

Exeter Examiner

VOL. 3 • ISSUE 7

Thursday, June 4, 2026

FREE

Finkbeiner Financial | **Manulife Wealth**

Insurance | Investments

Dan Finkbeiner, CIM®
519-860-8774
www.finkbeinerfinancial.ca

Manulife, Manulife & Stylized M Design, Stylized M Design and Manulife Wealth are trademarks of The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company and are used by it, and by its affiliates, under license.

COMPLETE WATER TREATMENT & PURIFICATION

Lifetime WATER PRODUCTS CANADA INC.

Mark Heimrich
Owner/Operator - Since 1986

213 Carling St., Exeter | www.lifetimewater.ca | 519-235-0699

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
AGRICULTURAL • RURAL

Drinking Water Systems • Distillers • Reverse Osmosis
Iron/Sulphur/Chlorine Filters • Softeners/Conditioners
Pressure Systems • Pressure Boosting Pumps (Rural + Town)
Ultra Violet • Sump Pumps (AC & Battery Backup) & More!



Beachfest returns with a youth-focused kickoff to summer

DAN ROLPH

Editor

The Grand Bend Optimist Club's Beachfest will be back at the main beach on June 20, but this year's event will focus on being a family-friendly affair.

Dubbed "Beachfest Kids Edition – Kickoff to Summer," the annual event is bringing with it a new vision that Grand Bend Optimist Club president Paul Rivard said stays true to the organization's priorities.

"Over the past number of years we've been shifting over from just beer and bands to a more family event," said Rivard. "The Optimist Club is here to support the youth. It aligns with who we are more, and we're able to bring relatable things there."

Since Beachfest first hit Grand Bend's main beach in 2017, the Optimist Club has added a "Kids Zone" with inflatables, as well as the popular karaoke competition that was introduced to the event last year.

This year, karaoke will be back on the Rotary Stage, and about a dozen contestants will be invited onto the stage. Singers will be judged by a panel that includes music industry professionals for a grand prize of \$800, while the runner up will receive \$200.

However, the talented singer who wins the hearts of the judges will also be offered the chance to sing O Canada during Grand Bend's Canada Day celebrations.

CONTINUED TO PAGE 8



(DAN ROLPH PHOTO)

SIX FIRE STATIONS RESPONDED TO THE GRAND BEND FIRE

A May 22 fire at the Moffatt and Powell RONA location in Grand Bend has destroyed the local hardware store and caused an estimated \$10 million in damage.

Fire destroys Grand Bend RONA, causes \$10 million in damage

DAN ROLPH

Editor

A staple in the Grand Bend business community has been left in ruins after a fire on Friday, May 22.

Firefighters were called to the Moffatt and Powell RONA on Ontario Street South around 2 p.m.

According to Lambton Shores fire chief Sean Smith,

everyone inside the building at the time made it out to safety.

"No employees or customers reported any injuries, and no firefighters were injured while doing firefighting activities," said Smith.

Smith estimated the fire caused about \$10 million in damage. He said four Lambton Shores stations responded to the call, as well as South Huron's Exeter

CONTINUED TO PAGE 5

Set Yourself Free with Huron Shores Area Transit

SUMMER EXPRESS BUS BEGINS SAT., JUNE 27

BOOK ONLINE STARTING JUNE 15

4 EXTRA TRIPS EVERY SAT. & SUN.
Grand Bend \$6 / London \$12

In Exeter, the Express bus stops at Walper St @ McDonald's stop #2240

Children 12 and under ride free with an adult

Routes, Schedules & Fares Information Online

HuronShoresAreaTransit.ca | 1-888-465-0783



COMMUNITY

South Huron council split on boosting development charges

JOHN MINER

Examiner Reporter

Split on whether to triple development charges, South Huron council is asking for more information before making a final decision.

A consulting company hired to analyze the cost of future development estimates that South Huron's current development charges of \$6,467 for a single-detached house need to be raised to \$19,131.

The development charges are intended to cover the additional costs the municipality will face for water, sewer, fire protection, parks and recreation and services related to roads as a result of future development.

If the higher development rates aren't charged, it is estimated the municipality will forego \$545,000 a year in revenue, money that will likely have to be raised from property taxpayers, Tina Chitsinde, a senior project coordinator with Watson and Associates, told a special council meeting in May.

The Watson and Associates' report indicated that neighbouring Lucan and Middlesex Centre currently have development charges set above \$40,000 for a single detached house, while North Middlesex and North Perth are more than \$30,000.

Developers with subdivision projects in South Huron have come out strongly against the proposed increase.

In a letter to council, Mohamed Abuhajar, project coordinator for INCON, developer of the Buckingham Estates and Windermere Community subdivisions in Exeter, said the increase would make lots commercially unsellable.

"This increase is not merely excessive - it is economically destructive and will have immediate, irreversible consequences for our projects, the builders we partner with, and the long-term growth objectives the municipality is actively pursuing," Abuhajar wrote.

Don de Jong, President of Tridon Properties Ltd., wrote that his company understands and supports the need for the municipality to plan for growth and to ensure that infrastructure is appropriately funded.

But de Jong said they are concerned about the magnitude of the proposed increases and escalation in costs for certain services.

"These increases, when layered together, represent a substantial new cost burden on residential development that will inevitably be reflected in higher housing prices for future residents."

Opposing the proposed development charge increase, councillors Marissa

Vaughan and Wendy McLeod-Haggitt said some of the projects used in the calculation will likely not be needed, given the slowing housing market in South Huron.

Vaughan pointed to the plan for a \$9-million water tower to serve the east side of Exeter by 2039.

"To change the development fee numbers today for growth that may or may not occur 10 to 15 years out, I don't think it is realistic," Vaughan said.

McLeod-Haggitt said there have been foreclosures and forced sales of homes in Exeter with one local law firm handling 10 home foreclosures since January. If people are losing their homes, they are not going to be going out and buying new ones.

"Maybe we need to pull back on some projects, reschedule them, and move them around and not be as aggressive as some of the projects have been."

Coun. Ted Oke said a 300 per cent increase in development charges is more than he is willing to stomach at the moment. He suggested looking at removing some municipal projects from the calculations or finding a way of phasing in the charges.

Oke said South Huron also needs to ensure it is competitive with the development charges in neighbouring munic-

ipalities.

Arguing for raising the charges to the suggested level, Coun. Aaron Neeb said the \$19,000 cost reflects the actual additional costs to the municipality of the development.

"For a \$500,000 house, the proposed charge adds 3.8 per cent to the costs, an amount that does not necessarily make it more or less affordable," he said. "But it will make it less affordable for our property owners that have to pay that extra tax or user fees."

Deputy Mayor Jim Dietrich said he didn't know how the municipality could advance without the updated charges. Not only does South Huron need to cover the costs of pipes, but there will also be additional expenses for fire protection, recreation, and roads.

"It will end up in taxes if we don't move forward with these charges," he said.

Council passed a resolution asking staff for a report on the actual population growth of the municipality for 2024-25, the impact of removing a \$9-million water tower and \$20-million wastewater treatment plant upgrade from the development charges calculation, and details of the implementation dates and their expiry for development charges levied by neighbouring municipalities.










KIDS EDITION
KICK OFF TO SUMMER
GRAND BEND

Saturday, June 20, 2026
10am – 8pm

ON STAGE: Karaoke Idol 1pm-3pm
Taylor Swift Tribute 3:30pm

Kids Zone includes inflatables, a sand castle contest, skateboarding demo and more.

Plus, enjoy the OVC Beach Volleyball Tournament from 8am-4pm.

SOMETHING FOR ALL AGES. FAMILY FUN!







THANK YOU TO THIS YEAR'S BEACHFEST SPONSORS.

The Pedlar Team
REMAX
Bluewater Realty Inc.

MC
McCANN
GROUP

TD

NOFRILLS
98 Ontario Street South, Grand Bend

Sobeys
Grand Bend

CRABBY
JOE'S
BAR • GRILL

THE MUNICIPALITY OF
LAMBTON SHORES

Memory Care at Goderich Place



This is what memory care is all about.

It's not to say that dementia isn't an emotional and challenging issue.

When you see the human instead of the condition you don't see sadness.

You see Life. You see History. You see Achievements.

You see Family and you see Love.

And that's how we see it at Goderich Place.

We can help you with the challenges you are facing.



Goderich Place

RETIREMENT RESIDENCE

*Call Jennifer Puckett
to Arrange a Tour*

519-524-4243 EXT 224

30 BALVINA DRIVE E., GODERICH

ASK ABOUT OUR MEMORY CARE WING

www.goderichplace.ca

EDITORIAL

Spring is finally here and it's a breath of fresh air



DAN ROLPH
Editor

It has been a long time coming, but spring has finally arrived.

I don't mean the official changing of the season that we mark on our calendars in mid-March each year. I think we are all more than aware of how often that date proves op-

timistic, at least as far as the weather is concerned.

Of course, I'm referring to the long-awaited shift in temperatures that makes many of us let out a collective sigh of relief as we say "goodbye" to chilly winter days and snow tires and "hello" to some much-needed time outdoors.

This year, our region has had a particularly challenging time shaking off the remnants of winter. Waking up to icy days in April and barren trees in May has felt like a lingering threat, leaving us wondering if we've really had our last snowfall of the season.

But now, it appears that time is behind us. The forecasts are full of warm days, the trees

are green and the silence of the cold has been replaced with the sounds of rustling leaves and the calls of birds.

For my wife and I, birds have become the focal point of our spring after we installed a set of bird feeders at our home.

So far, it seems like several grackles have been attempting to claim our feeders as their own, but a surprisingly fearless pair of mourning doves have become our home's protectors, keeping the grackles at bay and leaving room for the smaller birds to get their fill.

It might seem like a trivial thing, but a long winter has a way of making us appreciate these moments in a way I feel

we often lose sight of later in the year.

I think that may be one of the best parts of spring. It renews our appreciation for the world around us. It makes us yearn for the little joys that we can forget to value. After months of bundling up and bracing against the cold, there's something comforting about seeing life return to the world around us.

In this modern age there are always plenty of distractions competing for our attention, and it's easy to let seasons pass without really taking them in.

But if spring offers us anything, maybe it's a reminder to step outside, look around and make room for a few simple

pleasures before we're once again trapped inside.

Whatever your best version of spring looks like, I hope you can find a few moments to enjoy it.

Correction

The May 21 issue of the Exeter Examiner included the article "Memorial Windows of Crediton United Church: Great love hath no man..." by David Yates on page 22. The article misidentifies the church that is the focus of the story. The memorial stained-glass windows are found in Centralia United Church at 197 Victoria Drive. The Exeter Examiner regrets the publication of this error.

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

Exeter Examiner
N E W S P A P E R

Publisher
Stewart Grant • stew@granthaven.com

Editor
Dan Rolph • dan@granthaven.com

Graphic Design
Kyrrah Smith • info@exeterexaminer.com

Business Development
Heather Dunbar • heather@granthaven.com

Billing Administrator
Jen Gaetan • jen@granthaven.com

Contributors
Deb Lord, John Miner, Samantha Lawson, Bob Heywood, Amy Wilhelm, Colin Carmichael, Paul Knowles, Judy Finkbeiner Johnson, Barry Johnson, Claire Jones

36 Water St. St. Marys, ON, PO Box 2310 N4X 1A2
info@exeterexaminer.com | 519.284.0041 | granthaven.com

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

Exeter Examiner
N E W S P A P E R

Have something to say?
Submit your Letter to the Editor to us at info@exeterexaminer.com

Exeter Examiner
N E W S P A P E R

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 **Exeter Examiner**
N E W S P A P E R

SCAN TO READ THE ONLINE PAPER
www.granthaven.com



Fire destroys Grand Bend RONA, causes \$10 million in damage

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

and Dashwood stations that were on the scene with an aerial truck.

Taming the blaze was an hours-long affair, and Smith said firefighters were at the scene until about 6 a.m. the following morning, when they turned the property back over to the owners.

As of May 27, Smith said the investigation into the cause of the fire was ongoing and that he couldn't provide a date for when that investigation would be concluded.

Over the years the building has housed many businesses, including hardware stores, beauty salons, grocery stores and more. Before becoming a RONA location, it was Pro Pineland Hardware. It then became RONA Davies Hardware, which was eventually acquired by Moffatt and Powell RONA in 2023, making

it the 10th location under the regional banner.

In a social media post, Moffatt and Powell thanked first responders for their work in combating the fire, as well as the community members who have shown their support.

"Your kindness and encouragement have meant a great deal to our team."

Deputy Mayor Dan Sageman also took to social media to look back on the building's history in the community while recognizing the work of local firefighters.

"Seeing the scene firsthand I was very impressed and proud of our Lambton Shores firefighters," he said. "The amount of training and practice that these dedicated men and women have put in was evident in a very organized tactical response."



The building in Grand Bend has housed many businesses over the years, including hardware stores, hair salons, grocery stores and more.



(DAN ROLPH PHOTOS)

In addition to four Lambton Shores stations, two South Huron stations responded to the fire, bringing with them the department's aerial truck.

Goodbye Bulky Recliner Hello Comfort

The Divani **\$2699**
100% Genuine Leather
Power Recliner
Available in four colours
In-stock & available for immediate delivery



The Pilot **\$1999**
100% Genuine Leather Chair & Ottoman
Special Purchase
Available in four colours
In-stock & available for immediate delivery



FREE
Delivery to
Exeter
Weekly

The Easy **\$1999**
100% Genuine Leather Chair & Ottoman
Special Purchase
Available in four colours
In-stock & available for immediate delivery





Senior of the Week



Our Senior of the Week is Evelyn MacDonald. Evelyn turned 100 on June 1 and is described by her loved ones as a strong, independent woman who is deeply devoted to her family. She has shown through her strength and stories what it means to be resilient and is a true matriarch in her family.

Happy birthday, Evelyn!

If you would like to nominate someone for Senior of the Week, contact us at info@exeterexaminer.com

Exeter Examiner Photo Quiz



Who are you looking at?
By Judy and Barry Johnson



My webbed feet give me excellent propulsion when diving deep into fresh water for fish, my favourite meal. I incubate eggs by wrapping my webs around them in the nest. I am an Ontario native that often gets a bad rap.
HINT: You will find me perched on branches on the water. I spread my huge wings to dry them. Unlike duck feathers coated with oil, mine are not waterproof, making it easier for me to dive.

This week's answers are found on pg. 30

WEEKEND QUIZ

By Jake Grant

1. The Appalachian mountains span across what two countries?
2. What 3-day music festival took place in upstate New York 1969?
3. Who wrote the novel "To kill a Mockingbird"?
4. What planet in our solar system is known for its rings?
5. What country was the first to adopt bitcoin as legal tender?
6. A Permanent Resident Card is also commonly known as a what?
7. What year was Wikipedia founded?
8. What company owns YouTube?
9. Who was the first actor to play James Bond?
10. What does AIPAC stand for?

This week's answers are found on pg. 30

We Manufacture Cushions!

Casual Industries Inc. Outdoor Furniture
30,000 sq.ft of Outdoor Furniture

VISIT OUR Showroom

Wicker - Cast Aluminum - CR Plastics - Teak

Specializing in outdoor furniture for over 40 years

36525 Dashwood Rd
Grand Bend, ON
519-238-2110
www.gocasual.ca

Eat Local. Celebrate Local.

Robinson Fresh Café

Robinson Fresh Café & Catering

Serving breakfast, lunch & dinner
Fully licensed for alcohol

Show this ad to enjoy 15% off your food bill

Catering for:
• Weddings • Family Celebrations
• Corporate Events & Community Gatherings

519.235.1106
robinsonsfreshcafe@hay.net
134 Main St. S Exeter, ON N0M 1S1

Hay Swamp hive hit by black bear

JOHN MINER
Examiner Reporter

South Huron beekeeper Aaron Neeb considers himself lucky that a black bear destroyed only one of his hives.

