo inside the Warplane Museum, and celebrated together with a beautifully decorated anniversary cake, one thing was clear:

the Class of 1956B is still united—still laughing, still sharing, and still inspiring.

A legacy like theirs is rare. A friendship like theirs is extraordinary.

# Garden Tour blooms across the county

Visitors explored diverse gardens, heritage properties and local artistry during the Paris Horticultural Society's annual tour



(MARGARET COLLINS)

The historic Falkirk Home in Glen Morris, originally built in 1867, was one of five featured properties on this year's Paris Horticultural Society Garden Tour. The heritage property highlights the ongoing restoration efforts of a young family dedicated to preserving its historic character and grounds. Pictured is Karen Imgrund, a family member of the homeowner, welcoming visitors from across the region during last weekend's tour.



Members of the Brantford Hookers display their handcrafted creations while welcoming visitors during the Paris Horticultural Society Garden Tour. Local artists were featured throughout the gardens, adding another layer of creativity and conversation to the popular annual event.



This sprawling 2.5-acre Glen Morris property showcases pollinator gardens and native species planted on land that once belonged to the homeowner's grandparents. Among its many unique features is a pollinator garden protected by a teepee that was previously used during smudging ceremonies for the owner's handcrafted drums.



This 4.5-acre Robinson Road property blends horticulture, art and whimsy throughout a landscape shaded by century-old trees. The garden features colourful cutting beds, flowering perennials and an eclectic collection of sculptures and artistic creations, including Murphy the Moose and a striking Teardrop stone sculpture. The homeowner's love of both flowers and art is evident throughout the property, with many pieces designed to inspire visitors and bring a smile to their faces.



This Warwick Street garden was described by its owner as a small urban sanctuary for both people and wildlife. The informal cottage-style landscape features native plants, shrubs, a small pond and annuals grown from seed, with an increasing focus on creating habitat for pollinators and birds. The homeowner is both a Master Gardener and member of the Native Plant Society.



A returning favourite on the Paris Horticultural Society Garden Tour, this Gold Street property continues to evolve with each appearance. Surrounding a historic 1883 brick home, the garden features extensive perennial beds, mature trees and a labelled hosta collection. A white picket fence provides a charming backdrop for flowering perennials, peonies, lilies and irises while ongoing changes make the landscape easier to maintain.



Local artist Kristine MacGregor works on her latest piece while visitors explored the Robinson Road property

# The Paris Independent SPORTS



Sponsored by Paris Canadian Tire

## Athletic accomplishments take centre stage at annual PDHS banquet

PARIS INDEPENDENT STAFF

Paris District High School celebrated athletic excellence during its annual Sports Banquet on Tuesday, June 9, recognizing student-athletes for their achievements throughout the 2025-26 school year.

In addition to honouring team and individual accomplishments across a variety of sports, coaches and staff presented several prestigious awards that recognize outstanding athleticism, leadership, sportsmanship, dedication, and overall contributions to the school's athletic program.

### ATHLETE OF THE YEAR NOMINEES AND WINNERS:

**Junior Girls Nominees:** Lily Goodyear, Avery Connors, Reagan Charter, Breanna Montemayor and Rachel Tugman.

**Junior Girls Athlete of the Year:** Reagan Charter.

**Junior Boys Nominees:** Morgan Williams, Kevin Watler, Carson DeMunck, Calvin Passos and Noah Connolly.

**Junior Boys Athlete of the Year:** Carson DeMunck

**Senior Girls Nominees:** Rowan Worrall, Nora Kovacs, Kayla Padusenko, Sydney Kipp, Mackenzie Rosebrugh

**Senior Girls Athlete of the Year:** Sydney Kipp

**Senior Boys Nominees:** Eoin Wright, Aris Motrea, Dexter Quesnel, Canaan Sherbino, Jack Ward

**Senior Boys Athlete of the Year:** Aris Motrea

**Female Unsung Hero Award:** Rowan Worrall

**Male Unsung Hero Award:** Eoin Wright

**Volunteer of the Year:** Ella Dobrucki and Kaitlyn Pickering

**Hannah McCosh Award Winner:** Reese Halliday

**Athletics Council Award:** Canaan Sherbino

**Brant County Ed O'Leary Memorial Award Nominees:** Sydney Kipp and Canaan Sherbino

### TEAM AWARDS:

**Tennis Awards:** Brianna Montemayor and Morgan Williams, Junior Tennis; Ella Morissette and Aris Motrea, Senior Tennis; Golf Award: Lukas Greenwood, MVP.

**Girls Basketball Awards:** Genevieve Carriere, Junior MVP; Brynn Haverkamp, Junior Most Improved; Eira Feairs, Senior MVP; Kayla Padusenko, Senior Heart & Hustle.

**Boys Volleyball Awards:** Morgan Williams, Junior MVP; Noah Connolly, All-Rounder Award; Kalen Johnson, Senior MVP; Carter Dela Rosa, Senior MVP; Mazin Yosif, Coaches Award.



(SUBMITTED PHOTO)

Paris District High School celebrated the achievements of its student-athletes during the annual Sports Banquet on June 9, recognizing excellence in athletics, leadership, sportsmanship, and dedication throughout the 2025-26 school year. Pictured, front row left to right, Reese Halliday, Rowan Worrall, Ella Dobrucki, Sydney Kipp, Reagan Charter. Back row, left to right, Canaan Sherbino, Carson De Munck, Eoin Wright. Absent is Aris Motrea and Kaitlyn Pickering.

**Cross Country Awards:** Avery Connors, Outstanding Novice; Rachel Tugman, Outstanding Junior; Aris Motrea, Outstanding Senior.

**Varsity Baseball Awards:** Jack Ward, MVP; Nate Wylie, Coaches Award.

**Girls Fastball Awards:** Sydney Kipp, MVP; Ryann Taylor, Coaches Award.

**Football Awards (Junior):** Brant Hergott-Leader, Defensive Player; Taygen Steenkamp, MVP; Marrayck Wrzala, Lineman of the Year; Dylan Drinkle, DeGroot Award; Miles Maher, DeGroot Award.