Other beekeepers have not been that fortunate.

Neeb, who runs three bee yards near Exeter, thought at first one of his hives in Hay Swamp had been destroyed by vandals.

The frames had been pulled out of the hive and the box dragged into the bush. Insulation was torn off two other hives.

The remaining 21 hives in the yard were untouched.

Neeb took pictures and contacted a provincial bee inspector, who determined the culprit was a bear.

“It is one of those things I would have never expected to happen,” said Neeb. “I’m thankful it wasn’t worse.”

He has seen photos of bear damage to hives in Bruce County and further north where all the boxes were knocked off and frames pulled out.

“They’ll go after everything they can.”

While bears will eat the honey, what they are really after is the protein from the young brood in the hive and the larva.

In the case of his hives, the bear hasn’t returned for more. He believes the incident was an opportunistic situation where the bear spotted the hives, got

into one, and once they had enough, kept moving.

At the time of the demolition of his hive in mid-May a mother bear and two cubs were reportedly spotted in the Hay Swamp area.

Neeb plans to protect his hives with solar-powered electric fencing and also ensure he doesn’t leave empty frames or material in the area that might attract bears.

He has also posted a warning on Facebook that people living in the immediate area, or who walk their dogs there, should take these extra precautions:

- Keep pets on a leash at all times. A dog surprising a mama bear is a recipe for trouble.

- Secure your property. Bring in your bird feeders, secure your trash cans, and keep a close eye on outdoor pets.

- Give them space. If you see them, do not approach. Turn around calmly and leave the area.

The black bear incident in South Huron comes at a time when the province is considering a proposal to boost its bear population target for Bruce and Grey Counties.

The plan, posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario, would set a target to increase the bear population in the counties from the current level of approximately 270 bears to a range of 400 to 600.



(JOHN MINER PHOTO)

Beekeeper Aaron Neeb inspects one of his hives in the bee yard where a black bear recently visited and destroyed a hive. A mother bear and two cubs have been spotted in the area.



1st



ANNIVERSARY EVENT!

Join us in celebrating our Farm Store’s 1st Anniversary!!

SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM

FUN FOR EVERYONE!

Live music with **Bradley Hale**

- Free samples
- Local vendors
- Photo Booth
- In-store specials
- Great prizes
- SO much more!**

35495 Creamery Road, Ailsa Craig, ON
 FMI: www.vanoschfarms.com

Bluewater Active Living!

Municipality of

Bluewater

Upcoming Bluewater Recreation Programs

- June 12th We Lend a Hand Showing 1pm @ Hensall Community Centre - Limited Tickets Available
- June 13th Writers Workshop 10:30am @ Bayfield Library
- June 17th Make & Take Workshop 6:30pm @ Hensall Community Centre

Wellness Classes


- Mondays Yoga with Robert June 8 & 15th -7pm @Hensall Community Centre
- Tuesdays Fitness For Life Livestream June 9 - 23 Level 2 9:30am, Level 1 11am @ Hensall Community Centre
- Wednesdays Yoga with MJ June 3 - July 15th 7pm @ Bayfield Community Centre
- Thursdays Chair Yoga June 4 - June 25th 1pm @ Hensall Community Centre

Contact the Recreation Coordinator at 519-280-0103 or recoordinator@municipalityofbluewater.ca for more information or to register.

For monthly updates on Bluewater Programs and Events subscribe to our monthly Active Living Newsletter.

Email “Subscribe” to recoordinator@municipalityofbluewater.ca

REGISTER TODAY



Bluewater Joins the ParticipACTION Community Challenge

The Municipality of Bluewater is proud to be participating in the ParticipACTION Community Challenge this June as part of Recreation Month. The national challenge encourages communities across Canada to get active and compete for the title of Canada’s Most Active Community and a chance to win \$100,000 to support local recreation and sport initiatives.

Throughout the month, Bluewater Recreation will be offering a variety of free and affordable programs and activities for all ages and abilities. From fitness classes and drop-in youth sports to playground popups and family activities, there are many opportunities for residents to get moving and involved.

Local organizations, community groups, workplaces, and teams are also encouraged to participate by tracking and logging their activity minutes to help contribute to Bluewater’s overall total in the challenge.

Residents can visit the Municipality of Bluewater website for program information and schedules, or stop by the Zurich Municipal Office to pick up a printed Move Bluewater schedule.

Let’s move more together and show Canada what an active community Bluewater can be!

Exeter Christian Reformed Church celebrates 75 years

EXETER EXAMINER STAFF

Staff Contribution

Exeter Christian Reformed Church marked 75 years in the community in April, setting aside a weekend to celebrate the milestone.

The festivities began on Friday, April 24, when churchgoers spent an evening at the South Huron Recreation Centre for a family skate, followed by the annual "Youth Against the Church Council" hockey game.

The evening at the rink also served as a fundraiser for the church's youth group, which will be going to Lethbridge, Alta. this summer for a mission trip.

The church then held a banquet on Saturday, April 25, which

was followed by a morning service and luncheon on Sunday, April 26.

Throughout the festivities, five past ministers attended.

"It was a wonderful time of fellowship with lots of opportunities to share stories," the church stated in a press release.

Programs at the church will pause over the summer and will resume in the fall. An outdoor service is planned for Sunday, July 26, at MacNaughton Park in Exeter, and Vacation Bible School will be held Aug. 4 to 7 for children in junior kindergarten to Grade 6. Attendance is free.

The week will conclude with a community breakfast on Saturday, Aug. 8.



(EXETER CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH PHOTO)

Exeter Christian Reformed Church marked its 75th anniversary in the community with a weekend of festivities, including a family skate and a banquet.

Beachfest returns with a youth focused kickoff to summer

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Rivard said last year's competition also found their singer of the national anthem for Canada Day.

"We did it last year, and it was a hit," said Rivard. "It ended up being a talented girl from Grand Bend. She was amazing, and she sang a cappella for O Canada in front of thousands of people. It was awesome."

Those interested in participating in the competition can register online by sub-

mitting a video clip or audio recording of themselves singing, as well as a selection of songs they'd like to perform during the event.

In addition to the day's music being a test of local talent, the karaoke competition will be followed by Carla Sacco's tribute to Taylor Swift and Katy Perry.

Other offerings being brought to Grand Bend as part of Beachfest will include a sandcastle contest, a skateboarding demo and a beach volleyball tournament.

While speaking about the local Optimists, Rivard said they are a group of residents who love to support their community.

"It takes people to put events like this together," he said. "We're a small club that's very strong."

Soon after Beachfest, the Optimists will be back at the Rotary Stage and the main beach on July 1 for Grand Bend's Canada Day celebrations. This year's event will feature music by Okama, Af-

rica DRC Music Band, Jaboah and Journey-men of Soul.

The evening will be capped off by a fireworks show at 10 p.m. that the club calls "southwestern Ontario's largest," which can be viewed on the beach or by boat on the lake.

For more information about the Grand Bend Optimist Club, or to register for the Beachfest Karaoke Idol competition, visit grandbendoptimistclub.ca.

 <p>226-423-3028 info@exeterbia.com</p>	<p>Exeter BIA Bucks Are Available!</p> <p>Access over 20+ local businesses with these local dollar gift certificates!</p> <p>This shop local program is dedicated to celebrating and supporting the vibrant businesses in Exeter.</p> <p>Simply purchase your BIA Bucks at the Libro Credit Union Branch</p>	<p>in Exeter.</p> <p>Check out all the businesses supporting this exciting campaign on our website: exeterontario.com</p> <p>- Exeter BIA Bucks</p> <p>From dining, shopping and local services they are great gifts, unique client/staff giveaways, or for the guy that shovelled your driveway this year 🐾</p>	 <p>Please note: During Construction Season, all businesses are open for business! Thanks for Supporting Local</p>
<p>EXETER MASSAGE and INTEGRATIVE CARE</p> <p>Care that looks beyond symptoms and listens for <i>your body is asking for.</i></p> <p>We offer hands-on therapy within a truly integrative model of care, where practitioners work together and treatments evolve with you, supporting what your body needs in each moment, both within our clinic and beyond it.</p> <p>Services offered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual Osteopathy • Registered Chinese Medicine Acupuncture • Traditional Glass Cupping • Registered Reflexology • Counselling • Scar Release Therapy • Indian Head Massage (non-RMT) • R.E.M.S. Bone Scan <p>Because big change in healthcare often begins quietly, in small towns, with people who care deeply enough to do things differently.</p> <p>exeter.rmt@gmail.com 519-235-1001 exetermassagetherapy.ca</p>	 <p>MacLeans Home Hardware</p> <p>MACLEAN'S SOURCE FOR SPORTS</p> <p>TRAILER SALES</p> <p>EXETER, ON 519-235-0800 110 Main St. N.</p> <p>GRAND BEND, ON 519-238-8282 70948 Bluewater Hwy.</p>  <p>MacLeans Home Hardware Building Centre Grand Bend</p>	 <p>Book Now To Be Inked Up By Summer!</p> <p>Keep your art local! Specializing in custom tattoos, dot work + fine lines.</p> <p>Black Squirrel Tattoo blackssquirreltattoo@gmail.com (519) 318-3478 490 Main St. S. Exeter, ON</p>	 <p>CUSTOM COVERS we bring our store to your door</p> <p>Custom Window Coverings Shades, Shutters & Blinds for Every Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bed and Home Accessories • Complimentary Home Consultation • Professional Installation • PowerView Automation Specialists • Repairs <p>(519) 235-2444 415 Main Street South, Exeter, ON Experts@customcoversontario.ca customcoversblinds.ca</p>  <p>Hunter Douglas Aura® Illuminated Shades Revolutionary, stylish window treatments designed to create their own captivating light.</p>

Lambton Shores appoints new fire chief

EXETER EXAMINER STAFF

Staff Contribution

Lambton Shores has appointed Sean Smith as fire chief for Lambton Shores fire and emergency services.

The announcement follows a recent leadership transition within the department as former fire chief James Marshall pursues a new professional opportunity.

In a press release, the municipality said Smith brings extensive experience and a long history of service with the department.

He joined the department in 2010 as an on-call firefighter with the Forest station before being promoted to captain in 2015. In 2021, he joined the municipality in a full-time role as manager of bylaw enforcement and later assumed the role of deputy fire chief of training in 2023.

As deputy chief of training, Smith played an important role in firefighter development and operational readiness. Under his leadership, Lambton Shores firefighters successfully achieved all provincially mandated training and certification requirements within the required timelines.

As fire chief, Smith will provide leadership that supports the continued delivery of fire and emergency services to the community.

“Sean has demonstrated strong leadership throughout his time with the fire

department and brings valuable operational experience to this role,” said Lambton Shores Mayor Doug Cook. “Council and I are confident that he will provide steady leadership for the department and continue building on the strong foundation currently in place as we grow as a municipality.”

Smith officially stepped into the role on May 23, 2026.

“I’m honoured to step into the role of fire chief and continue serving my community with the dedicated members of Lambton Shores fire and emergency services,” said Smith. “It has been a privilege to work under chief Marshall’s leadership and contribute to the progress our department has made in recent years and to witness firsthand the dedication our firefighters bring to serving this community.

“I am excited to build on that progress and about the future of Lambton Shores fire and emergency services. I look forward to working collaboratively with our members, municipal staff, council and the community to ensure we continue delivering professional, reliable and effective emergency services for years to come.”

The municipality also recognized and thank former fire chief James Marshall for his contributions and leadership during his time with Lambton Shores.

During his tenure, Marshall was a valued member of the leadership team and helped shape and strengthen the fire



(MUNICIPALITY OF LAMBTON SHORES PHOTO)

Sean Smith has been appointed as the new fire chief in Lambton Shores.

service. Through a focus on community risk reduction initiatives and long-term capital planning, his leadership helped position the fire department to meet both the current and future needs of our community.

“We are grateful for James’ dedication and leadership during his time

with the Municipality,” said Cook. “His contributions have been transformative within the fire service and have established a strong foundation for continued success in the years ahead. On behalf of council and the community, we thank him and wish him continued success in this next opportunity.”

COME DRIVE BUS FOR US

**Training available
today!**

**Get ready for School in
September.**



Contact Us

Exeter: 519-235-0450

MURPHY
Owned & Operated By J. & T. Murphy Limited.

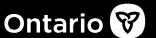
Now Hiring

Clinton, Exeter and Seaforth

Apply Online at MurphyBus.ca

June is Seniors Month Ontario Seniors — Let's Get Moving

ontario.ca/SeniorsMonth



Bayfield communal garden aims to tackle food insecurity

SAMANTHA LAWSON

Examiner Reporter

A new communal garden is about to break ground in Bayfield with the intention of bringing community members together to grow food for each other.

The garden will be located at 2 Jane Street in Bayfield, behind the building that houses the food bank.

Owner and lead facilitator of Seeds Rooted, Janneke Vorstveld, is the driving force behind the project.

Vorstveld said the idea for the garden first came to her when she was thinking of ways to support the Bayfield Food Bank.

"I think a lot of us get drugged down by everything that's happening and we don't know what to do, and I thought: I can grow food. If I can help with anything I can help with food security," Vorstveld said.

Vorstveld has been an avid gardener for over 20 years and said community gardens can produce an average of 1.43 kilograms of produce per square metre.

With the rising cost of living and increased demand at food banks, the garden will donate 50 per cent or more of the harvested food to those in need.

Vorstveld said the aim is to provide an immersive and intimate space that cultivates a deeper sense of

community and connection.

"I'm just the one who I feel like is lighting the spark, but for this flame to grow it needs to be community oriented, there needs to be community volunteers and community support and without that it won't be successful," Vorstveld said.

The communal garden will be comprised of four raised planter boxes for now, including one wheelchair accessible box that is being built by Goderich high school students.

"We figure that if we start small and it's successful, and people see what we're trying to do, then it will grow naturally without a problem from here," Vorstveld said.

Community members looking to donate to the project can find "wish lists" set up at Home Hardware in Goderich for items such as wood and screws, as well as at Gold Coast Landscaping in Bayfield for soil. Customers can purchase a needed item and leave it with the store, knowing exactly what the money is going towards.

Cash donation jars can also be found at six locations around Bayfield: Shopbike Coffee, Parkside Sandwiches and Variety, Paula's Pastry Shop, Captain Harry's, and Rosie's Ice Cream Shoppe.

"I really do think that if we come together as a community, we can put a dent in food insecurity in Huron County. If we come together, we can feed each other," Vorstveld said.



JUNE IS SENIORS MONTH
Celebrate with us!

DELMARFOODS

SENIOR DISCOUNT DAYS
EVERY THURSDAY
25 S Service Rd, St. Marys, ON
519 349 3022

JUNE IS SENIORS MONTH



With sincere appreciation for the seniors who continue to enrich communities across Huron-Bruce.



LISA THOMPSON
MPP - Huron-Bruce

lisa.thompsonco@pc.ola.org
lisathompsonmpp.ca

LIVE WELL WITH PHARMASAVE®

MON-FRI 9AM - 6PM
• SAT 9AM - 4PM • SUN CLOSED

SENIORS DAY EVERY WEDNESDAY

- Easy Prescription Transfers,
- MedChecks,
- Blister Packaging,
- Vaccinations
- Free Delivery

GRAND BEND PHARMACY
46 Ontario St. S, Grand Bend
519-238-6506 • 855-338-6506

Exeter Examiner

SCAN TO READ THE ONLINE PAPER

www.granthaven.com



June is Seniors Month Ontario Seniors — Let's Get Moving

ontario.ca/SeniorsMonth



Barn quilts celebrate past, present, perseverance and people

JUDY FINKBEINER JOHNSON

Examiner Correspondent

An all-season treat in our area is al fresco art including colourful barn quilts. Primarily appearing on barns in rural areas, these intricate quilt designs can also be seen in villages and towns. They can be found on houses, businesses, cottages, museums, outbuildings like sheds and even in free-standing frames.

Ontario has hundreds of barn quilts — silent storytellers that celebrate the history of people and places over generations, their legacies and spirit.

After clearing the trees from fertile Crown land for growing crops and building log homes, early settlers built large barns on the farms. These people made a one-way trip across the Atlantic, coming from Europe and the British Isles to start a new life in what had been declared the Province of Canada by Britain in 1841.

Built to last for generations, barns had two storeys. They housed livestock on the ground floor. The upper level's mows for hay, straw, and crop storage were filled by heavily loaded wagons pulled by strong draft horses up steep barn hills.

Native rock elm was often used for beams, and its dense wood required drilling pilot holes for wooden pegs or nail fasteners. The lower limbs of the towering native old growth trees used for barn building started about 20 metres above the ground.

Most of the more than a century old barns in this area have outlived their original purposes. Remaining ones hold a special place in the hearts and lives of descendants of pioneers and their communities. Some stand proudly generations later on family farms, sentinels from the past. Others have new life as

breweries, retail outlets or event venues for weddings and other celebrations.

Paint that will withstand harsh elements is used on aluminum or durable wood that is then fastened on buildings.

Barn quilts feature a quilt square or block, often in designs used historically for winter bed coverings. Traditional patterns include Colonial Lady, Mariners Compass, Sunflower and Pinwheel. More recently, barn quilts might celebrate a farm family, crops or livestock.

Barn quilts honour the women who created quilts with patience, resilience and artistry. Their bed quilts were lovingly “pieced” or appliqued from little scraps of fabric, often in the evening by lamplight when their long workday in house, fields and barn was done.

Today, quilting is recognized as an artform.

Quilt-making required countless hours over weeks and months, from cutting scraps of cloth to the finished bespoke product for use in the family home. They were also legacy gifts that would be used for decades to come. Quilts were treasured heirlooms for those who understood what went into creating these one-of-a-kind fabric masterpieces.

The blending of history and art makes barn quilts worth seeking out. Whether mounted on a century-old barn or a newer building, each one invites viewers to slow down and look a little closer.

For those planning a barn quilt outing, the following tips may be helpful:

- Bring a camera, binoculars and a cell phone to access the internet.
- Never enter private property while viewing barn quilts, including farm laneways or private roadways.
- Signal well in advance before pulling over to stop on a shoulder to view a barn quilt.



(BARRY JOHNSON PHOTOS)

Colourful barn quilts can be found on barns throughout the region and beyond.



Some barn quilt designs blend traditional designs with modern additions.

ACTION HEALTHCARE

SALES • SERVICE • RENTALS

Keeping You Independent



Mobility
Products to get you mobile – walkers, wheelchairs & scooters.



Rentals
For all your rental equipment needs – from bath chairs to hospital beds.



Products
We offer a full range of products to purchase.

ST MARYS

566 Queen St. E., St Marys, ON N4X 1A4
Phone: 519-284-4348
Toll Free: 1-833-645-5287

STRATFORD

305 Romeo St. S., Stratford, ON N5A 4T8
Phone: 519-271-6700

WWW.ACTIONHEALTHCARE.CA






Busy days, any day.

Delicious is always on hand.

Every day, open your freezer to over 200 meals made especially for seniors, delivered for free* with no contracts.

Locally owned 1-877-404-4246
HeartToHomeMeals.ca

*Some conditions may apply.

Get your
free
menu!

June is Seniors Month Ontario Seniors — Let's Get Moving

ontario.ca/SeniorsMonth

Ontario 

The 'Flower Queen' of Jessica's House

JESSICA'S HOUSE

Staff Contribution

Every Friday morning, something beautiful arrives at Jessica's House Hospice.

For the past seven years Fern Dougall has come quietly and without recognition carrying a collection of fresh flowers, thoughtfully arranged, placed gently into the hands of staff who know just how much something so simple can mean.

Dougall never set out with a grand plan. In fact, when asked what inspired her to begin this weekly tradition, her answer was simple.

She has just always had flowers in her life.

She remembers her mother was always growing them, and how each season brought something different.

"Tulips in the spring, never in the fall. Mums as the weather cools. Red flowers at Christmas."

Flowers mark time, hold memories and quietly shape moments.

And in many ways, that is exactly what Dougall now brings to Jessica's House.

To her, it is just a small act of kindness. But within Jessica's House, it becomes so much more.



(JESSICA'S HOUSE PHOTO)

Every Friday, Fern Dougall brings flowers to Jessica's House in Exeter, bringing a little extra brightness to the local hospice.

Each bouquet adds colour to a room. It softens a space. It brings a sense of peace on days that can feel incredibly heavy. For families sitting beside a loved one, for staff providing care and for volunteers offering their time, those flowers are a gentle reminder that they are surrounded by compassion.

Dougall may not often meet the residents or families who receive her flowers, but she said, "it still does my heart good."

She shared that she sees the kindness that fills Jessica's House.

"So many people give hours of care for so many and some drive many miles to do this out of kindness. This kindness is given to people they don't know."

Over time, Dougall shared there is something special about flowers. They do more than brighten a room. They start conversations. They bring memories rushing back.

"A red rose can remind someone of their very first corsage. Yellow roses might bring back memories of a mother who loved them dearly. Pink carnations can tell the story of a father who never forgot to bring them home."

In this way, flowers become more than flowers. They become connections to the people and moments we hold closest.

For Dougall, "Jessica's House is a place of kindness and peacefulness. A place that feels different from a busy, noisy pace of a hospital."

It is a place where care is gentle, and every detail matters.

And when asked what she would say to someone thinking about giving back, her answer is just as simple as her beginning.

"It only takes a yes," she said. "A yes to helping. A yes to doing something small, even if it is just picking up garbage that has blown onto the lawn."

Because at Jessica's House, every act of kindness matters.

And thanks to Fern Dougall, every Friday is a little brighter.



In a world where trends come and go, there's something timeless about the game of golf. This is because golfing isn't just for the young at heart. It's a lifetime sport that all skill levels and ages can play, whether you are 6 or 96.

Golf is a lifetime sport and a great way to stay active, enjoy the outdoors and socialize with old and new friends. There's no question that golf can make a big difference for older adults. If you haven't started yet, it's not too late.

Joins us for Senior Days
For golfers 55+
Every Tuesday and Thursday
12pm to 5pm
\$43 for 9 holes and cart

Exeter Golf Club
40374 Kirkton Road, Centralia ON
(519) 235-1517
proshop.exeter@golfnorth.ca
Golfnorth.ca/exeter



Honoring Wisdom, Celebrating Experience: Seniors Month 2026

Hamlet Estates Woodland Towers Spruce Lodge

INDEPENDENT LIVING SUPPORTED LIVING LONG TERM CARE

WE ARE OPEN FOR IN-PERSON TOURS!
 Please contact us to pre-book your appointment.

We offer a warm water therapy swimming pool and active living centre for seniors.

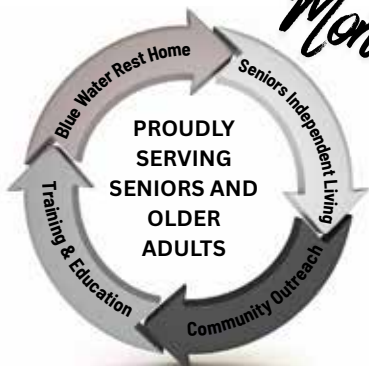





643 W Gore St, Stratford, ON N5A 1L4 • 519.271.4090
www.sprucelodge.on.ca



"Together, we are devoted to making a difference."

Happy Seniors Month!



 www.westhuroncarecentre.com
 whcc.info@westhuroncarecentre.com
 519-236-4373 ext. 622

June is Seniors Month Ontario Seniors — Let's Get Moving

ontario.ca/SeniorsMonth


Ontario 


Walk for Alzheimer's raises over \$125,000



(DAN ROLPH PHOTO)

Supporters hit the streets in communities across Huron and Perth Counties on May 30 as the IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's kicked off. The annual fundraiser in support of the Alzheimer Society Huron Perth helps the organization to continue offering services, supports and resources for those living with dementia and their caregivers. This year, walks across the region raised more than \$125,000. The Exeter walk brought in more than \$6,000.




Exeter Villa
Retirement Living & Long-Term Care
ATK Care Group Ltd.

Exeter Villa Retirement Living & LTC

It's Exeter Villa's Anniversary
Celebrating **40 years** of dedicated staff
providing the best *"home away from home"*
for our Residents & families in 2026.

155 John Street E, Exeter, ON N0M 1S1
519-235-1581 or Erika.K@ExeterVilla.ca



Grand Bend Family Dental

FLEXIBLE PAYMENT PLANS EMERGENCY CARE
WE ACCEPT CDCP CARE FOR ALL AGES

HONOURING SENIORS MONTH!

DENTAL IMPLANTS

A permanent solution to missing teeth

\$1,500 or \$3,500

WITH CROWN

\$299

Complete Oral Exam

Includes X-Ray, Cleaning & Comprehensive Exam

BOOK INSTANTLY ONLINE!

CONTACT US TODAY **(519) 238-2368**

29 Gill Road, Grand Bend, ON
grandbendfamilydental.com

June is Seniors Month Ontario Seniors — Let's Get Moving

ontario.ca/SeniorsMonth

Ontario

New book celebrates Grand Bend's stories

EXETER EXAMINER STAFF

Staff Contribution

A mill burned down by vigilante farmers. A riot that filled the streets with angry young people. A dance hall where world-famous bands played. A river re-routed twice. A 'folly' that became a prestige address. A man who owned the beach.

Those are some of the stories told in "Days Pass Away Like a Dream, The Stories of Grand Bend," a new book written by Pat Morden and published by the Rotary Club of Grand Bend.

"Rotary is proud to be part of this community and to contribute so much to it," said Rotary co-president Morag

Watt. "We see this book as another important contribution. Whether you've lived in Grand Bend for decades or have just arrived, it provides a snapshot of the town's development in an easy-to-read package."

Rotarian Pat Morden, who holds a master's degree in history and has been a professional writer for more than 30 years, was commissioned to research and write the book.

"It's a collection of stories about the people who built this town," she said. "They are his stories, and her stories, funny stories, stirring ones, and sad ones. I had so much fun doing it."

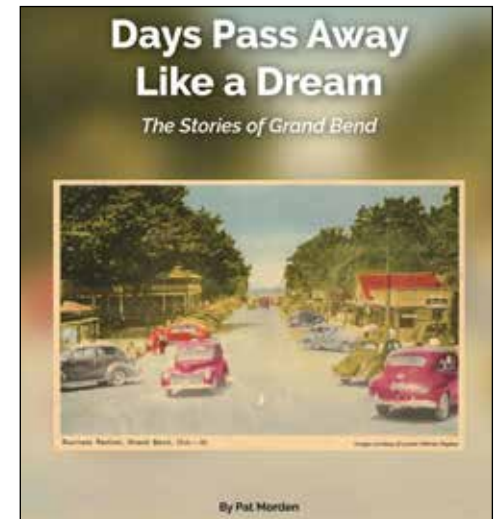
The 72-page book features many historical photographs reflecting changes

over 200 years of history. Grand Bend started as a pioneer settlement focused on lumber and fishing, emerged as a lakeside resort in the early 20th century, and is now a growing retirement community.

Doug Millar, chair of Rotary's local service committee said, "This book is a must for every home in Grand Bend."

The book retails for \$30. Books are available from any Rotarian, at the Grand Bend and Area Chamber of Commerce office (181 Crescent Street, Grand Bend) and at the Lambton Heritage Museum (10035 Museum Road, Grand Bend).

All proceeds support local and international Rotary projects.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

The book digs into the history of Grand Bend, a community that started as a pioneer settlement and has become a growing retirement community

Ontario pension plans demonstrate continued financial resilience

EXETER EXAMINER STAFF

Staff Contribution

The Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario (FSRA) has released its first Solvency Report for Defined Benefit Pension Plans for the year, covering the period Jan. 1 to March 31.

The report shows a median solvency ratio of 122 per cent, a decrease of two percentage points from the previous

quarter, amid ongoing economic uncertainty driven by inflation, geopolitical risks and slower global growth.

"Solvency levels remain strong overall, but the recent decline highlights the impact of current economic headwinds and the importance of staying forward-looking," said Andrew Fung, executive vice president of pensions at FSRA. "By continuing to strengthen risk management practices and aligning strategies with the unique needs of

each plan, sponsors can help support long-term plan sustainability."

While results remain strong, solvency funding positions remain sensitive and can shift with changes in investment performance and interest rates. The report highlights the importance of maintaining a proactive approach to support and strengthen financial resilience.

In a press release, FSRA stated it is committed to the stability and security of Ontario's pension plans and con-

tinues to encourage the use of stress testing, modelling and other analytical tools to assess potential risks and support long-term financial stability.

FSRA releases its solvency report each quarter to assess the financial health of Ontario defined benefit pension plans. The report provides timely information to plan members about the performance of their plan and the state of the economy both nationally and internationally.

WE'RE YOUR
Foot Health Experts

Putting your best foot forward!

- CUSTOM FOOT ORTHOTICS
- COMPRESSION SOCKS
- ORTHOPAEDIC FOOTWEAR
- CUSTOM FOOT WEAR
- SHOE MODIFICATIONS

St. Marys: Ultimate Foot Care
194 Queen St. W. - 519.900.7080

Stratford: Sunrise Health Services
413 Hibernia St. - 519.271.0763

For more information, products and locations please visit www.footbyfoot.ca

CANTUCKIAN
Property Management

We clean up for you!

WANT TO DE-CLUTTER YOUR BASEMENT, SHED OR GARAGE? We can help!

We offer quality service at reasonable rates for cleaning up entire properties, assisting you in the clean up or just hauling the junk away!

WE OFFER FREE PICKUP FOR MOST METAL ITEMS!

• Cast iron	• Brass	• Vehicles
• Steel	• Old Appliances	• BBQ's and tanks
• Lead	• Farm Machinery	• Pop cans
• Aluminum	• Vehicles and Parts	• Lawn mowers
• Tin	• Automotive Batteries	

WE TAKE UNWANTED HOUSEHOLD ITEMS!

• Pots and pans	• Lamps	• Large Appliances
• Computers	• Air Conditioners	... and more
• Small Appliances	• Dehumidifiers	

WE DO YARD CLEAN UP!

• Fallen Trees	• Brush	• Storm Cleanup
		... and more

Call Ian at **Cell: 519.636.5825** or **Home: 519.235.2183** or e-mail iantuck@worldline.ca for more information

LAW OFFICES OF
LITTLE, MASSON & REID
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

We are a full-service law firm, offering legal services to both businesses and individuals throughout southwestern Ontario.

Tel. 519-235-0670

Fax. 519-235-1603

284 Main St. S., Exeter

littlemassonreid.com

June is Seniors Month Ontario Seniors — Let's Get Moving

ontario.ca/SeniorsMonth

Ontario 

Summer Express Bus begins June 27

EXETER EXAMINER STAFF

Staff Contribution

Huron Shores Area Transit (HSAT) will launch its Summer Express Bus, also known as the Beach Bus, on Saturday, June 27, 2026.

This seasonal Route 2: Grand Bend to London via South Huron service provides express transportation between London and Grand Bend with a single stop in Exeter, offering residents and visitors direct access to the beaches and tourism destinations of Lambton Shores and South Huron.

The Summer Express Bus will operate on Saturdays and Sundays throughout July and August, with four return trips daily. A special Canada Day service will also operate on Wednesday, July 1.

The service aims to meet increased summer travel demand while providing an alternative to driving and parking in beach communities.

The first bus of the day departs London at 9:30 a.m. from London Transit

stop #705 at Fanshawe Rd. E. opposite Masonville Mall. The final return trip leaves Grand Bend at 8:30 p.m. from the Sobeys Plaza bus stop. For a second consecutive year, the Exeter stop will be the Walper Street at McDonald's bus stop #2240.