**Football Awards (Senior):** Ian Souliere, Offensive Player; Jamal Bakara, Defensive Player; Coltone Gloade, MVP; Matt Mahlman, Lineman of the Year; Hunter Delaney, Fergus Heart & Hustle Award.

**Girls' Volleyball Awards:** Julia Sherren and Grace McDougall, Junior MVP; Sydney Kipp, Senior MVP; Kayla Padusenko, Coaches Award.

**Girls Hockey Awards:** Dani Seibert, Most Valuable Senior; Kenzie Coates, Brick Wall/Goalie Award; Reese Halliday, Excellence in Leadership.

**Girls Hockey AABHN Champions:** Team members include: Meghan Balog, Brooklyn Boer, Savannah Brown, Reagan Charter, Kenzie Coates, Taylor Drinkle, Aleigha Glover, Lily Goodyear, Reese

Halliday, Scout Hergott-Leader, Hayley Jackson, Sydney Kipp, Addison Langille, Alissa Oakes, Ella Ryckman, Dani Seibert, Harley Stuart, Faith Smith and Rowan Worrall.

**Boys Hockey Awards:** Quinn Carpenter, Coaches Award; Nate Wylie, Coaches Award.

**Curling Awards:** Ian Henwood, MVP.

**Badminton Awards:** Fynnley Kitchen, Junior Award; Morgan Williams, Junior Award; Leo Kolesar, Senior Award, Micah Brogno, Senior Award.

**Badminton Champions:** Fynnley Kitchen & Morgan Williams, Junior Mixed Doubles.

**Girls Soccer Awards:** Ava Ross, MVP; Bella Sabilla-Dancetovic, MVP.

**Boys Soccer Awards:** Carter Dela Rosa and Mason Reed, Coaches Awards.

**Girls Rugby Awards:** Reagan Charter, MV Contributor; Julie Sherren, Rookie of the year, Meaghan McCormack, Dedication Award

**Track & Field Awards:** Brianna Montemayor, Most Outstanding Novice; Adam Gagliardi, Most Outstanding Junior; Sydney Kipp, Most Outstanding Senior.

**Track & Field Champions:** natalie Harrison, Novice 100m; Scout Hergott-Leader, Senior 4x100m; Eoin Wright, senior

400 m hurdles, 4x400m; Sydney Kipp, Senior 4x100m, senior 100m hurdles, triple jump, long jump; Adam Gagliardi, junior 800m, 1500m, 4x400m; Cam Cadwell, 4x400m; Rowan Worrall, senior 4x100m; Emily Kenny, 40x100m; Aris Montrea, senior 800m, 1500m, 4x400m; Tre Lacroix, mixed 4x400m; Rachel Tugman, mixed 4x400m; Brant Hergott-Leader, mixed 4x400m.

**Lacrosse Awards:** Aiden Bryans, MVP; Hayden Phillips, Outstanding Player.

**Ultimate Frisec Awards:** Canaan Sherbino, MVP; Reese Halliday, Consistency Award; Carter Dela Rosa, All Out Lay Out Award; Sydney Kipp, All Out Lay Out Award.

**Ultimate Frisec AABHN&CWOSA Champions:** Team members include: Ryan Airdrie, Bhav Aujla, Hayden Burroughs, Nate Vrewster, Jordan Coles, Jaxson Conick, Carter Dela Rosa, Ella Dobrucki, Emelia Hallman, Kalen Johnson, Leo Kolesar, Canaan Sherbino, Dexter Quesnel, Eoin Wright, Josh Pizzey, Breanna Punter, Cooper Robinson, Rowan Worrall, Sydney Kipp, Reese Halliday, Ryann Taylor, Nora Kovacs, Kayla Padusenko, Harley Stuart, Jack Ward.

# Paris District duo sweeps Ed O'Leary Sports Awards

CASANDRA TURNBULL

Managing Editor

Paris District High School athletes Canaan Sherbino and Sydney Kipp have been named the 2026 recipients of the prestigious Ed O'Leary Sports Award, marking a rare achievement for the school as both of its nominees captured the county-wide honour.

The award, established in 2012, recognizes outstanding high school student-athletes across Brant County and honours longtime sports reporter Ed O'Leary, a passionate supporter of local high school athletics who worked at The Brantford Expositor from 1972 until his death in 2011.

Each of the county's six high schools submits one male and one female nominee. Winners are selected by a committee consisting of high school athletic directors and Expositor staff based on athletic excellence, leadership, sportsmanship and commitment to school and sport.

Sherbino earned the male award after a standout athletic career that saw him compete in volleyball, basketball, football, badminton, tennis, ultimate frisbee and track and field while maintaining honour roll standing throughout high school.

A multi-sport leader, Sherbino captured numerous athletic honours, including junior football's DeGroote Award, junior basketball MVP, senior volleyball MVP and senior basketball MVP. He was also a member of teams that reached the AABHN finals in volleyball and basketball and advanced to the CWOSSA basketball finals.

Beyond competition, Sherbino played a key role in fostering school spirit through his involvement with the school's Athletics Council. He helped organize intramural sports, elementary school activity days, spirit events, athletic banquets and pep rallies.

Teacher and coach Mike Wittchen described Sherbino as a dedicated and coachable athlete who consistently put team success ahead of personal achievement.

"He's committed, dedicated, hardworking and very coachable — always looking to improve as an individual while doing whatever is needed to help the team have success," Wittchen wrote in his nomination.

Sherbino served as captain or assistant captain on several teams throughout his high school career and remained active in community sports, competing for the Dundas Dynamo basketball program and working as a youth hockey referee.

Kipp's selection as the female recipient caps an extraordinary four-year athletic career that included participation in volleyball, basketball, hockey, softball, badminton, track and field, flag football and ultimate frisbee.

The accomplished student-athlete maintained academic honours with distinction throughout high school, posting averages of 95 to 96 per cent while excelling across multiple sports.

Kipp's athletic résumé includes numerous AABHN championships, CWOSSA appearances and OFSAA competitions. She captured league titles in track and field, hockey and softball while setting school records in the 100-metre hurdles and as part of a record-setting 4x100-metre relay team.