In addition to serving beach visitors, the Summer Express Bus schedule provides local residents with four additional daily opportunities to travel from Grand Bend to London beyond HSAT's regular Route 2 service. The Summer Express Bus will depart the Sobeys Plaza stop in Grand Bend for London at 9:10 a.m., 10:40 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 5:15 p.m., 6:10 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., improving access for shopping, appointments, employment and day trips.

Online seat booking opens Monday, June 15, 2026. Riders can reserve seats and pay securely by debit or credit card. Seating is limited to 24 passengers per trip, and advance booking is strongly recommended.

A regular round-trip fare is \$24. Children aged 12 and under ride free with an accompanying adult. The advance booking system provides riders with greater certainty when planning summer travel. In line with the proactive booking model, HSAT will not arrange taxi rides for stranded passengers on Saturdays and Sundays in July and August.

Riders are encouraged to book early to secure their seats and avoid disappointment. For more information and to book your trip, visit huronshoresareatransit.ca/SummerBus.

Saturdays and Sundays in July and August.

Riders are encouraged to book early to secure their seats and avoid disappointment. For more information and to book your trip, visit huronshoresareatransit.ca/SummerBus.



RUSSETT

REHABILITATION

REHABILITATION AND WELLNESS

FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Services include:

- Chiropractic
- Physiotherapy
- Acupuncture
- Custom Orthotics
- Bracing

26 THAMES RD., E. - EXETER

• PHONE 519-235-4892 • FAX 519-235-2730

REFERRALS NOT REQUIRED



COUNTRYSIDE CARE
HOME CARE SERVICES

STAY SAFE & INDEPENDENT AT HOME

Personal, Reliable
HOME CARE SERVICE

Proudly Serving All Ages in Huron & Perth County

ABOUT US

Countryside Care offers compassionate and reliable home care for all ages in Huron & Perth County. We help individuals with personalized support, allowing them to live safely and comfortably in their own homes.

SERVICES

- Personal Care (PSW & Nursing)
- Companionship
- Medication Reminders
- Meal Preparation
- Light Housekeeping
- Fall Prevention & Safety
- Respite Care
- Errands and appointments

Fully insured & carefully screened caregivers






24/7 CARE



HOME HEALTH CARE



QUALIFIED & INSURED

Call today for a free consultation

226-330-0384

www.countrysidecare.info

COUNTRY MANOR ESTATES

Retirement Residence

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE

SUITES FROM \$2,495/month



All Inclusive Services:

- 3 delicious meals daily plus snacks
- Weekly housekeeping, fresh linens
- Nurse + PSW team 24/7 plus access to a physician
- Lots of social, fun programs + much more!

COME HOME FOR A TOUR

(519) 296-4919

66 Victoria Street, Thedford, Ontario

CMANORESTATES.COM

Serving seniors for over 30 years

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.GRANTHAVEN.COM

We have the great privilege of Honouring Seniors each and every day.

It's what we do.

It's what we love to do!!



BECAUSE TO US
OUR RESIDENTS FEEL LIKE

Family



Goderich Place
RETIREMENT RESIDENCE

*Call Jennifer Puckett
to Arrange a Tour*

519-524-4243 EXT 224

30 BALVINA DRIVE E., GODERICH www.goderichplace.ca



ASK ABOUT OUR MEMORY CARE WING

June is Seniors Month Ontario Seniors — Let's Get Moving

ontario.ca/SeniorsMonth

Ontario 

Hoffmans of Dashwood retire, pass torch to Haskett Funeral Homes

DAN ROLPH

Editor

With generations Hoffmans having served Dashwood and the surrounding area, the family is saying goodbye to its long-standing funeral home that has become a pillar of the community.

Jim and Donna Hoffman, the owners and operators of T. Harry Hoffman and Sons Funeral Home, celebrated their retirement and announced the sale of their funeral home to Haskett Funeral Homes during a May 24 open house at the funeral home in Dashwood.

To rooms filled with friends, family and community members, Donna spoke about their choice to say goodbye to the Hoffman legacy.

"All good things must come to an end, and what we had was good," she said. "But we realized it was time to start a new chapter in our life."

Founded by Thomas Harry Hoffman in 1941 as Dashwood's first residential funeral home, the business has remained in the hands of the Hoffman family for more than 80 years. The funeral home officially became T. Harry Hoffman and Sons when Bob and Jim Hoffman stepped into the family business.

When Bob retired from the funeral home in 2012, Jim and Donna became the sole owners and operators.

"We both loved doing what we did, and retirement was not on our radar," said Donna.

Over their years at the helm of the funeral home, Jim and Donna navigated many challenges as they continued to serve grieving residents in the community. Navigating multiple cancer diagnoses and the COVID-19 pandemic, the couple pressed onward with the help of their family, friends and a staff that grew to include Amanda Rood, Rob Hoffman, Rose Marie Rader, Jeremy Becker, Jamie Carter and Jeff Hoffman.

"Somehow we weathered that storm, and we continued to do what we loved doing," said Donna. "Through all of this, in the back of our heads, we wanted retirement to be in our future. We just didn't know when or how that would happen."

"Because we both love doing what we did, it made the decision even harder."

Donna said retirement became a real possibility in February this year, when they were approached about a buyer who would retain existing staff and uphold the reputation the Hoffmans built over generations.

"Our vision of selling and retirement was for someone to come in, take over and run the business just like we did," she said. "We found that someone in the Haskett family."

"We trust moving forward when you walk through these doors that you will receive care, compassion and comfort we provide our families."

Haskett Funeral Homes president Colin Haskett also spoke

during the open house in Dashwood. He described it as an honour to play a part in the retirement of the Hoffmans, and he reflected on the legacy he and his family hope to continue in Dashwood.

"It is no secret that this family and their legacy are woven in the fabric of this community," he said. "We recognize that they are very big shoes to fill."

"Our intentions are simple. It's the same thing that we've done for over 140 years as their family has done as well. It's just to simply treat others in the same fashion we would expect to be treated ourselves."

Though the Hoffmans and Hasketts have been competitors in the industry for generations, Colin Haskett spoke about a collaborative spirit that brought the families closer and helped them through challenging moments over the years.

"Behind the closed doors, regularly the phone would ring in either direction," he said. "It didn't matter what either one of us needed. Whether it was something as small as a package of paper or something grander, the other side was always happy to assist and to be there to support. I cannot tell you how much that has meant to me, to my father, and to our entire team to be able to have those allies."

With Haskett Funeral Homes taking over in Dashwood, the company also announced the closure of its Zurich location, which was set to take effect the



(DAN ROLPH PHOTO)

Jim and Donna Hoffman of T. Harry Hoffman and Sons Funeral Home marked the end of more than 80 years of service in Dashwood during a May 24 open house, where they announced the sale of the funeral home to Haskett's Funeral Homes.

same day that they take ownership of the Hoffman funeral home.

In a statement posted on social media, the company stated: "Over the past 10 years, it has been a true privilege to serve families throughout Zurich and the surrounding area. We are deeply grateful for the trust and support shown to our family and team. By bringing our teams and resources together, we believe we can continue to provide families throughout the area with the compassionate and personal care they deserve for many years to come."

Representatives from South Huron and Bluewater, the two municipalities that encompass Dashwood, also spoke to the room filled with community members during the open house.

Bluewater Mayor Paul Klopp reflected on the impact the Hoffman family has had on the community over their years in the village.

"Under 'compassion' and 'empathy,' the new dictionary will have the Hoffman funeral home as an example," he said. "This family made it easier to walk through that door. For that, we thank you."

South Huron Mayor George Finch thanked the Hoffmans for decades of "compassion, service and professionalism" that they brought to the community.

"I never thought I'd see the day when Jim and Donna Hoffman didn't own the place," he said. "Your attention to detail for every loved one that has passed through your care was unique and tailored to bring comfort to countless families. Your commitment to this community has left an indelible mark for generations."

After more than 80 years of service, the Hoffman family's chapter at Dashwood's funeral home has come to a close, but their legacy will remain woven into the community for years to come.

THE CROSSING

500 Acheson Street, Exeter

Showcasing suites with 6 appliances, including dishwasher, in-suite laundry, personal climate control and private balconies. Desirable amenities include a common room, elevator & wheelchair accessibility, and the convenience of nearby shopping, restaurants and community centres.



TOWERVIEW APARTMENTS

65 William Street, Exeter

Contemporary suites in a tranquil community. Each suite includes central air conditioning, in-suite laundry, and spacious closet space. Live in comfort with secured entrances, elevator & wheelchair accessibility and the convenience of nearby nature trails, and desirable boutiques and cafés.




**Stylish
1 & 2 Bedroom
Suites**
 Contact us today
 to book your personal tour
519-636-3213
*"Let Our Customer Service
Bring You Home..."*
www.williamsandmcdaniel.com

SPORTS

Youth lawn bowling program returns to Exeter

EXETER EXAMINER STAFF

Staff Contribution

The Exeter Lawn Bowling club is bringing back its youth lawn bowling program for the upcoming season.

Introduced in 2025 as a new addition to the club's programming, the club called the youth initiative a "tremendous success" with more than 30 young people from South Huron participating in after-school "Give it a try" sessions.

As well, 16 youths registered for the weekly summer program, which was held through July and August last year.

The program is returning in 2026 with free af-

ter-school sessions, taking place on Wednesdays from 3:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Prospective bowlers from ages 8 to 16 are invited to participate. The only equipment required is a pair of flat-soled shoes, with all other equipment supplied by the club.

The summer program, which will run Wednesday mornings through July and August costs \$20 per person.

"Lawn bowling is unique in that players of all ages can compete together on an equal footing, making it an ideal intergenerational sport," said Exeter Lawn Bowling Club president Phyllis Dalglish.

The youth program was launched in 2025 with support from the federal government's New Horizons for Seniors grant program. Local seniors serve as coach-

es and mentors, helping to build connections between generations in the community. The grant program also helped fund the purchase of equipment.

The lawn bowling season will wrap up with a youth tournament for the area's lawn bowlers at the end of August.

Two local junior golfers heading to international golf championships




(THE SOUTH HURON OPTIMIST CLUB PHOTOS)

A pair of local junior golfers will be heading south of the border this summer to play in the upcoming Optimist Junior Golf Championships in Florida. Ty Mason and Kallen Grant qualified for the local Optimist Junior Golf Tournament last July, which opened their way to the Midwestern Ontario District level tournament in August. At that tournament, they both qualified to play in Florida this year. The South Huron Optimist Club sponsored both golfers with \$500 to help cover the costs of tournament registration and travel. Pictured is Ty Mason.



Above is Kallen Grant, who qualified to play in the tournament in Florida.



A structural inspection of the MacNaughton Park Dam is required every five years and is due to be performed this year. In order to carry out this work, it is necessary to lower the water level in the reservoir. Starting on July 6, 2026 the drain valve will be opened to lower the reservoir water level. Once the level is lowered sufficiently, the inspection of the structure will take place and the reservoir will be slowly refilled. Depending on weather conditions, it is expected that the reservoir will be back to its normal level in a couple of weeks.

If you have any questions in regarding this work, please contact the **Environment Services Department at 519-235-0310 (ext 230)**

Celebrating 20 years PURPLE HILL COUNTRY OPRY SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2PM

KENNY HESS LIVE OPRY SHOW

Award Winning Musician & Writer

KENNY HESS LIVE

Country Music Hall of Famer Master Story Teller 200 Original Songs Recorded by Legends

THIS IS A CANT MISS SHOW

His Show is Jam Packed with Legendary Songs

Show & Dinner only \$60 TICKETS Call Anna 519-461-0538

With Special guest **HECTOR STURGEON**

20903 Purple Hill Road, Thorndale, ON Purplehillcountrysmusicahall.ca

MINOR SPORTS SCRAPBOOK

(DAN ROLPH PHOTOS)



It was a busy day of baseball action in Exeter on May 25 as South Huron District high school's varsity girls team hit the diamond. The team had a dominant day, starting with their match against Central Huron secondary school that they handily won 18-1. Later that day, the team went on to face St. Anne's Catholic secondary school, pulling off a strong 25-5 victory and cementing their place in the top spot in Huron County.



Ella Consitt pitches against St. Anne's Catholic secondary school



Lyla Moore watches the ball soar.



Pictured is Aydin Dalrymple as she rounds third base.



Danica Rau throws the ball to first base as Aydin Dalrymple watches from behind



Miley Restemayer at bat while playing against St. Anne's.

COLUMNS

Hobos, tramps, pedlars and shysters

BOB HEYWOOD

Examiner Columnist

In the late 1800s and the early decades of the last century, itinerant pedlars and salesmen of all types travelled up and down the country roads. Some were legitimate, honourable men trying to make a meagre living. Others were shysters attempting to persuade hard-working, modest and honest people to buy their snake oil or inferior products and hoping they would never meet their customers again.

My grandfather, Gordon Heywood, was born in 1891 on the family farm at Lot 12 Concession 3 Usborne Township, two miles east of Exeter. Between the farm and his home in Exeter, he tallied up 97 years of living until his death.

He recorded this account in 1976: "I remember as a boy seeing many hobos who tramped the roads with packs on their backs, some of them were pedlars with things to sell, while others were just on the tramp. There were some pretty rough characters.

"My mother used to tell me of a time when I was a small boy, sick with tonsillitis. She had sent my father into town for some medicine for me after he'd got home from work. It was dark and she answered a knock at the door to find a tough-looking fellow there wanting something to eat. His looks frightened her so

she told him, 'I don't know whether I should ask you in or not. I've got a very sick boy here, maybe he's got diphtheria.' With that, the tramp turned on his heel, hightailed up the road as fast as his legs could carry him.

"There were a lot of travelling salesmen in those days, too. They'd come out from London on Monday by train, hire horses and a rig from the livery stables and travel all over the country covering little places like Elimville, Crediton, Dashwood and Farquhar, etc. At the end of the week, they'd come back to town and take the train to London. While they were in Exeter many of them stayed at the Commercial Hotel, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Hawkshaw (where Ersman's bakery was).

"It was Mr. Hawkshaw's practice to wait until everyone else had gone to bed before locking up. He carried all his money in the pocket of his trousers which he hung on the doorknob of his bedroom. Then he locked the door and went to bed. One night he remembered after he got into bed that he hadn't locked the door. 'Oh, don't bother getting up,' his wife told him, 'I'll hear if anyone comes snooping around.'

"She further assured him by saying, 'I can hear a mouse running across the floor.' When the proprietor awoke the next morning

and went to put on his trousers, he found to his dismay he had been robbed, his pockets had been rifled of all his money. Turning angrily to his wife he shouted, 'Where in h... is your mouse now?' Another time, one of these hobos I was telling you about came to Mr. Hawkshaw's Hotel and asked for a night's lodging and a little to eat.

"Next morning, he told Mr. Hawkshaw, 'Sorry, no money.' 'That's alright,' the hotelman replied, 'There's a cord of wood and a buck-saw out back, you can go and saw some.' Later, when he went out to see how the fellow was making out, he found he had disappeared and there was no wood sawn either. What he did find was a note written on the white end of one of the logs, 'Tell him that you saw me, but you never saw me saw!'"

In the early 1920s Doc Kelly's medicine show visited Exeter and set up their stage at Victoria Park. Kelly's troupe entertained the crowd with singing and dancing, comedy and banjo picking. The entertainment subtly prepared the gullible to purchase a bottle of Kelly's magic elixir which would cure any ailment known to man except death itself. Well, Doc Kelly was not a "doctor" and his medicine probably did more harm than good, but the crowd bought it anyway.

Bruce Walker spoke of a few of these characters

who regularly visited the homes in and around our town. In his "Barefoot Boy from Francistown," the author remembers such a visit when as a boy Walker was down the street at the Ferguson's house. The Junk Man pulled up with his horse and wagon to see if they had any junk to sell.

Mr. Ferguson asked, "What are you buying?"

"Old rags and bones and bottles and scrap iron."

"Well," quipped the elderly neighbor, "Open up the bag and I'll jump in."

Some will remember in later years our own resident junk buyer, good old Harry Josephs, who plied his trade west of the Canning Factory.

Even I can remember Banker Gossman driving in our farm lane in an old Model T (at least that's what I think it was) crying out the window, as he drove past the house to turn around at the barn, "Fresh Fish, Fresh Fish." Attached to the back of the ancient vehicle was a large wooden trunk, packed with ice, full of the biggest fish that I had ever seen. If mother or father did not appear from the house in time, Bill would just keep driving out the lane.

I also recall the Toastmaster Bread truck, the Fuller Brush Man with his case of products and even Cooper Forrest's Ice Cream truck visiting our farm.

In his book, Bruce Walk-

er also remembers, while living on their farm in Hay Township, a little old man driving his wagon and team of horses into their yard.

He asked the stranger what he wanted and he replied, "ashes." The wagon stopped by the ash pile and the man started to shovel the ashes into the wagon. When the pile was depleted, he took five bars of soap from the wagon and presented them at the house for payment for the ashes. It seemed like a good trade to Bruce. The young boy later learned that their stove ashes were shipped to a factory to make soap. Wood ashes contain a potash lye.

In earlier days a housewife made her own soap. A barrel was filled with wood ashes and then filled up with water. A small hole was made in the bottom of the barrel and a dark brown liquid dripped out, which was collected in a 30-gallon cast iron kettle. Bacon grease and drippings from the kitchen were mixed in, and a fire was built under the kettle and boiled until soft soap was left. When cooled, it was cut into small blocks for home and laundry use. Many housewives chose later to trade their ashes for the factory soap in return.

In the Stephen Township history book, Muriel Mack recounted that potash production was an early industry that developed because

of the large tracts of forest west of Exeter.

"It began as a home industry and later developed into a commercial industry." European textile manufacturers found the Canadian product, especially from maple, beech and elm trees, was superior to the Russian potash they had been using. The making of the product began with the burning of the trees cleared from the settler's land. As the fires died down, the ash was raked into large piles. This was a hot arduous task, but a barrel of good quality potash was worth about 240 shillings, a coveted source of income for the pioneer.

By the early 1860s, John Gould had a potash factory in Exeter. Bruce Walker's father, William, also had a small potash factory at the rear of his Francistown home, making soap from the ashes he collected with his one-horse light wagon.

As I write this account at 71 years of age, I too am reminded of the ash pile behind our chicken house in Usborne Township. The pile was usually thrown into the manure spreader or across the garden for fertilizer. No soap came from our ashes. I do remember an odd basket of homemade soap coming from my Mennonite grandparents' farm in Zurich. It sure didn't smell like the cake of Irish Spring in my bathtub!



EXETER
FAMILY EYE CARE

Clarity in Vision, Excellence in Care

www.exeterfamilyeyecare.ca





Book your eye exam today!

☎ 519-235-2433 ✉ exetereyecare@gmail.com

📍 11, Huron St. E ON, N0M 1S1

Open: 9-5 Mon - Thurs | 9-4 Fri Dr. Hytham Elkolaly & Dr. Cheryl Letheren

Jayden's **COMFORT CARE**®

MAINTENANCE & PROTECTION PLAN

A NEW STANDARD OF HOME MAINTENANCE

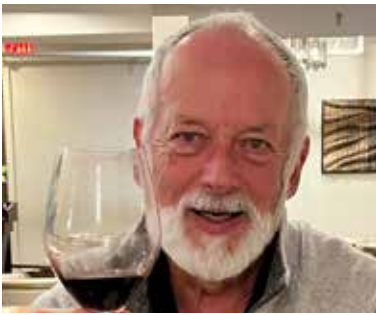
**PROTECT WHAT
KEEPS YOUR FAMILY
COMFORTABLE**



☎ 519-237-HEAT (4328)

🌐 JAYDENMECHANICAL.COM

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Great art in Paris – not in the Louvre



PAUL KNOWLES

Examiner Columnist

There is no question that the Louvre, in Paris, France, is one of the world's greatest repositories of art. Although, this iconic destination managed to get into the news a couple of times in recent months, more for the art pieces they were losing than for the art they have.

I have visited the Louvre, and done the ridiculous tourist jog past hundreds of pieces of priceless art to gaze over the heads of hundreds of other tourists all gawping at a small painting called the Mona Lisa. So this time in Paris, although we strolled around the grounds of the Louvre, we gave the interior a miss, and opted to visit two other art galleries, also situated along the Seine River.

We were not sorry in the least that we made that choice.

Our initial stop, on our very first afternoon in Paris, was the Musée d'Orsay. The museum holds the largest collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist art anywhere in the world... and yes, much more than in the Louvre.

If you don't happen to be an art expert, here's a quick Knowles' notes: Impressionism

was an art movement that began in Paris in the late 1800s and continued for several decades. Key figures included Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Camille Pizarro and Paul Cézanne. Post-Impressionism was an artistic movement in direct and almost immediate response to Impressionism. It, too, had its roots in France, and included such well-known artists as Vincent Van Gogh and Paul Gauguin.

While the Impressionists painted natural scenes with a whimsical, misty perspective, the Post-Impressionists moved slightly more toward the abstract. In my less-than-expert opinion. Let's be clear about that.

There is a Canadian connection here, in that the members of the Group of Seven were profoundly influenced by both of these movements.

So... the work of these famous artists, most but not all French, was what we wanted to see when we entered the elegant former railway station that is now the Musée d'Orsay. Our wishes were granted, a hundred-fold.

If you love art, or you simply want to experience great art to see if you like it, this is the place to be.

We strolled through the galleries, replete with works by all of the artists mentioned above, and many, many more.

And not only did we see paintings by these talented creators, we saw many of their very best pieces – like “Water Lily Pond”, and “Blue Water Lilies”, by Claude Monet, and

“Dance at the Moulin de la Galette” by Renoir.

The museum is a relatively new attraction in Paris, considering the millennia-long history of this “City of Light”. Conversion from its original purpose as a railway station to an outstanding art gallery was completed only by 1986, when the works of art (2,000 or so paintings and about 600 sculptures) were installed.

Today there are over 3,000 works at the museum, and they are seen by more than three million visitors each year. (That sounds like a lot, but the Louvre sees three times that many – and has instigated higher pricing and other measures to actually discourage visitors!)

The Musée d'Orsay is located on the Left Bank of the Seine, about a 15-minute walk from the Louvre, which is on the Right Bank. It's a lovely stroll, as it is to the Orangerie, also on the Right Bank but only a 10-minute walk from the Musée d'Orsay.

The Orangerie is also home to significant Impressionist and Post-Impressionist art, and other important pieces, as well. The building itself (like the Musée d'Orsay) was never intended to be an art gallery – it was built in 1852 by Napoleon III, as winter storage for the citrus trees that were placed in the Tuileries Gardens in the warmer months. Thus the name, “Orangerie”.

The gardens, by the way, stretch from the Orangerie to the grounds of the Louvre; in my opinion, one of the most pleasant walks anywhere.



(PAUL KNOWLES PHOTOS)

Renoir's iconic Dance at the Moulin de la Galette.

Horticulture gave way to art in 1921, when the Orangerie was designated as a place where then-living artists could display their work. The good news is, Claude Monet was very much alive and productive at that time and, in the end, two amazing, oval rooms were created to house Monet's extensive murals known as “Nymphéas” or, yet again, “Water Lilies.”

Visiting those rooms is a unique experience, even for the most veteran art connoisseur. You are literally surrounded by the art, drawn into the tranquility of Monet's water gardens.

In 1966, the era represented by the Orangerie collection was expanded by several decades, as the Jean Walter and Paul Guillaume Collection of modern art was donated to the museum, and is now displayed on the lower floor. That gives

visitors the opportunity to get up close and personal with paintings

by famous artists like Pablo Picasso and Chaïm Soutine. (Full disclosure: Soutine's rather tortured “Portrait of a Man” has become one of my favourite pieces of art. I don't know what this says about my personal taste).

There is no question: Paris is the place to go to see great art. But if works by Monet or Van Gogh are your favourites, skip the Louvre, and spend your time at these other two amazing galleries.

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@gold-en.net.



Pablo Picasso's “Femme au tambourin” at the Orangerie.

Ask the Arborist

By Joel Hackett • 519.272.5742 • jtsquote@gmail.com

Joel Hackett is a certified Arborist residing in the St. Marys area. Currently, he spends most of the year running Joel's Tree Service. For contact call 519.272.5742 or email jtsquote@gmail.com

Dear Arborist,

I have a Maple, I think it's a Norway. It's big, it's ruining the grass, it's got roots showing. Can you top it and make it small to let light in? Are these good trees or bad?

Thanks,

Art

Dear Art,

Norway Maples are considered invasive and are not overly popular, but they are good for shade and are often planted. When they get bigger, they release chemicals to kill other plants around them, so it's normally hard to grow anything under them. Topping them is not recommended. You can raise them, pull them back from buildings, thin them. Thinning can be interior and exterior (for light). If those options don't fix the problem, then you may want to consider removal.

Sincerely,

The Arborist

ABOUT TIME AND TIMES: Family tree weddings, Estrella and Daniel



JUDY FINKBEINER JOHNSON

Examiner Columnist

From about the age of 6, I was fascinated by family trees. I think partly because it took me a while to learn how to spell my Finkbeiner last name. I plotted out previous generations on large, rolled sheets of white paper held by both hands stretching more than arm-to-arm length.

Then, there weren't tools like Ancestry or My Heritage to ferret out information. In fact, there weren't even computers, only manual typewriters like sturdy Remington machines that had to be turned back by hand to the left side of the paper after each line was typed.

My best source in early days was talking with elders, the term for seniors wasn't used then for people of a certain age. Now in my "how-did-I-get-here-so-fast" years, with a smile, prefer to think of those of us fortunate enough to have reached this many years as people with long life experiences.

FAMILY TREE BRANCHES

Some like me can look at a family tree that spreads out for generations, with oral tradition stories from far in the past, carried into the present, for those who will come in the future. Our lineage in close-knit communities is known, often from pioneer days and etched into the granite of gravestones of

local cemeteries.

In my mind, I envisage such a family tree planted in firm ground to develop deep roots, stretching up and out for centuries. The lower limbs might be shrouded in the mists of time, but those later up the strong trunk are seen to spread out through large branches, into smaller branches, and eventually twigs that continue to grow.

Along the way there were additions to the bloodline, unions with those of different ethnicity, cultures, and religions. Budding relationships that flourished and flowered. It makes me think of all the serendipitous (that word is as hard to key for me as it is to say) events that had to occur to result in me arriving here. Oh, and by the way, in my long-ago day, babies arrived by stork. I was a heavy lift at 4.5 kilos – ten pounds. My little mother remembered my birthday with a mixture of totally understandable emotions!

THE SPANISH FLU

There was fear and panic when the misnomer Spanish Flu arrived here in the fall of 1918 with the return of soldiers from the First World War. It was called that because Spain, neutral in the war, was not subject to the media censorship by the military in the Allied countries and could spread the news about the high incidence of death in the troops that created pneumonia. From 1918 to 1919, the flu triggered a worldwide, deadly pandemic that targeted strong, healthy young people. It killed millions of people with ripples that devastated families, communities, and economies.

Grandma told me about leav-

ing food at the end of farm laneways for a family to pick up. If it didn't disappear within a couple of days, death had visited that house.

In the midst of what is called the deadliest pandemic in history, my paternal grandparents stepped bravely into the future together.

CHRISTMAS DAY WEDDING

The Estrella Treitz and Daniel Finkbeiner wedding took place in the parlour of the bride's family farmhouse near Listowel on Christmas Day in 1918, with only a handful of people in that room due to restrictions on numbers of people for gatherings.

It was a date chosen by Grandma for two reasons: the birthdate celebrated for Jesus, and a wonderful Christmas Day wedding that was the choice of a fictional bride in one of the novels she enjoyed.

It was a joyful occasion. Roast goose, a traditional German Christmas day feast, was on the menu at a table set with the family's good china and silverware. The next day the newlyweds left by train, stopping in London where the groom bought his bride a lovely necklace at a jeweler. Then it was on to the Centralia train station where they boarded a stagecoach for the last stage of their journey, to his family farm northwest of Crediton.

COURTSHIP

Estrella and the almost-ten years older Daniel lived only a country road apart until she was about ten years old when her family moved near Listowel. Both attended Crediton Methodist Church, now Zion

United. They met again as adults while she was visiting a cousin in Crediton who suggested she should take notice of Daniel at church on Sunday. Apparently, she did, and apparently he did too! In those days, courtship often evolved line-by-line (rather than online like today). They corresponded for many months and occasionally saw each other in person.

My grandmother told me about an early-morning surprise visit from Daniel, who took the train to Listowel, knocking on the family farmhouse door. She asked why he came unexpectedly and unannounced. With my knowledge decades later of my gentle and thoughtful grandfather who used care in his words and his decision-making, his response as a young man was totally in character.

"I wanted to see what you were like when you weren't expecting me."

Estrella was certainly a catch. After church in Listowel, this modest woman told me that would-be suitors with horses and buggies would offer to take her home, more than a couple each Sunday. She wasn't interested, preferring to bury her head in books, reading about many subjects including novels of romance of the day by prolific writer Grace Livingstone Hill. Grandma introduced me to those great, wholesome reads at the Exeter Public Library where there was an excellent collection of dozens of these books.

On another visit to Estrella, after they were affianced/engaged, Daniel asked to see the china she had chosen for their future home together, specifically the saucers. She was puzzled, why only the saucers? When she put one in his hand,

he nodded approval. After the marriage she found out why. Although he was third generation here near Crediton, some German Black Forest customs were still practiced. One was drinking tea from a deep saucer, not a teacup where it took longer to cool enough.

They both spoke fluent English, their everyday language. But the German they learned from earlier generations was different. Daniel's was High German, so called because of the mountainous area of the Black Forest in southern Germany. Estrella's was influenced by the Low German where Hessen ancestors came from, a flat and low part further north.

They had much to learn about each other after marriage. He was "batching it," a single man living on the family farm with his widowed father, who later moved to his farm next door. Estrella was aghast when she found them both chewing tobacco. In her religious views, not only was use of alcohol a sin, but also tobacco. Daniel soon lost his taste for a "chaw," slang for a wad of chewing tobacco!

Spirituality was very important for the couple. They started every day in their home with Bible scripture readings and kneeling in prayer and ended each day kneeling bedside for their evening prayers. Experiences in those early years while raising their family of four would test their faith, their spirit, and their resilience

NEXT COLUMN

Estrella and Daniel's early marriage years is next with challenges and new beginnings, including the arrival of cars on the farm, and horses put out to pasture for Sundays off. And then, post-

Alzheimer Society

HURON PERTH

Annual General Meeting

Monday, June 22

5:30 pm Light Dinner - \$10 per person
6:00 pm Annual General Meeting
7:00 pm Social Recreation Program
Demonstration - Minds in Motion®

BETTY CARDNO MEMORIAL CENTRE
317 HURON RD, CLINTON

RSVP by June 12
Learn more or register
1-800-561-5012 or info@alzhp.ca

SLC Straight Line Collision

274 VICTORIA ST., CENTRALIA | 519-228-6114

At Straight Line Collision, the team is keeping busy. We are so proud of our crew with their positive attitude and commitment to maintaining such a high standard for quality repair. It is a real team effort, and our combined experience of 135 years is unparalleled. It is interesting when you consider the shop we are in today in Centralia was the original body shop long before cars became a reality! Yes, indeed, this was the blacksmith shop back in the 19th century! We imagine looking out the window in, say, 1895 and dreaming about the way things were! They worked hard and knew how to enjoy life as well imagine those open-air dances at Spruce Grove! I can see my ancestors there now kicking up their heels! Hard to pass a person on the street without a stop and a chat! If they ever invent a time machine, I am all in for a trip back to the simple but yet hard life and doing it all with a smile! It would do us all some good to just go outside and consider the smell and consider the wind direction, listen to the birds chirping and singing! And get back in tune with Mother Nature. She is a powerful force and can be all we need to find true peace within!