She was recognized as PDHS's Top Junior Female Athlete of the Year and earned MVP and coaches' awards in several sports.

Away from competition, Kipp demonstrated leadership through Athletics Council, leadership class and extensive volunteer work with younger athletes. She served as captain of the varsity softball team, co-captain of the senior girls volleyball team and co-captain of the varsity ultimate frisbee team.

In addition to volunteering in youth softball and ringette programs, Kipp was recently named runner-up for the City of Brantford's Phyllis Gretzky Female Leadership Award and received a Brantford Sports Council student-athlete bursary.

Kipp will continue both her academic and athletic career next year at an NCAA Division II school in Ohio, where she will study exercise science and play softball.



(SUBMITTED PHOTO)

Paris District High School graduates Sydney Kipp and Canaan Sherbino proudly display their 2026 Ed O'Leary Sports Awards. The pair were selected from nominees representing six Brant County high schools, earning the prestigious honour in recognition of their athletic excellence, leadership, sportsmanship and commitment to both school and community.

In her nomination, teacher Shelley Weaver praised Kipp's ability to balance a demanding schedule while maintaining excellence in the classroom, on the field and in the community.

"She is highly coachable, an excellent student, and

leads her peers by example," Weaver wrote. "Despite an exceptionally busy schedule, she consistently steps up to volunteer. What stands out most is her ability to manage so many commitments while maintaining an outstanding level of performance in all of them."

## Paris U13 girls off to strong start in new league

PARIS INDEPENDENT STAFF

The Paris U13 girls softball team has made an impressive debut in the Flamborough Minor Softball Association league, posting a 5-1 record through the first month of the 2026 season.

Competing in a new league for the first time after several seasons in the South Oxford loop, Paris has quickly established itself as a contender. The team sits third in the 10-team division, just one point behind the league leaders.

Paris opened the season with a 13-7 victory over Binbrook A before following up with a 20-13 win against Stoney Creek. The team then embarked on a three-game road stretch, earning convincing victories over Dundas A (20-5) and Ancaster (20-11).

They suffered its first loss of the season in a tightly contested 13-11 matchup against Lynden A, the current league leaders, before rebounding with a 12-11 victory over Dundas B.

The roster features a mix of younger and older age-group players who have quickly developed chemistry on the field.

One of the team's strengths has been its pitching depth. Regan Deane, Lucy Witt, Kaylee Carr, Olivia Turnbull and Tessa Schiedel have shared duties in the circle, providing opposing batters with a variety of pitching styles and helping Paris remain competitive in every game.

Coaches Heather Witt and Casandra Turnbull have also been encouraged by the development of several players who have returned to the sport this season. The coaching staff noted steady improvement week after week as players gain confidence and contribute offensively, with many collecting their first hits early in the campaign.

The team has also benefited from players embracing new positions, with several athletes stepping into unfamiliar roles and adapting quickly to fill key gaps in the lineup.

Offensively, every player on the roster has recorded at least one hit this season, a reflection of the team's patience at the plate and balanced approach throughout the lineup.

With six games completed and plenty of season remaining, Paris has positioned itself among the top teams in the division.

# Canadian Women's Disc Golf event to make historic debut in Paris

## PARIS INDEPENDENT STAFF

Some of Canada's top female disc golfers will be in Paris this weekend as the community hosts a marquee event on the national disc golf calendar for the first time.

The inaugural Canadian Women's Event (CWE) in Paris will take place June 20 at the Dwayne Bereziuk Disc Golf Course at the Green Lane Sports Complex, marking the first time the nationwide tournament series has been held locally.

The Canadian Women's Event is an annual initiative designed to celebrate and promote women in disc golf at every level of competition. Since launching in 2021, tournaments have been hosted at courses across the country throughout May and June, helping introduce new players to the

sport while providing competitive opportunities for experienced athletes.

Hosted by local disc golfer Shelley Kingma-Kitchen and sponsored by Discy Chicks Disc Golf, the Paris tournament has already attracted more than 60 competitors across 19 divisions. The field includes nine professional players, five junior competitors and several age-protected divisions, with participants ranging in age from six to 85 years old.

The one-day, two-round tournament is expected to draw players from across Ontario and beyond, showcasing both the growth of disc golf and the increasing participation of women in the sport.

Kingma-Kitchen, a certified and highly active competitor with the Professional Disc Golf Association, has become a fa-

miliar face within the Canadian disc golf community. In addition to competing at a high level, she has been a strong advocate for growing the sport locally and supporting junior athletes.

The tournament begins with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m., with the second round scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. Spectators are welcome to attend and watch competitors navigate the challenging course throughout the day.

Organizers say the event is about more than competition. It is also an opportunity to build community, encourage participation and showcase female athletes

in a sport that continues to gain popularity across Canada.

Adding to the community focus, proceeds from the tournament will be donated to Nova Vita Women's Shelter in Brantford.

## Paris Duffers report: Sweet putts, big eagles, and warm jelly at Burford

### JEFF JOHNSTON AKA STONES

Paris Independent Contributor

Once again, the golfing gods of Burford presented our duffers with a beautiful summer afternoon to tear up the course and leave the spectators completely aghast. Whether that's a good thing or a bad thing remains to be seen! Here is how the action unfolded this past Friday:

Leading off the day, Cutter and Double G were simply no match for Jacque and Hoogs. From the very first hole, Jacque and Hoogs were on a mission and would not be denied victory. With ice in their veins, they hit straight shots, avoided every single hazard, and putted like Rory McIlroy. The lucky devils. Hope you boys enjoyed your milk!

Next out of the gate was Salmon (Willie) and Bergy taking on Fergy and Enzo. Just when Ferg and Enz thought they had the match safely in their pockets, Big Will stepped up and sunk a monster putt from distance to tie the game. It just goes to show—you always have to watch out for the

quiet ones.

We finished the day with a pair of threesomes battling it out for bragging rights. Copper, Tuna (Brownie), and Sinc managed to edge out Big Al, Billy B, and Swanee by carding an impressive 3-under.