35 Years Serving Our Community



The Hub

May 27, 2026

Exeter Main Street South Reconstruction

We've made it even easier to stay up to date on the Main Street South construction project. The project spans from the Ausable River bridge to Victoria Street and involves a full reconstruction. Weekly updates are posted to the project page, highlighting completed work and providing a look ahead so you know what to expect in the coming week.

Sign up to receive weekly project updates via email. See our *Exeter Main Street South Reconstruction Project* page at SouthHuron.ca for details and sign up for progress reports.

South Huron Votes 2026 – Update your School Support by June 1st!

Whether you own or rent your home, your property is linked to a school board – even if you don't have children or your children aren't currently attending school. While you're not required to make a designation, you do have the option to choose which school board you support. If you don't make a choice, your support will default to the English-Public school board.

To ensure your correct school support designation is provided to Elections Ontario in time for the next municipal and school board elections on October 26, 2026, it should be reviewed and, if needed, updated by June 1, 2026.

MPAC (Municipal Property Assessment Corporation) is legislatively responsible for collecting school support designation data. This information is provided to Elections Ontario to help build and maintain the Preliminary List of Electors.

To check your school support, and update if necessary view mpac.ca/en/MakingChangesUpdates/SchoolSupportDesignation

Following June 1st, any changes to school support must be done by contacting the municipal office (322 Main Street South, Exeter).

Reminder: Candidates may file a nomination form during regular business hours from May 1, 2026 through to 2:00 p.m. on Nomination Day, August 21, 2026.

For more information regarding the 2026 Municipal and School Board Election, check out the *Municipal Election* page on SouthHuron.ca, contact the Clerk at vote@southhuron.ca, or drop into the Clerk's Department at town hall (322 Main Street South, Exeter).

Decoration Day

The Annual Decoration Day Service will be held on Sunday, July 19th at 1:00 pm at the Exeter Public Cemetery. We are looking for readers, musicians and community members to help make the service special.

If you would like to take part, please contact cemetery@southhuron.ca or 519-235-0310.

Hub E-Newsletter

Have you subscribed to our bi-monthly e-newsletter, The South Huron Hub?

You're just a few clicks away from receiving municipal updates, job opportunities, community events and more directly to your email inbox. Learn how easy it is to sign up by visiting the *South Huron Hub Newsletter* page at SouthHuron.ca

Important Dates

Monday, June 1st
Regular Council Meeting
6:00 PM (EST)*

Monday, June 15th
Regular Council Meeting
6:00 PM (EST)*

South Huron Council meetings are open for in-person attendance and continue to be livestreamed. See our website **Agendas, Minutes & Meetings page or the South Huron Youtube channel at meeting time to access the livestream video link.*

A recording of the meeting will be available on the municipal Youtube Channel following the meeting.

BUILDING SAFETY MONTH 2026

IT'S THE SMALL DETAILS THAT KEEP US SAFE
Small Projects Can Have Big Safety Impacts

- DID YOU KNOW? PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FOR:**
- Decks & Porches
 - Sheds and Accessory Structures
 - Finished Basements
 - Secondary Suites
 - Structural Alterations
 - Plumbing & Septic System Changes
 - Wood Stoves & Fireplaces
 - AND MORE! Be sure to check with Your Building Department

PERMITS AREN'T RED TAPE - THEY'RE A SAFETY CHECK!



Building Safety Month

Small projects like decks, sheds, wood stoves can have big safety impacts. Permits ensure the work being done meets minimum safety standards, is properly reviewed, and is built to last, protecting both homeowners and their communities.

oba.on.ca/BuildingSafetyMonth2026

Our information is accessible! Contact us if you require alternative formats.

MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON
322 Main Street South, PO Box 759, Exeter, ON N0M 1S6
PHONE: 519-235-0310 • FAX: 519-235-3304 • TOLL FREE: 1-877-204-0747
WEBSITE: www.southhuron.ca

Building Services ext. 6
Community Services ext. 222
Transportation, Roads ext. 230
Water & Wastewater, Landfill ext. 230
Afterhours ext. 7

MENTORING MATTERS: Investing in youth strengthens communities



AMY WILHELM

Examiner Columnist

A topic that many people don't like to talk about is finances. It can feel uncomfortable. But in the not-for-profit world, it is an essential conversation.

At Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron, we talk about it often — how to keep our doors open and continue delivering meaningful, impactful mentor-

ing programs that support local youth and families. The reality is that mentoring changes lives. Research has shown that among economically disadvantaged groups, every \$1 invested in mentoring through Big Brothers Big Sisters returns \$23 to society through improved outcomes for children and youth.

Our funding is made possible through the many fundraisers we host throughout the year, along with individual donations, corporate sponsorships, grants, service clubs, program-specific government funding, support from the Sunset Community Foundation and revenue generated through our children's consignment store, The Little Shop. This past year, we received significant news regarding our funding that will have a major

impact on our programming, and we are still working through what that will look like moving forward.

What often surprises people is that we receive very little government funding — only about three per cent of our overall operating budget — and even that funding is currently uncertain as we await final decisions. This funding supports our school-based programs, including in-school mentoring and our three youth empowerment programs. At this time, funding is confirmed only until the end of the 2025–2026 school year. This uncertainty impacts not only our agency, but Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies across Ontario.

As a long-standing partner of United Way Perth-Huron, we were also notified during

this funding cycle that they are no longer able to fund our traditional mentoring program. While this news is difficult, we remain deeply grateful for the many years of partnership and support they have provided, helping create meaningful mentoring opportunities for countless local children and youth.

Despite these challenges, our commitment to local youth remains unchanged. We will continue working hard to ensure children and youth in South Huron have access to caring mentors and positive role models.

You can support our mentoring programs in many ways: by making a direct donation, participating in one of our fundraising events, becoming an event sponsor, donating a prize, or even hosting a third-party fund-

raiser.

If you are interested in organizing your own fundraiser, we would love the opportunity to attend, share our story and help spread awareness about the impact mentoring has in our community. You can also support us by shopping at The Little Shop, becoming a consignor, or donating your children's outgrown clothing, toys, books and games.

Every donation, no matter the size, truly makes a difference.

To support Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron, please contact us at southhuron@big-brothersbigsisters.ca, call 519-235-1780, visit us on Facebook at Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron or stop by our office at 355 Main St. S in Exeter, inside The Little Shop. Help us continue to be #BiggerTogether.

GREY MATTER: The Joy of a Summer Reset: Why June is the Perfect Time to Reconnect, Refresh, and Reignite



ANNETTE GERDES

Examiner Columnist

There's something about June that feels hopeful. The windows open a little wider, gardens begin to bloom, and people naturally spend more time outdoors soaking up sunshine and fresh air. For seniors, June offers more than just warmer weather it can be an opportunity for a meaningful "summer reset."

Especially since we have had such a cold spring. I don't know about you, but I am ready for the heat.

As we age, routines become comforting and familiar, but sometimes they can also become limiting.

Winter months often encour-

age staying indoors, less movement, and fewer social outings. By the time June arrives, many older adults find themselves craving renewed energy, connection, and purpose even

if they don't realize it yet.

The good news? Small changes can make a very big difference.

Reconnecting with Others

Social connection is one of the most important factors in healthy aging. A simple coffee visit with a friend, attending a community event, or even sitting outside chatting with neighbours can improve mood, reduce loneliness, and boost mental wellness.

Many seniors say they don't want to "bother" people, but families and friends often appreciate the

invitation more than expected. June is a wonderful time to reconnect with grandchildren, old friends, former coworkers, or community groups.

Refreshing Daily Habits

Summer naturally encourages healthier routines. Longer daylight hours make it easier to walk outside, enjoy fresh sea-

sonal foods, and stay active.

A "summer reset" doesn't have to mean dramatic lifestyle changes. It can be as simple as:

- Taking a short walk each morning
- Drinking more water during warmer days
- Trying a new hobby
- Listening to music from younger years
- Planting flowers or herbs
- Reading outside on the porch
- Joining an exercise or social program

Even gentle movement and new experiences help keep the brain engaged and the body stronger.

Neurologically, our brains benefit from small changes in routine because they encourage new pathways and connections to form. Recently, I listened to someone speak about simple "brain challenges" like brushing your teeth with your non dominant hand, taking a different walking route, rearranging a

drawer, trying a new recipe, or even listening to unfamil-

iar music. These little changes may feel silly at first, but they encourage the brain to adapt, think differently, and stay active. Learning something new, no matter your age, helps stimulate memory, concentration, and cognitive flexibility. The key isn't perfection it's simply giving the brain something different to experience.

Reigniting Purpose

Purpose does not retire. In fact, many seniors discover new passions later in life than they ever had

during their working years. Some volunteer. Some mentor younger generations. Others rediscover painting, baking, knitting, music, writing, or gardening.

Purpose can also be found in simple moments helping a neighbour, attending church, caring for a pet, or being present for family milestones.

Having something to look forward to is incredibly important for emotional well-being.

The Power of Sunshine

Sunshine can genuinely improve mood and energy levels. Safe sun exposure helps the body produce

Vitamin D, which supports bone health and immunity. Fresh air and natural light can also improve sleep

patterns and reduce feelings of isolation or sadness.

Of course, seniors should remember sunscreen, hats, hydration, and avoiding extreme heat during peak

afternoon hours.

Aging Well Means Staying Engaged

Healthy aging isn't about pretending to stay young forever. It's about continuing to live fully, stay curious,

maintain relationships, and enjoy meaningful moments at every age.

June reminds us that new seasons are not just for nature they're for people too.

So, this month, open the windows, call an old friend, take the scenic route, or try something new.

Sometimes the smallest summer moments become the most meaningful memories.

Annette Gerdes is the General Manager at the Goderich Place Retirement Residence

Hobby store that features Pokemon and Magic the Gathering trading card games, as well as Lego, Board Games, Warhammer and sports cards. We have a large in stock selection, but if you don't see it in store we can order it.

144 Courthouse Sq., Suite 300 (Basement), Goderich, ON
519-612-2050 | mtgnorthcanada@gmail.com
www.mtgnorth.ca

MASSE FRUIT & VEGETABLE FARM

OPEN DAILY
JUNE - OCTOBER

C/O MIKE AND DIANNE MASSE
35291 Zurich Hensall Road,
Zurich, ON N0M 2T0
Phone: 519-236-7907
Email: massepumpkins@hay.net

PICKED FRESH FOR YOU DAILY

Like us on Facebook for up-to-date info

Dashwood Diner

Serving All Day Breakfast

(519) 237-3116
185 Dashwood Main St,
N0M 1N0

AVAILABLE Hot & Ready BREAKFAST ALL DAY



A large, illuminated marquee sign for the musical "42nd Street". The numbers "42" are in a large, gold, 3D font with many small lights. The word "ND" is in a smaller, white, 3D font. Below the numbers is a red, curved banner with the word "STREET" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The background is a dark cityscape at night with lights from buildings and a prominent skyscraper.

Music by Harry Warren
Lyrics by Al Dubin
Book by Michael Stewart & Mark Bramble
Based on the novel by Bradford Ropes and the motion picture 42nd Street
owned by Turner Entertainment Co.
and distributed by Warner Bros.
Original Direction and Dances by Gower Champion
Originally Produced on Broadway by David Merrick

The Broadway Dance Spectacular

JUNE 10 TO JUNE 27
HURON COUNTRY PLAYHOUSE
GRAND BEND

BACK IN TIME

30 Years Ago

June 12, 1996 - More than 50 years ago Lloyd Otterbein of Zurich picked up a jack knife and began carving the figure of a Clydesdale horse. He recently created Clydesdale horses for a Detroit show and is working on a crest for his family's reunion on June 22.

Andy DeBoer of Exeter continues to run an orphanage, but the orphans he cares for are not children, but white squirrels. Andy and his wife Gloria continue to care for wayward squirrels brought to them by local residents and this year is no exception.

Announced as students of the year at Friday's SHDHS

graduating formal were Kristy Ahrens and Adam Jean.

40 Years Ago

June 11, 1986 - Jon O'Connor of Grand Bend has been named junior student of the year at SHDHS.

W.F.B. "Mac" MacLaren has been honoured with a life membership in the Grand Bend Lions Club. He was a charter member of the club in 1950.

55 Years Ago

June 10, 1971 - Beginning June 23 all eating establishments in the village of Grand Bend will close at 2:30 a.m. The controversy started when the Chamber of Commerce sent a

resolution to council asking for a 2 a.m. curfew in an attempt to get people off the street and allow village residents to get some sleep. Councillors Ivan Luther and Shirley Sylvester voted for a 3 a.m. closing while Murray Desjardines and Dave Jackson were in favour of 2:30 a.m. Reeve John Pane broke the tie.

65 Years Ago

June 12, 1961 - The Exeter Golf Course being developed by Allan Westcott on the St. Marys road will be open for play this Saturday.

Bill Systma and Ruth Anne Salmon were two winners at the first Science Fair at SHDHS. There were over 100 entries in-

cluding some working models.

Bill Snow, a Grade 8 student at S.S. 2 Usborne won the trophy for finish in the Hensall Feeder Cal Club Friday night.

70 Years Ago

June 11, 1956 - Topping their grades at SHDHS were Volde-mars Gulens, Bill Pollen, Paul Wilson and Jane Horton.

Thames Road United Church which was erected in 1881 at a cost of \$4,000 will celebrate its 75th anniversary, Sunday.

80 Years Ago

June 10, 1946 - Dr. F.J. Milner is this week moving in to the residence he recently pur-

chased on Anne Street.

Mr. Harry Bierling, who for the past 29 years has conducted a general store in Exeter north has disposed of the business to F.C. Beaupre of Brockville.

Gordon Lamport, who has operated the Lamport Coffee Shop for almost two years has sold the business to Mr. George Rether of London.

105 Years Ago

June 11, 1921 - Frank Taylor's horse got fourth place in last week's Ailsa Craig races.

Mr. Fred Kerr of Crediton got third place in the Grand International Handicap Shoot at St. Thomas this week.

BLUEWATER COUNCIL BRIEFS

DAN ROLPH

Editor

Bridge tender comes in under budget

Councillors granted the tender for supplying the culvert and footings for a bridge on Parr Line to ARMTEC for \$222,930, excluding HST.

The bid was the lower of the two received for the project, with the higher bid coming in at \$231,299.

The 2026 municipal budget included \$570,000 for the bridge replacement project, with another \$34,803 remaining from the 2025 budget for the project, leaving the bridge replacement under budget.

In a report to council, municipal staff noted that the project would see cost savings because most of the work will

be handled by in-house staff.

Bluewater Mayor Paul Klopp said he was happy to see the final price tag.

"I almost had to read it twice," he said. "I couldn't believe the good news."

Bylaw enforcement activity

Bluewater saw 11 bylaw complaints opened in April.

Six of those complaints were related to property standards, while three involved animal control, one complaint fell under encroachment on municipal lands and one was tied to short-term rentals.

As of May 19, there were 57 files that remained open that were opened from 2020 to 2025, with most being opened last year. One file from 2025 was closed in April.

The municipality's bylaw enforcement department collected \$1,482 in unallocated revenue for three sign permits,

one pool enclosure permit, 10 parking tickets and 10 dog licenses.

Truck replacement tender

Bluewater will purchase a new truck to replace a 2012 Dodge 4500 in its fleet.

The tender for the truck was awarded to Premier Truck Group for \$162,351, excluding HST. The Premier bid was the lowest of three that were submitted, with the highest bid reaching \$195,283.

During 2026 budget deliberations, council earmarked \$200,000 for the truck replacement with the intention of adding a heavier duty vehicle to the fleet, bringing the tender in below budget.

Bayfield Marina to get new operator

With the retirement of the Bayfield Marina's current operator, Bluewater is set to hand over the reins to Jim Peever

starting Jan. 1, 2027, though negotiations remain ongoing.

Councillors directed staff to begin negotiating an operating agreement with Peever, which will need to be brought back to council for final approval at a later meeting.

According to a report prepared by facilities manager Maggie Off, Peever had the highest-ranked proposal of two submitted to the municipal in response to a request for proposals for the marina operations in Bayfield.

The Bayfield Marina operator is responsible for customer-focused operations, asset sustainability, environmental management and compliance with regulations.

The next Bayfield Marina operator is expected to enter into a five-year agreement with the municipality.

SOUTH HURON COUNCIL BRIEFS

JOHN MINER

Examiner Reporter

Thomas Street rebuild in next year's budget discussions

Total reconstruction of Thomas Street in Exeter will be part of budget discussions in 2027, South Huron council was told.

Don Giberson, infrastructure and development general manager, said the reconstruction will address flooding issues on the street. Preliminary engineering for the Thomas Street project is complete, and council can decide in the budget discussions exactly when the street will be rebuilt.

Until the rebuild is done, municipal staff will try to find cross connections between the storm sewer system and san-

itary sewers that contribute to the flooding, Giberson said. Earlier this year, council received complaints from residents on Thomas Street that their floor drains had backed up.

Council meeting start time debated

South Huron council is reviewing the bylaw that sets the rules for its meetings.

One suggestion in a report to council is to move the start time of regular council meetings to 5 p.m. from the current 6 p.m. and public meetings from 5 p.m. to 4 p.m. The change could decrease costs through the efficient use of staff and consultants time, the report said.

Councillors favouring keeping the 6 p.m. later start said the time was better for council members that worked full time and for members of the public who wanted to attend. The bylaw was

referred to a council committee of the whole meeting for further discussion.

No break for Trees and Me summer camp

A Dashwood Men's Club, Bluewater Youth Tug of War team, and South Huron trail run organization are not getting a break on charges for use of municipal facilities.

Coun. Aaron Neeb made the three motions to drop the charges for the groups, saying council wants to see the facilities used by the community.

He pointed out that none of the groups are registered charities and that was the reason council gave for refusing a request by The Trees and Me Forest School for free use of the kitchen in the South Huron recreation centre for their summer camp program.

Neeb suggested council reconsider its refusal, a move that would require a two-thirds vote with a councillor who had originally voted in favour of the refusal making the motion. There were no takers.

Windermere subdivision agreement approved

South Huron council has approved a 47-page subdivision agreement with Windermere Community Ltd. for development of 55.6 acres in Exeter.

To be developed in four phases, the subdivision is to consist of 159 single detached residential lots and a block for higher density residential development. Infrastructure, including a stormwater management facility, have already been installed at the site under a pre-servicing agreement.

OBITUARY

Waldron



Peacefully at Twin Lakes Terrace Nursing Home, Sarnia on Friday, May 29, 2026 in her 99th year. Cherished aunt of Gail and Jeff Dietrich of Sarnia, Cathy and Gary Hugill of Exeter, and great-aunt of Chris and Lori Dietrich, and their children Avah and Ryerson of

Sarnia. Predeceased by her parents John and Florence (Handford) Waldron, and siblings Jack and Thelma Waldron, Mervyn and Mary Waldron, and Denzil Waldron. Remembered by her nieces, nephews, cousins and their families in England. Thelma will be fondly remembered for her strong work ethic and the joy she found in her many years working at McLaren's on Main Street in Grand Bend. She often spoke of that time as some of the happiest years of her life, cherishing the friendships and memories she made there. A devoted dog lover, Thelma had a special place in her heart for her beloved spaniels. She spent many treasured years on Gill Road, where she and her brother, Den, took immense pride in their beautiful gardens and the family property that had been in their family for generations. When maintaining the property became too much, Thelma moved to the condos across the river, allowing her to continue enjoying the view of the land she loved so dearly. Visitation will be held at the Haskett Funeral Home, 118 Dashwood Main Street, DASHWOOD on Saturday, June 6th from 12 PM – 1 PM, where Thelma's memorial service will begin at 1:30 PM. Cremation with interment will be held at the Grand Bend Cemetery. Donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation or the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society would be appreciated by the family. *Condolences may be forwarded to www.haskettfh.com.*

OBITUARY

McKaig



It is with sadness that the family of Elizabeth Marilyn McKaig announce her passing on March 28th, 2026. Elizabeth was born on December 25th, 1944 in Aliston, Ontario. She will be sadly missed by her sisters Shirley Johnston and Marjorie (Doug) Woltz and their children. She was

predeceased by her parents William and Alethia McKaig and her nephew Colin Johnston. She had a loving, lifelong friendship with Edera & Jack Corry. Elizabeth attended the original Sudbury Mining and Technical School and was subsequently employed by the Ministry of Natural Resources in payroll for forty years. Growing up, Elizabeth was involved in competitive Scottish Highland Dancing participating in many competitions in Southern Ontario. Over the years she found her happy place painting pictures and enjoyed lessons with Ivan Wheale. Camping on the weekends painting in natural surroundings made her happy. She loved curling at the Sudbury Curling Club. She attended St. Mark's Church on Walford Road and sang in the choir. She was always available to go for coffee with friends. Since moving to Southwind Retirement Residence she has especially enjoyed their musical entertainment, afternoon tea, and most recently their bingo games and the big bingo wins. There will be a celebration of life this summer in Sudbury. She has been buried in the Staffa cemetery at Cromarty, Ontario in the family plot with her parents and uncle. Elizabeth was a cancer survivor for over 20 years. Donations can be made to the Canadian Mental Health Association, and the Canadian Cancer Society. A special thank you to Dr. Ramamohan Veluri for his kindness and caring, he made a true and lasting impact on our sister's life. Elizabeth was well cared for over the years by Dr. Moe and Dr. Monique St. Martin.

(Arrangements entrusted to the Jackson & Barnard Funeral Home)

OBITUARY

Fenton



Peacefully, surrounded by the love of her family, at Seaforth Community Hospital, Seaforth, on Thursday, May 21, 2026, Audrey Louise (Knapton) Fenton, formerly of Goderich, age 92. Beloved wife of the late William Ellwood Fenton (February 26, 2013). Loved mother

and mother-in-law of Linda Arnold and her partner Bob Hoffman of Dashwood, Larry Fenton of Centralia, Gayle Giammarco of London, Doug and Cindy Fenton of Auburn, Dale and Cindee Fenton of Ayton, Heather and Bernard Boyle of Auburn and Jim and Kim Fenton of Galt. Cherished grandma of 18 grandchildren and great-grandma of 34 great-grandchildren. Remembered by her nieces, nephews and their families. Predeceased by her parents Thomas Harold (1970) and Annie (MacDonald) Knapton (1982), infant son Robert Dale Fenton (1961), daughter Sherrie Lee Fenton (1987), twin siblings Donna Jean (Knapton) Bradley (1963) and Donald George (1982) and his wife Joan Knapton (2002), daughter-in-law Leona Fenton (2019), son-in-law Tony Giammarco (2024). At Audrey's request, cremation has taken place. A Private Family Graveside Service will be held at Ebenezer Cemetery, North Middlesex. Audrey was a dedicated farmer's wife who taught her children to work hard, spend wisely and show respect to all. She was our rock and salt of the earth. She loved to quilt and provided warmth and love with her many gifts to us. She helped us raise her grandchildren and they are all the better for it. She is deeply missed by all who call her Mother, Grandma, Great-Grandma and Friend. Arrangements entrusted to the T. Harry Hoffman & Sons Funeral Home, Dashwood. If desired, memorial donations (payable directly) to Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario (<https://epilepsyswo.ca/donate/>) or the Canadian Cancer Society (<https://cancer.ca/en>) would be appreciated by the family.

Condolences at www.hoffmanfuneralhome.com



We are looking to fill the position of

AZ Driver

Starting wage \$28.44/hour
Extensive Benefits and Pension
Stratford & area

Email resume- denise@fraserpaving.ca
or call 519-271-5690

www.fraserpaving.ca

Position your business alongside the events, entertainment, and traditions that make the Zurich Fair a community favourite. Reserve your space in the July 16 Event Guide and connect with readers before and during the fair.

CONTACT DEB LORD TO SECURE YOUR SPOT



519-520-5366
Deb@granthaven.com

Exeter Examiner
NEWSPAPER

The Exeter Examiner is here to support local organizations, events and seasonal initiatives while providing strong exposure opportunities for our advertising partners.

*In Loving Memory of Our Son
Marc Hodgins*



FIVE MINUTES

If I only had five minutes, the day you passed away.
I would have had time to tell you,
all the things I needed to say.
I never got to tell you, how much you mean to me.
Or that you were the best, that anyone could be.
The last time I talked to you, I wish I would have known.
I would have said I love you Marc, and kept you on the phone.
IF I ONLY HAD FIVE MINUTES
THE DAY YOU PASSED AWAY
I'd hold on to you with real tight hugs,
I wouldn't want you to go.
I would tell you that I'll miss you, more than you'll ever know.

*Loved & Missed
Dad & Mom, Michael & Kendra
& Canine companion Lucha*

Riddles

Where does today come before yesterday?
The dictionary.

What gets bigger when more is taken away?
A hole.

The more of this there is, the less you see.
What is it?
Darkness.

You walk into a dark, cold room that contains a kerosene lamp, a candle, and a fireplace. What would you light first?
A match.

People make me, keep me, change me, and raise me, even though I can be very dirty. What am I?
Money.

What breaks yet never falls, and what falls yet never breaks?
Day and night.

What has many keys but can't open a single lock?
A piano.

What goes through cities and towns, but never moves?
A road.

What can you hold in your left hand but not in your right?
Your right elbow.

What has 13 hearts, but no lungs, feet, or bellybuttons?
A deck of cards

Sudoku

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

Solutions on pg. 30

Pet of the Week

Heartworm is serious—but preventable.

Along with heartworm prevention, talk to your vet about multipurpose protection against fleas, ticks, and intestinal parasites.

Starting prevention early keeps your pets healthy, happy, and safe all year round.

One step today means a healthier tomorrow!



Sponsored By:
KIRKTON VET CLINIC
kirktonvetclinic.com 519-229-8911



ANGUS

Angus is a 5-year-old rescue who came to Canada from Texas. He's a sweet boy who loves to chase squirrels and watch birds. His favourite place is squeezed in between mom and dad for a good cuddle and belly rub.



Nominate your pet to be a Featured Pet by emailing info@exeterexaminer.com

office SOLUTIONS INC. Word Search

SPONSORED BY:

Office Solutions Inc. | 92 Main St. S. Exeter, ON N0M 1S1
p. 519.235.1840 | shop.shos.ca | info@shos.ca

TREES OF THE PINERY

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

- PINE
- WILLOW
- WALNUT
- HAZEL
- OAK
- BEECH
- ELM
- MULBERRY
- BARBERRY
- MAGNOLIA
- LAUREL
- WITCH HAZEL
- SYCAMORE
- APPLE
- CHERRY

COMING EVENTS

Brought to you by:



• 69 Main Street E., Grand Bend, ON
519-238-2362
• 122 King Street, Hensall, ON
519-262-3140

JUNE

GRAND BEND AREA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE JUNE PROGRAM

MON & THURS. 8:45-9:45AM Medium Low impact aerobic exercise that includes cardio, strength, & flexibility exercises. Community Room GBACHC. cmxfield@gbchc.com

MON & THURS 10 - 10:45AM - High low impact aerobic exercise with Joy that includes cardio, strength, and flexibility. Community Room GBACHC cmxfield@gbchc.com

MONDAYS & THURS 1:00-2 PM - Functional Fitness with Julie. Most gentle class for people with mobility issues. Hensall Arena and virtual in Grand Bend at GBACHC Mondays. Thursdays in person in Grand Bend Contact Julie at jdatars@gbchc.com

TUES & THUR. FRI. 8:30AM - Exercise Port Franks Community Centre. Line Dancing from 8:30-9 am. Medium Low impact aerobic exercises from 9-10 cmxfield@gbchc.com

TUES & THUR. 6:00-6:45PM - Joys Evening Exercise Classes High low impact Community Room GBACHC. Saturday mornings from 10-10:45 am. cmxfield@gbchc.com

WED. 10-11:00 AM - Walk & Talk Hensall Arena. Contact Grace at gbonnett@gbchc.com. Fun social walking program with coffee and chatting to finish

WED. 9:20-11 AM - Pinery Walking Group. Meet at the Lambton Heritage Museum parking lot 9:00 am. Email Lindsey lindseyashworthducharme@gmail.com

THURSDAYS 9:30-12AM - Early On program free program for adults with children birth to 6 years. Adult Day Wing, GBACHC. Summer program at Optimist Park. Contact earlyonchild-care.ca or 519-786-6161 x

9226.

FRI. JUNE 12, 19 & 26TH - "Vinyasa Yoga and Chair Yoga" GBACHC in Community room. Vinyasa at 8:30am, Chair at 9:45 am. Contact cmxfield@gbchc.com

THURS. JUNE 18TH 1:30-3:30, Alzheimer's caregiver support group. Support group program with trained facilitator Randy Chapman. 1-800-561-5012. Adult Day wing at GBACHC.

SATURDAYS 8:30-11:30 AM - Walk In Medical Clinic Gbchc. Open to anyone in the community who needs medical attention (Not an Urgent Care or Emergency Centre). For more information of any of these programs contact Cindy Maxfield at cmxfield@gbchc.com

JUNE 3 Bayfield Village-Wide Yard Sale. 8-11 A.M. There are bargains throughout the village as the yard sale is held in Bayfield.

JUNE 6 - 7AM TO 12PM. Brucefield Firemans Breakfast. \$15 adults / \$5 children.

SAT JUNE 6TH, 2 1 PM-3 PM. - National Bowls Day Open House Slide on those flat soled shoes and come on over to the Exeter Lawn Bowling Club at 298 Main St. S. in downtown Exeter and Give Bowls a Try. Refreshments, draws, and the fun of lawn bowling, all for free. Ages 8 and older welcome.

SUN., JUNE 7 12-4PM - Brush Strokes Art Show and Sale. Celebrate Bayfield's 150th Birthday with the Bayfield Artist Guild. Featuring a "We Love Where We Live" exhibit along with other creative works of art from local artists. Clan Gregor Square, Rain Date: June 13 12-4pm. Kids Free Pop-Up Art. Lake Huron Suncatchers.

SUN., JUNE 7 - 8AM-12PM - Firefighter Home-Cooked Country Breakfast. Sunday, June 7. Ailsa Craig Community Centre, 155 Annie Ada Shipley Drive, Ailsa Craig. All money fundraised supports VON services in our community.

SUN., JUNE 7 9-11 - Grand Bend Legion Community Breakfast. Everyone welcome.

SUN., JUNE 7 1-4PM, Youth Bluewater Tug-of-War Bottle Drive. Zurich arena parking lot. Collect and drop off your empties to support the Bluewater Youth Tug-of-War team. Show community spirit and support these young athletes.

SUN, JUNE 7 - 1-2PM Crediton and District Optimist Club invite you to come out and interact with creatures from Sam's Scales and Tails.. Crediton Community Centre. \$10 per person. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Email tina.premont@hotmail.com to register by May 23. Spots are limited

MON., JUNE 8, 7PM - to our 52nd Annual Ceremonial Review. The 2923 Exeter Army Cadet Corps is pleased to invite families, friends, and members of the community to our 52nd Annual Ceremonial Review. Join us for an evening celebrating the hard work, leadership, and achievement. South Huron District High School

MON., JUNE 8 - 5:30PM "Free" Barn Preservation and Century Farm Event. Barn Restaurant, 70374 Kirkton Rd., Exeter. With presentations by a barn preservation expert and a representative from the Junior Farmer's Association on Century Farms. Social and snacks 5:30pm. Presentations 6pm. Hosted by the South Huron Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee.