Any hope Big Al's group had of catching up was completely dashed on the 16th hole, when Sinc sank an incredible eagle putt from right off the green. Those are the kinds of shots that make the post-round milk taste just a little bit sweeter. A quick word of warning to the league, though: beware of Swanee. As our resident rookie, he is really getting a feel for this grand game and is going to be a force to be reckoned with very soon.

That is a wrap for this week! We will leave you with the official quote of the day, courtesy of Cutter as he beautifully summarized his round: "Fridge wasn't workin', jelly wasn't moulding."

Have a great week, everyone, and we'll see you all next Friday!

## Dusters bring the Thunder in return to the BSC

### SID LUCKMAN

Paris Independent Contributor

It was a big booming weather day and the same on the ice as the Fit Effect Brant County Dusters came back to home ice in Brant County. It was a hard game of some very hard play. Goalie Camaryn was dialled in and essentially made the net unbeatable. Of course, it ended up getting beaten somewhat, but he put up a heck of a struggle!


Cam Stone just wanted JY's passes to be on net. He was overhead saying, "You know if he maybe just passed to the other goalie, our line wouldn't be in concussion protocol".

Local insurance guru and Duster, Matt Papple, seconded that motion with Greg Collings nodding in the background "I had a full beard before JY hit me in the head...and I was on his team!" That guy needs a lesser degree curve or to

take up tennis. There is a sports adage that Offense sells the tickets but Defense wins the game. That is the summation of young Ben Stevenson's play. That man saved the 2-2 tie with inhuman defense. Goalie Neufeld was quoted "Ben just does it all and that's why we love him"

The defense pairing of Chris V and Kirk M continues to baffle any player joining in on a 3 on 2. In fact, Kirk and Chris will be putting on a comedy act in 2027 and touring local dairy farms, with the title "You think we're funny? look at the Blue Line" it will be a free show.

So, the Dusters are home...and happy! And play every Thursday at the BSC right until August 27. All games at 5:30 pm. Why not come out and meet the Dusters at an after game event too? They are good lads, and you'll be welcomed. Should you feel that you may like to join on the ice, just email JY at [offsideyoung@gmail.com](mailto:offsideyoung@gmail.com)



## PARIS YOUTH SOFTBALL

### SCORES FOR JUNE 3 – JUNE 11

**June 3**  
 U9 Co-ed Team 1 wins 9-1 against Burgessville  
 U13 Girls lose 13-11 against Lynden A  
 U11 Co-ed Team 1 loses 12-3 against Hickson

**June 4**  
 U13 Co-ed loses 11-10 against Hickson  
 U15 Boys lose 18-0 against Cambridge

**June 6**  
 U11 Co-ed Team 1 ties 10-10 against Springfield  
 U11 Co-ed Team 2 loses 14-13 against Princeton/Drumbo/Plattsville

**June 8**  
 U13 Boys lose 9-6 against Ayr  
 U11 Co-ed Team 2 loses 16-0 against Cambridge  
 U11 Co-ed Team 1 loses 18-3 against Embro

**June 9**  
 U11 Girls lose 12-7 against Stoney Creek  
 U15 Girls lose 15-12 against Lynden A  
 U13B lose 9-11 against Burgessville

**June 10**  
 U13 Girls win 12-11 against Dundas B

**June 11**  
 U15 Boys lose 12-1 against Cambridge

---

**SPONSORS**  
 No Frills, Savory Electric, MAK, Home Building Centre, Sika, Paris Lions Club, Paris Optimist Club, Canadian Tire Paris, Paris Firefighters Club, Brant Family Eye Care

# County tests emergency response during annual training exercise

PARIS INDEPENDENT STAFF

The County of Brant recently put its emergency response plans to the test during an annual training exercise designed to strengthen coordination among municipal staff and emergency service partners.

The exercise, held June 4, simulated a critical incident at the County of Brant Customer Service Office in Paris involving a vehicle collision, gas leak and related emergency. The scenario challenged participants to respond to changing conditions while evaluating the municipality's emergency management plans, communication procedures and decision-making processes. As part of the exercise, County staff activated the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and worked alongside representatives from the County of Brant Fire Department, Brant County OPP, Brant-Brantford Paramedic Services and Grand Erie Public Health. Officials from Emergency Management Ontario also observed the training.

"Exercises such as this provide valuable opportunities to evaluate our emergency plans and strengthen our ability to respond to potential emergencies," said Cindy Ste-



(COUNTY OF BRANT PHOTO)

Pictured during the emergency training exercise is Fire Chief Darren Watson and General Manager of Operations, David Mellor.

venson, General Manager of Emergency and Protective Services. "This year's exercise allowed staff and partners to practice

working together in a coordinated setting, identify areas for improvement, and enhance our overall preparedness."

The County conducts emergency management exercises each year as part of its commitment to maintaining a high level of preparedness and meeting provincial emergency management requirements. In addition, the municipality's Emergency Management Program Committee meets quarterly to review and discuss emergency planning procedures.

County officials are encouraging residents to take steps to prepare for emergencies by understanding local risks such as flooding and power outages, creating an emergency plan and assembling emergency kits for both their homes and vehicles.

Residents are also encouraged to stay informed by subscribing to County news and notices and following updates from local emergency management partners, including Grand Erie Public Health, the Grand River Conservation Authority and the OPP.

Officials reminded the public that, in the event of an emergency, residents should avoid affected areas whenever possible to allow emergency responders and municipal staff to work safely and effectively.

More information about emergency preparedness and planning is available through the County of Brant's Emergency Planning resources.

# Answer the call.

## Volunteer with Ontario Corps.

Sign up at [ontario.ca/OntarioCorps](https://ontario.ca/OntarioCorps)

Paid for by the Government of Ontario



Ontario

## OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: The unusual contrasts in Monaco



By Paul Knowles

The Principality of Monaco is truly a country of contrasts. But those contrasts don't fit into the usual categories implied by that cliché. This is not a place of disparity between rich and poor, nor a country with a variety of striking landscapes.

The contrasts here are perhaps unique to this tiny nation. We encountered them as we were hosted on a Mediterranean Sea cruise aboard the Viking Sea, one of Viking's small, ocean-going vessels.

First of all, there is no contrast between rich and poor, here, because to live in Monaco, you have to be rich. Our guide simply stated, "So many millionaires and billionaires are living here!"

As we explored Monaco on foot, our guide explained that virtually all the workers commute from somewhere else. About 40,000 arrive each morning, and return home, outside the tiny nation's borders, each night.

That number of commuters presents one of the contrasts— because the out-of-country workers slightly outnumber the people who actually live in Monaco, a nation with a total population of only 39,000.

It gets odder — of those 39,000 people, only 9,000 are passport-carrying citizens. The rest are "residents", people who have demonstrated they have sufficient financial assets to live in this



The marina in Monaco hosts multiple mega-yachts. The famed casino is the building with the arches and the dark roof, above the right-hand boats.

country.

This is an independent nation with a population only slightly larger than the city of Stratford, Ontario. To carry on that comparison for a minute, Stratford, an important Canadian tourist attraction, draws about 600,000 visitors a year. Monaco's annual visitor count reaches seven million.

Some of those visitors arrive on mega-yachts. Others arrive in the kinds of automobiles that cause gearheads to do triple-takes. Many are taxied in — but by helicopter — from nearby Nice airport. Nice, of course, is in France, but that's not surprising, because Monaco covers only 2.2 square kilometers. So, if you are standing anywhere in Monaco, and looking up at the hillsides above the country, you are looking at France, or, to the immediate east, at Italy.

Monaco is the second-smallest independent nation in the world (only the Vatican is smaller), but

there are four administrative districts in this 2.2 square kilometer place. The most famous of which is Monte Carlo, home to the Monte Carlo Casino, which draws heavy-duty gamblers from all over the world, and features in many movies, including James Bond epics.

But here's another unique thing in this country of contrasts — while the 30,000 "residents" are welcome to gamble in the casino, the 9,000 citizens are forbidden to do so. Which seems to suggest there may be an inherent caution about gambling in this country which is built on that very thing.

And that is the truth — there is no income tax in Monaco. The country runs on the income from the casino, as well as value added tax (a hefty number when visitors number in the millions).

That hasn't always been the case. Monaco has been ruled for seven centuries by the Grimaldi family. They conquered it, and

have run the nation ever since. At times during those centuries, the country verged on bankruptcy. But in 1865, the royal family founded the casino — and in doing so, solved the nation's money problems in perpetuity.

Today's ruler is Prince Albert II. And therein lies another intriguing contrast. Albert, and virtually all Monégasques (the name for citizens) is devoutly Roman Catholic. In the heart of the community — discreetly distant from the casino but near the royal palace — is the modern, Cathedral of Our Lady Immaculate. Pope Leo XIV, made an apostolic visit to Monaco earlier this year. So, Monaco is Catholic to its core.

And yet it is common knowledge that while Albert and his wife, Charlene, Princess of Monaco, have twin children, he is also the admitted father of two other children, born to two other women.

And when it comes to the twins,

another contrast is apparent. This apparently modern country, which hosts Formula One race cars, and sundry state-of-the-art mega-yachts, is run on rules that date back to the Middle Ages. The twins are Alexandre Grimaldi and Jazmin Grace Grimaldi, but the heir to the throne is inevitably Alexandre, because when it comes to royalty in Monaco, males rule. (And neither of Albert's other two children should even dream about inheriting the throne because in this uber-conservative Roman Catholic nation, that is unthinkable.)

Let's go back to the cathedral, and to Albert's daughter, for a moment. Because the girl's middle name is no accident — her grandmother was the legendary Hollywood star, Grace Kelly, who left her thriving acting career while still in her 20's to marry Prince Ranier III. They were Albert's parents.

Both are buried in the cathedral. Visitors can stroll behind the high altar, to view a semi-circle of Grimaldi family tombs, the latest being those of Grace, who died in a car crash in 1982, and Ranier, who passed away in 2005.

We pondered, for a moment, this contrast between the glamour of Hollywood and the antiquated medieval reality of this unusual country. And then we strolled to a scenic lookout to view \$500-million yachts and the route of the Monaco Grand Prix. And we quickly realized: there is no other nation like this on the face of the earth.

*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](mailto:pknowles@golden.net).*



A statue of the late Prince Grace, in the beautiful gardens dedicated in her honour.



Although its population is small, Monaco's area is even smaller, so the streets are typically narrow and crowded.



The Royal Palace of Monaco, home of current ruler, Prince Albert II and his family.

(PAUL KNOWLES PHOTOS)

# Pride is locally grown

## County of Brant marks Pride Month with flag raising, community voices and a message of inclusion in downtown Paris

RUBY JONES  
Cultural Correspondent

While June is a month marked by several important observances — including National Indigenous History Month, Seniors Month and Recreation and Parks Month — Pride Month took centre stage in Paris on June 8 as the County of Brant raised the Pride flag at County Administration offices. It was a sunny afternoon and a group of people of all ages, from different organizations and all walks of life gathered for the festivities and flag raising, led by Mayor David Bailey. The ceremony carried special significance for Bailey, who served as emcee. Having attended the County's first Pride flag raising eight years ago, Bailey now marked what is expected to be his last in office as he prepares to step away from municipal politics at the end of his term.

A few community group leaders took the opportunity to address the crowd gathered and each speaker highlighted a different aspect of Pride Month, reflecting on progress made within the community while also acknowledging the work that still lies ahead. It was wonderful to receive an invitation to speak on behalf of Brant Pride and, as the co-founder and co-chair, my speech focused specifically on the support, respect and love we need to give to Two Spirit, Trans and Queer individuals (Queer not being used as an umbrella term but specifically to represent the 'Q' people in the 2SLGBTQIA+), especially since our cur-

rent political climate is very hostile and full of misinformation.