TUES., JUNE 9 1:30 PM- Wilberforce Rocks the Park. Market Street Park, Lucan. Bring lawn chairs and umbrellas. Hosted by the Wilberforce Concert Band.

WED JUNE 10TH 7 PM TO 8PM. - Open House Put on those flat soled shoes and come on over to the Exeter Lawn Bowling Club at 298 Main St. S. in downtown Exeter and Give Bowls a Try. Ages 8 and older welcome.

JUNE 10 - 5:30PM-7:30PM, - Come enjoy & protect nature! Hay Swamp Stewards is a new volunteer group working to preserve and enhance habitat in Hay Swamp. We plant natives, manage invasives, conduct citizen science and more, all while enjoying time spent in the great outdoors! Everyone is welcome - no previous experience required. Sessions will be held starting on May 20. Every second Wednesday, Meet on Parr Line, just a bit north of

MacDonald Rd. For more information, please visit <https://www.hayswampstewards.ca>

JUNE 13 - Ailsa Craig United Church raffle to raise money for a new furnace. Draw date Tickets \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Etransfer acunedfundraising@execulink.com & send a picture of the transfer to 519-671-2988 and receive back a picture of your tickets.

SAT., JUNE 13 11AM-3PM - Ailsa Craig Fun Day. Lions Quest Youth invites you to: Ailsa Craig Fun Day, Sat., June 13. Ailsa Craig Ball Diamond, 139 Ana Ada Shipley St. Free Family event.

SUN, JUNE 14 - 10AM-2PM - Car Show at Grand Bend Legion.. Cars start rolling at: 7:30am. BBQ onsite; 50/50 draw; door prizes. Bring your ride, bring your friends and enjoy a great day! Car entry fee: min. donation of \$10.

JUNE 13 & 14 'The Way Back' - Join us for a fun afternoon on June 13 and 14 -2pm with an original production featuring our Creative Arts Youth crew. 'The Way Back'. The Truth will always lead you home." A theatrical production. Centralia Faith Tabernacle, 140 Victoria Drive, Centralia. Stay after performance for treats and some family fun.

TUES., JUNE 16 - 7PM - Enjoy live jazz & soulful candlelight reflection. The Nevin Campbell Trio. Jazz Vespers. All ages event. 25 Main St., Grand Bend.

THURS., JUNE 18 4-7PM - 5th Strawberry Social. Good Neighbours of Bluewater presents 5th Strawberry Social. Thurs., June 18 -4-7pm. Entertainment by the Bayfield Ukulele Society. St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 22 Goshen Line S. Zurich.

JUNE 20 - Exeter Town-wide Yard Sale. Exeter. Great deals on collectibles, treasures and other good stuff at Exeter's town-wide yard sale.

SAT, JUNE 20 - White Squirrel Cares Foundation. Rock the Range. Newfoundland Kitchen Party Edition. White Squirrel Golf Club. Music by: Off the Rock Canada's Great Big Sea Tribute. In support of Magnetic Moments Campaign.

SUN, JUNE 21 - 10 AM. Charity Fun Competetion. Participants can try their hand at rifle, handgun, skeet, and trap events — all while

supporting SafePet Ontario, an organization that helps pets stay safe. Fee \$40.00 For all Four Events. One Event \$10.00 CLAYBIRD GUN CLUB 71363 Ausable Line, Bluewater (Exeter), ON. Prizes: Proceeds to Safe Pet Ontario Lean more: safepet.ca Contact: Doug Moore 519-264-3101 Check out our website: www.claybird.ca

JUNE 27 - 10AM - 2PM. Show & Shine. Car Show. Royal Canadian Legion Branch 540, 136 Market Street, Lucan. BBQ and refreshments.

SAT, JUNE 27 3PM Fund-raiser for Raquel Murray. Port Franks Community Centre. Sat., June 27 - 3pm. Wear your pink! Family friend outdoor fundraiser event with food, music and games for the children and families. For info: llattard@gmail.com

SUN, JUNE 28 - 2-4 P.M. - Crystal Gage and Ryan St Denis, Country and Western. Zion United Church, 6 Victoria Ave W, Crediton. \$25.00/person call Ruth 519-234-6035 or Joan 519-237-3806

SUNDAY, JUNE 28 - 2-4 P.M. - Crystal Gage and Ryan St Denis, Country and Western. Zion United Church, 6 Victoria Ave W, Crediton. \$25.00/person call Ruth 519-234-6035 or Joan 519-237-3806

KIRKTON LIBRARY BRANCH - kirktonlibrary@huronty.ca - 519-229-8854

WEDNESDAY JUNE 10TH, 4PM-5PM Crafternoons (ages 6-12)

EXETER LIBRARY BRANCH - exeterlibrary@huronty.ca - 519-235-1890

THURSDAY JUNE 11TH, 10:30-11:30AM Craft and Connect (formerly Crochet for a Cause)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17TH 3:30-4:30PM Art Club (ages 10+)

JULY

SUNDAY, JULY 5 10AM - Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron & South Bruce North Huron presents Golf Fore Kids' Sake 2026. shotgun start. White Squirrel Golf Course, 72538 Bluewater Highway, Zurich. For more info contact Angie Steckle. angie.steckle@big-brothersbigsissters.ca

WED JULY 8TH, 6:30 - Huron Apothecary/Home Hardware Open Pairs Tournament. \$20 per player Register at ExeterLBC.tournaments@gmail.com

JULY 20 TO 24, 9AM-12PM - Vacation Bible School. Join us this Summer for our Emerald Crossing Vacation Bible School at Zion Lutheran Dashwood! VBS will be from July 20th-July 24th, from 9am-Noon. Children going into kindergarten up to children going into grade 6 are all welcome. We look forward to seeing you all there! Registration Link: <https://vbsmate.com/events/ziondashwood/31803>

AUGUST

AUGUST 8 & 9 Co-ed mixed recreational slo-pitch tournament sponsored by the Kirkton-Woodham Optimists. Family-friendly event. Contact Helen 519-301-6099.

WED AUGUST 5TH, 6:30 Syfilco Open Pairs Tournament. \$20 per player Register at ExeterLBC.tournaments@gmail.com

THANK YOU

Ulch

Thank you to our family and friends for all the gifts, food, cards, phone calls, texts and visits following my fall and hip surgery.

To the Nursing Staff and the Physio gals at St. Marys Memorial Hospital, thank you for your patience and kindness and being firm with me so I would get walking again.

John Ulch


Zion Lutheran Church
148 Frederick St., Dashwood
• www.berea-zionlcc.ca
• bnz@hay.net
• Cell: 519-878-0327
9:45 am Sunday School Sep-Jun
11:00 am Family Worship Service
Facebook: ZionDashwood
Instagram: zionlutherandashwood

Worship
With
Us


BUSINESS DIRECTORY

OFFICE SUPPLIES & SERVICES

office SOLUTIONS INC.
 p. 519.235.1840
 info@shos.ca
 Order Online:
 shop.shos.ca
 92 Main St. S. Exeter

SIDING / EAVES / ROOFING

TRUE TROUGH LTD.
 Seamless Eavestrouthing
 Siding - Soffit - Fascia
 Asphalt - Steel - Flat Roofing
 Windows - Doors - Decks
TREVOR TRUENNER
 Hensall, Ontario
 Cell: 519-671-6117
 Email: truetrough@gmail.com

METAL PRODUCTS

Dietrich Metal Products
 Metal Fabricating • Lumber & Metal Sales
 For all your building needs
519-294-6940
 35665 Salem road, Parkhill

CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

FABRIC MASTER
 CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
519-228-6051
 WE DO THEM ALL - BIG OR SMALL
 • CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
 • TRUCKMOUNT STEAM CLEANING
 • WATER EXTRACTION
 • DRYER & DEHUMIDIFIER RENTALS
 • HOME, BUSINESS, RV, BOAT & AUTOS
 WE USE ONLY ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. United States and Canada
2. Woodstock
3. Harper Lee
4. Saturn
5. El Salvador
6. Green Card
7. 2001
8. Alphabet Inc.(Google)
9. Sean Connery
10. American Israel Public Affairs Committee

AUCTIONEER

JACOB AUCTIONS
 Estate • Farm • Real Estate
 "Our Place Or Yours"
 David & Doug Jacob
519-348-9896
 jacobauctions.com

LAWN CARE & MAINTENANCE

- ✓ Lawn mowing & reseeding
- ✓ Stone Work & Junk removal
- ✓ Aggregate/mulch delivery and installs
- ✓ Firewood sales and delivery
- ✓ Yard leveling & rough grading
- ✓ Wet yard & water drainage solutions
- ✓ Driveway rebuilding & regrading
- ✓ Gravel parking areas & laneways
- ✓ Shed, hot tub & patio base preparation
- ✓ Brush clearing & property clean up

A full service landscape company servicing Huron County
JARED'S (519) 494-7624
 LAWN CARE

FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

GC FINANCIAL
 Solutions Group
 • Established 1952 •
 Building Wealth for Generations
 425 Main St, Exeter
 39 Ontario Rd, Mitchell
 519-235-2740
 gc.financial@sunlife.com

AUTO GLASS & CARE

Home & Auto Glass
 Sales & Installation
 Les MacDonald Installations
 Office: (519)-235-1829
 Mobile: (226)-268-4492
 79 Victoria St. W. Exeter, ON

SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

PHOTO QUIZ ANSWER

Double-crested Cormorant

ROOFING

Jb JIM BECKER CONSTRUCTION (2013)
TILCOR
 STONE COATED STEEL ROOFING SYSTEMS
DAN BECKER
 • 519-871-4907
JIM BECKER
 • 519-237-3526
 jdbecker@hay.net

DRAINAGE SOLUTIONS

PARKER PARKER LIMITED
 "Quality, Experience & Service."
Drainage Solutions
 • Backhoe/Excavating Work
 • Septic Design & Installation
 • Soil Erosion Contractor
 Call Wayne Cook
 519-236-7390

HYDRO EXCAVATION

CT ENVIRONMENTAL
 • Hydro Excavating
 • Sewer Cleaning
 • CCTV Video Inspection
 Cathy Cook • 519-236-7401

WESTERN APPAREL & KENNELS

CARLOT COUNTRY CLOTHIER • WESTERNWEAR, DESIGNER & WEDDING APPAREL
 • BOOTS - Work & Western
 • ART, JEWELLERY, GIFTS
 Thurs.-Fri.-Sat. 9:30am-5pm
 • Pet Supplies • TACK SHOP
OKIOK KENNEL & CATTERY
 • Siberian Huskies For Sale
 • Boarding All Breeds
 • Dog Food For Sale
 35619 Salem Rd. Parkhill
 Between Corbett & Mt. Carmel
 519.294.0494

GRANT HAVEN MEDIA

COMPUTER SALES & SERVICE

LRV Computing & Consulting
 Specializing in all things Computer Since 1997
 519-235-2136 lrvcomputing.com
 153 Anne St., Exeter, ON
 Email: AL@LRVCOMPUTING.COM

PAINTING

GLAVIN PAINTING
 BARN | COMMERCIAL | INTERIOR
MARTY GLAVIN 519.808.0556
 glavinpainting@gmail.com Interior Painting by Marty Glavin

CUSTOM WORKS

SPRIELHAVEN Custom Works 226-880-2270
 • Custom 3x4 baling
 • Able to cut to 44 mm
 • Acid available
 • Mowing and merging available

GRANT HAVEN MEDIA **ADVERTISE LOCAL**
 Support the local businesses that keep your community and its newspapers thriving.
 Canada

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE AT GRANTHAVEN.COM

CLASSIFIED



Active Living through Social, Cultural, Learning and Recreational Program
FB @WestCoastActiveLiving • Email wcal@hay.net

BINGO NIGHT
 Join us for an evening of fun, excitement, and fantastic prizes at our monthly Bingo Night

THURSDAY APRIL 16
THURSDAY MAY 21
THURSDAY JUNE 18

DOORS OPEN 6 PM
 BINGO START 7 PM

SOUTH HURON REC CENTRE
 WCAL@HAY.NET

WELLNESS AND ACTIVE LIVING FAIR - JUNE 10
South Huron Recreation Centre
STARTING AT 9:30AM - WITH TAI CHI

DISCOVER SERVICES: HP-OHT, SHHA, GBDHC, Gateway, Sunset Foundation, SH Fire Department
LEARN: Diabetes Care, Community Safety And Well Being, Huron OPP, Better Use Of iPads, Tablets and Automatic Defibrillators
CELEBRATE SENIORS: Noon Sandwiches
ENTERTAINMENT: SH Ukelele
TICKETS: \$5 **519-630-2819**

TAI CHI
in Exeter

TAI CHI in Exeter
2nd & 4th Thursday of the Month
 Free of charge! Donations accepted.

South Huron District High School (Small Gym)
 92 Gidley Street, E, Exeter

CONFIRM PRESENCE WITH ROSALYN BY
RMFAST@GMAIL.COM

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED TO BUY
 All collectibles including sports cards, beanie babies, Funko pops and stamps. Highest prices paid. Free appraisals. Are you downsizing or need an estate clean out? We can help. We are at the Pinery Market at Grand Bend every Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call or text Stan anytime 519-868-3814.

THE EXETER EXAMINER IS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT OUR COMMUNITIES!

Interested in becoming an Exeter Examiner pick up location?
 Contact Deb Lord for more information.
Deb Lord, Sales Rep
519-520-5366 • deb@granthaven.com

Scan to read online

EXETER
1 BDRM APARTMENT in House
Main Level / 5 steps from grade, 6 appliances, all inclusive utilities (Hydro, Heat / A/C, water, wastewater & internet) Contracted driveway snow removal and grass cutting/trimming. Softened water, Purified drinking water system (you do NOT need to buy any bottled water!) Continuous/unlimited hot water supply. Full or partial furnishings may be negotiated or possibly included. In very clean, well maintained older individual House. Newly renovated including new kitchen & bathroom cabinetry & fixtures. Short walk to 3 schools, hospital, 2 medical clinics, 2 dental clinics, optometrist, library, post office, municipal office, Service Ontario, 2 variety stores, 2 banks, several restaurants, laundromat, grocery store, & much, much more in our lovely downtown. ABSOLUTELY NO PETS OR SMOKING ON ENTIRE PROPERTY! 1 parking space with guest parking available. 1 year Lease with full 1st & last month in advance. Require 3 strong references (previous Landlord's preferred; NO family or friends) 2 VERY nice 1 bdrm, all inclusive units available. Must be seen to appreciate! Great for Seniors! #1 @ \$1,900/month, all inclusive. Available immediately. #2 @ \$2,000/month, all inclusive. Available immediately.

Call: 519-235-4543
 & ask for Mark or Leave a Message.

Overheard
At McCafé

Brought to you by: **McDonald's**

Grand Bend, 75 Main Street East • 519-238-6991 Exeter, 261 Main Street North • 519-235-4227

"I could coach the Toronto Maple Leafs for \$100,000 and do a better job!"

"My summer body is looking like I have a great personality."

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

White Squirrel Watch

PHOTO COLLEEN REYMER

COLLEEN SPOTTED THIS WHITE SQUIRREL IN MCNAUGHTON PARK IN EXETER

Nominate your White Squirrel sightings by emailing info@exeterexaminer.com



Grand reopening!

The first 300 people on Thursday, June 11th get a \$10 Sobeys gift card.

Doors open at 8am



**Sobeys
Grand Bend**

55 Main
Street East



Sobeys