The second speaker of the event was Christine Wildman from Worqshop, also representing The Bridge Brant, who shared in their speech. "Years ago, when local advocates began working to create more visible, inclusive, and safer spaces for 2SLGBTQIA+ people in our community, we reached out to the County each year requesting that the Pride flag be raised. Each year, the answer was "no"—often without explanation and always without an opportunity for dialogue. In 2018, the County of Brant elected its first openly gay mayor, David Bailey. In 2019, he raised the Pride flag at the County for the first time. That moment represented more than a flag raising; it signaled a willingness to recognize and celebrate the diversity that has always existed within our rural communities," shared Wildman. County of Brant Public Library CEO, Kelly Bernstein, spoke on behalf of the library team, extending solidarity and the actionable promise to represent the rural 2SLGBTQIA+ community of Brant through their literature.

Faith leader, Reverend Michiko Brown spoke about the inspiring church service they and their Glen Morris congregation created to celebrate Pride and send the message of belonging throughout the County of Brant and beyond.

Before the flag was proudly hoisted, Mayor David Bailey shared a deeply personal address, speaking openly about his



(RUBY JONES PHOTO)

Community members, allies and elected officials gather outside the County Administration Building in Paris following the annual Pride flag-raising ceremony on June 8. The event recognized Pride Month and reaffirmed the County's commitment to fostering an inclusive, welcoming and respectful community for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions.

journey to the mayor's office, the challenges of growing up and serving in public life as a gay man, and the insights he gained throughout his two terms as mayor.

Gay men, including Mayor David Bailey, who lived through the HIV/AIDS crisis of the 1980s and 1990s endured a period of profound loss and hardship. Many watched friends and loved ones die while receiving little support from governments or institutions, relying instead on networks of friends and members of the lesbian community. The prominent placement of the "L" before the "G" in the LGBTQ+ acronym is often recognized as a tribute

to the compassion, advocacy and support many lesbians provided during that crisis. At the same time, those affected were forced to fight tirelessly for recognition, medical advancements, legal protections and basic human rights. With the struggles and achievements of past generations in mind, and an understanding that the work of building acceptance and inclusion continues, attendees watched as the Pride flag was raised in downtown Paris. The flag stood as a symbol of the County of Brant's 2SLGBTQIA+ community and a fitting reflection of the message displayed on the new Pride sign: Pride is locally grown.



# Paris & Area Real Estate

CONNECTING BUYERS AND SELLERS ACROSS THE PARIS REGION













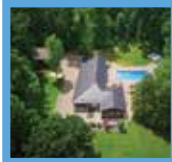
**RIVER REALTY**  
TEAM



**REMAX ESCARPMENT**  
REALTY INC., BROKERAGE  
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED



40 William Street Paris, ON, N3L 1L3 | [www.riverrealtyteam.ca](http://www.riverrealtyteam.ca)

 <div style="background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">BRIAN STOLP</div> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">MLS #: 40821032</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">\$1,150,000</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">20 ZAVARELLA CRT, PARIS 5 BEDS   4 BATHS</p>	 <div style="background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">SHELLY GRACEY</div> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">MLS #: 40821620</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">\$460,000</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">33 RICHMOND ST, BRANTFORD 3 BEDS   2 BATHS</p>	 <div style="background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">CALLUM THOMAS</div> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">MLS #: 40835841</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">\$1,465/MONTH</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">#1-302 COLBORNE ST, BRANTFORD 1 BED   1 BATH</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">REAL ESTATE AS IT SHOULD BE...</h2>
 <div style="background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">BRIAN STOLP</div> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">MLS #: 40821024</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">\$725,000</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">#203-7 GRAND RIVER ST N, PARIS 1 BED   1 BATH</p>	 <div style="background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">SHELLEY GRACEY</div> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">MLS #: 40822557</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">\$850,000</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">33 EDWARD AVE, ST. GEORGE 3 BEDS   2 BATHS</p>	 <div style="background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">ANDREA CLENDENING</div> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">MLS #: 40835506</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">\$1,400,000</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">193 KING EDWARD ST, PARIS 6 BEDS   5 BATHS</p>	 <div style="background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">ANDREA CLENDENING</div> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">MLS #: 40837543</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">\$875,000</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">21 IRONGATE DR, PARIS 4 BEDS   4 BATHS</p>
 <div style="background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">BRIAN STOLP</div> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">MLS #: 40821020</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">\$1,140,000</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">#302-7 GRAND RIVER ST N, PARIS 2 BEDS   2 BATHS</p>	 <div style="background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">BRIAN STOLP</div> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">MLS #: 40821681</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">\$1,249,900</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">117 ALBERT ST E, PLATTSVILLE 5 BEDS   4 BATHS</p>	 <div style="background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">BRIAN STOLP</div> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">MLS #: 40824332</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">\$999,900</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">102 OAK AVE, PARIS 4 BEDS   5 BATHS</p>	 <div style="background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">ANDREA CLENDENING &amp; JAYLEE VEY</div> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">MLS #: 40835045</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">\$1,625,000</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">131 MAPLE AVE N, BURFORD 5 BEDS   3 BATHS</p>

# Riddle

I travel across nations  
and unite millions of fans.  
I bring cheers to stadiums,  
flags to city streets,  
and dreams to every team.  
Players chase me for glory,  
but only one country can claim me.  
**What am I?**

*Answer: The FIFA World Cup Trophy*

# Sudoku

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

Solutions on page 18

# Word Scramble

ONRUTEMNTA

---

YDTAISMU

---

NIPMOAHC

---

DLORW UPC

---

*Answer: TOURNAMENT, STADIUM, CHAMPION, WORLD CUP*

Sponsored by:



# PET OF THE WEEK

## BERTHA

**Meet our Pet of the Week:**

Bertha always insists on sitting in the chair to help with her records when she comes to visit us. But who could resist this Beautiful Basset Hound!

*Stay tuned for more heartwarming stories every week from Paris Veterinary Clinic.*



# Word Search



## FIFA WORLD CUP ATHLETES

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

- MESSI
- RONALDO
- MBAPPE
- HAALAND
- YAMAL
- BELLINGHAM
- KANE
- NEYMAR
- VINIcius
- DEMBELE
- PEDRI
- GAVI
- HAKIMI
- MODRIC
- PULISIC
- DAVIES
- SALIBA
- VANDIJK
- GAKPO
- THURAM
- OLISE
- CHERKI
- DOUE
- MAIGNAN
- ALVAREZ
- LAUTARO
- MACALLISTER
- DEPAUL
- ROMERO
- MARTINEZ
- OSIMHEN
- MAHREZ
- VITINHA
- LEAO
- PALMER
- SAKA



# WEEKLY Horoscope

June 17 - June 23 2026

## ARIES

Mar 21 - Apr 20



Momentum builds, Aries. An unexpected opportunity encourages confidence and forward movement. Stay determined—it helps you overcome challenges and achieve meaningful progress ahead.

## TAURUS

Apr 21 - May 21



Stability comforts you, Taurus. Familiar routines provide reassurance and steady balance this week. Remain patient—it supports growth and encourages wise decisions ahead.

## GEMINI

May 22 - Jun 21



New ideas emerge, Gemini. An engaging conversation sparks curiosity and fresh inspiration. Stay open-minded—it encourages creativity and rewarding opportunities ahead.

## CANCER

Jun 22 - Jul 22



Comfort surrounds you, Cancer. A thoughtful gesture brings reassurance and emotional balance. Trust your feelings—it strengthens relationships and encourages understanding ahead.

## LEO

Jul 23 - Aug 23



Enthusiasm grows, Leo. Positive feedback inspires confidence and renewed motivation this week. Stay genuine—it attracts support and strengthens valuable connections ahead.

## VIRGO

Aug 24 - Sept 22



Practical thinking helps, Virgo. A simple solution brings clarity and renewed confidence. Trust yourself—it encourages progress and supports meaningful connections ahead.

## LIBRA

Sept 23 - Oct 23



Balance returns. A supportive conversation encourages understanding and emotional harmony. Stay open—it strengthens trust and supports important relationships ahead.

## SCORPIO

Oct 24 - Nov 22



Focus sharpens, Scorpio. Quiet determination reveals opportunities and valuable insight this week. Trust your instincts—it encourages confidence and steady growth ahead.

## SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23 - Dec 21



Adventure calls, Sagittarius. A new experience inspires optimism and fresh perspective. Follow your curiosity—it encourages rewarding moments and positive momentum ahead.

## CAPRICORN

Dec 22 - Jan 20



Persistence pays off, Capricorn. Consistent effort brings encouraging results and renewed confidence. Stay committed—it supports success and important goals ahead.

## AQUARIUS

Jan 21 - Feb 18



Innovation thrives, Aquarius. Fresh ideas attract interest and encouraging support this week. Trust your vision—it inspires progress and meaningful achievements ahead.

## PISCES

Feb 19 - Mar 20



Inner peace grows, Pisces. A reassuring moment brings clarity and emotional balance. Trust your intuition—it encourages calm choices and supportive connections ahead.

## FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

### JUNE 17

Kendrick Lamar, Rapper (39)

### JUNE 18

Paul McCartney, Rock Singer (84)

### JUNE 19

Zoe Saldña, Actress (48)

### JUNE 20

Nicole Kidman, Actress (59)

### JUNE 21

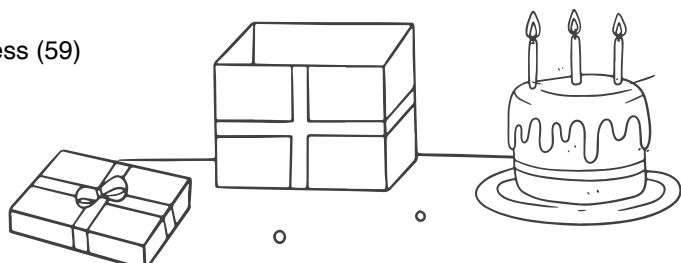
Chris Pratt, Actor (47)

### JUNE 22

Meryl Streep, Actress (77)

### JUNE 23

Selma Blair, Actress (54)



## Legion Market marks start of summer fun at Branch 29



(RUBYYY JONES PHOTO)

The success of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 29's biannual market depends on a dedicated team of volunteers working behind the scenes. Pictured outside the Legion are Vendor Crew members Terry Phipps, Marnie Seiveright, Bailey Phipps and Alana Marshall, who helped coordinate vendors and keep the day running smoothly. The market featured dozens of local vendors, a fundraising barbecue and community activities throughout the day.

## Powering the future of emergency care



(BRANT COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE SYSTEM PHOTO)

A massive new backup generator is lifted into place at Brantford General Hospital on June 10 as part of the Brant Community Healthcare System's Emergency Department Renovation Improvement Project. The critical infrastructure upgrade will provide advanced emergency power capacity to support future patient care and hospital operations. The installation comes as BCHS prepares to open its newly renovated Emergency Department waiting room and triage areas on June 23 following nearly 10 months of construction. The redesigned spaces feature a larger waiting room, three private triage rooms, a refreshed registration area, modern furnishings and equipment, and a new information desk aimed at improving patient flow, privacy, and the overall experience for patients and families.

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

## HEATING



**Wise Heating and A/C Ltd.**  
Serving Paris and area for over 70 years

**519-442-3431**  
info@wiseheating.ca

## MECHANIC



**50 Curtis Ave N, Paris**  
**519-442-4422**

Proudly Serving Paris & Area for the past 40 years

## RESTAURANT



**Homemade Burger & Fries**  
**ONLY \$12 - Tuesdays**  
Dine-in with beverage purchase

**CALL 519.442.2704**  
27 DUMFRIES ST, PARIS

## SAND & GRAVEL



Locally owned and operated by a proud Canadian family since 1947  
Hours of operation: Monday-Friday 7am-5pm  
**519-621-0771**

LOCATED AT 1368 BEKE ROAD  
CAMBRIDGE, ON N1R 5S5

## ROOFING



**PARIS ROOFING**

**519-442-0492**

## PLUMBING & HEATING



Plumbing, Heating & Excavating Inc.  
Princeton, ON  
Water Treatment | Wells & Pumps | Septic Services | Bin Rentals | Directional Drilling

Now Offering Full Electrical Services  
ECRA/ESA: #7018760

519-458-4488 | info@hunterplumbing.ca | www.hunterplumbing.ca

## FUNERAL HOME



FUNERAL HOME

Jason J. Vernooy

PARIS CHAPEL 519-442-3061 | AYR CHAPEL 519-632-8228

wkfh@rogers.com | wmkippfuneralhome.com

## HEATING & COOLING



Air Conditioning • Heating • Gas Fireplaces • Indoor Air Quality • Air Cleaners • Ventilation • Custom Ductwork • Tankless Water Heaters • Maintenance Plans • Installation and Services

**24 Hour Service**

Brantford - (519) 752-2250  
166 Grant St., Brantford, ON N3R 4B9  
info@comfortplusheatandcool.com

## DECOR



SALES DECORATING CENTRE  
"MORE THAN JUST A PAINT STORE"

**MORE THAN JUST A PAINT STORE**

MONDAY - SATURDAY 8 a.m - 3 p.m.  
42 Grand River St, North  
519-442-3152

ACCESS & PARKING AT BACK OF STORE

**THIS COULD BE YOUR AD HERE!**

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO!

## CUSTOM STONE FABRICATION



**BGQ BRANTFORD GRANITE & QUARTZ**

519-442-1400 | 535-B PARIS RD, PARIS  
WWW.BGQ.CA

## PHARMACY




25 Curtis Ave N., Paris  
(Located in the Cowan Community Health Hub)  
Tel: 519-750-1264

Independently Owned and Operated

DELIVERY AVAILABLE • PARIS' ONLY COMPOUNDING PHARMACY

## CLASSIFIEDS

EMAIL TO INQUIRE INFO@THEPARISINDEPENDENT.COM

### WANTED

I will pay cash for antiques and collectibles. Coca Cola, Pepsi or any pop company. Brewery items - Kuntz, Huether Labatts, etc. Old radios and gramophones, wristwatches, pocket watches, old fruit jars - Beaver Star, Bee Hive etc. Any old oil cans and signs - Red Indian, Supertest etc. Any small furniture. If you are moving or cleaning out stuff please contact me - 519-570-6920.

## PHARMACY



**NORTHVILLE PHARMACY**

Independently Owned Pharmacy  
Serving Paris & Area Since 1998

300 Grand River Street N., Paris  
Tel: 519-442-4283

Built around having what you need & delivering the service you deserve.

## SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

## QUIZ ANSWERS

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Gemini & Cancer | 6. 1381             |
| 2. D-Day           | 7. Mark Zuckerberg  |
| 3. Banff           | 8. The Corvus       |
| 4. Edward Teach    | 9. Metric system    |
| 5. Tavistock, ON   | 10. Bolshoi Theatre |

## PARIS STREET MARKET

Saturday July 11<sup>th</sup> 2026

FREE ENTRY

Downtown Paris Ontario

Shop from 60+ vendors

10AM - 5PM

SUPPORT LOCAL • SHOP SMALL

Hosted by: THE RUSTIC PALM

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EMAIL TO INQUIRE [INFO@THEPARISINDEPENDENT.COM](mailto:INFO@THEPARISINDEPENDENT.COM)

## THURSDAY, JUNE 18

**Telephone City Musical Society Music in the Park Series** - Enjoy an evening of free live music at Paris Lions Park with the Telephone City Musical Society Music in the Park series beginning at 6:45 pm. This week features Layla Staats. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, relax outdoors, and enjoy great community music all month long.

## TUESDAY, JUNE 23

**Knights of Columbus Monthly Meeting** - on Tuesday, 23th at 7:30 PM in the Sacred Heart Parish hall at 17 Washington Street, Paris.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

**Paris Lions Club is Celebrating its 95th Anniversary** - with a party at Lion's Park on Canada Day. Visit Lion's Park from 10 am to 5 pm for free hot dogs, face painting, live entertainment, character artists, princesses and Doug the Great!

## FRIDAY, JULY 10

**County of Brant's Movies in the Park series** - offers a delightful way to enjoy summer evenings under the stars. Visit Mount Pleasant Park on July 10 for a viewing of 'Hoppers.' Bring your lawn chair, blankets and snacks, along with a non-perishable food donation for the local food bank.

## SATURDAY, JULY 11

**Downtown Paris Street Market** - from 10 am to 5 pm. Free entry. Support local, shop local. Hosted by the Rustic Palm

## THURSDAY, JULY 16

**Telephone City Musical Society Music in the Park Series** - Enjoy an evening of free live music at Paris Lions Park with the Telephone City Musical Society Music in the Park series beginning at 6:45 pm. This week features Avery Raquel. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, relax outdoors, and enjoy great community music all month long.

## MONDAY, JULY 20 - FRIDAY, JULY 24

**Summer Kids Camp Paris Baptist Church** - Join our detective squad and hunt for clues to uncover the truth of who Jesus is! July 20 - 24 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Free Program Ages 5-12. Register now at [parisbaptistchurch.org](http://parisbaptistchurch.org).

## No injuries reported at Health Hub accident



(GEORGE LE GRESLEY PHOTO)

Paris Station firefighters responded to an emergency call at the Cowan Community Health Hub on Wednesday, June 10. Fortunately, no injuries were reported, with damage limited to a park bench. The incident highlighted the swift response and professionalism of local first responders.

# discover

THE QUEENSVIEW DIFFERENCE



For over a decade, Queensview has been **delivering personalized, attentive care** that truly feels like home with more support and more fun!

Here you'll find a **caring community** where your needs are met with kindness, your choices are respected, and **care is at the heart of everything we do.**

**VISIT US TO EXPERIENCE  
THE WARMTH  
OF THE COMMUNITY  
FOR YOURSELF.**



70 King Edward Street, Paris • 226-457-0682  
[life@queensviewrc.ca](mailto:life@queensviewrc.ca) • [Queensviewrc.ca](http://Queensviewrc.ca)

**OFFERING 65+ LIVING, SHORT-TERM STAYS,  
CONVALESCENT AND PERSONALIZED CARE.**

# A SAFER ONTARIO MEANS



# PARKS WITHOUT ENCAMPMENTS

Learn how we're  
protecting the province  
at [ontario.ca/SaferOntario](https://ontario.ca/SaferOntario)

Paid for by the Government of Ontario



PROTECT  
ONTARIO

Ontario

