

# Woodstock Ingersoll Echo

VOLUME 3 • ISSUE 7

AUGUST 29, 2025

FREE

## Hear Better This Summer

Stay connected with friends and family



Independently owned and operated  
**226-232-8122**  
79 Montclair Dr, Woodstock



### Clinic Services

- Hearing Assessments
- Hearing Aid Options/Advice
- Hearing Aid Repair/Cleaning
- Wax Removal

**Book your free hearing test today!**

**Crispy Slice** Pizza  
**519-290-4330**

### CRISPY MONSTER DEAL

Two- Large 3 topping pizzas  
Includes 2 free dips

Upsize to XL for \$3.00 extra  
**\$24.99**

TAKE-OUT & DELIVERY

Add one lb of wings for \$9.99 with any pickup or delivery order

## Oxford County Council rejects TVDSB trustee adoption

LEE GRIFFI

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A pair of Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) trustees asked Oxford County Council to 'adopt' them into the fold. Ultimately, councillors accepted the request as information since there is no available mechanism to make that happen.

The Ontario Ministry of Education announced the results of an audit into the Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) on April 23. As a result, the government appointed Paul Boniferro to oversee the board and, in doing so, replaced the Board of Trustees. As long as TVDSB is under supervision, Boniferro will make all decisions normally made by the board. Trustees are also no longer paid and have had their email access removed.

"Let me start by saying we are here representing our elected positions as Oxford County's public school board trustees and we are not here representing the TVDSB," exclaimed trustee Leanne Hopkins. "All our resources as trustee...have been removed, and really the only role we have currently under the supervision is advocacy," she added.

Hopkins talked about concerns about planning for the new Turtle Island elementary school in Woodstock, which is slated to open next year. She said families are reaching out, saying their children will be sent to different schools next week.

"They have one going to Hickson and one going to Zorra. You can see that could be an issue for our families...as it could add a stress level. Without having a local representative there to assist them in a pathway to come to a resolution for their issue...could leave them without that being answered."

CONTINUED TO PAGE 4



(LEE GRIFFI PHOTO)

### THE END OF AN ERA

Woodstock's Lions Pool is being demolished this week after a plea from some residents to refurbish the 75-year-old facility failed. It took two days for the main building to be taken down. The pool itself is made up of two parts of poured concrete, meaning a heavier piece of machinery is being called in to complete the task. It was permanently closed in 2023, following inspections that revealed a torn liner and concerns about the pool's overall aging condition.

## Warden talks takeaways from this year's AMO conference

LEE GRIFFI

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Marcus Ryan led the Oxford County contingent at this year's Association of Municipalities of Ontario's annual conference.

The event gives local politicians and senior staff from municipalities across the province an opportunity to rub elbows with their counterparts at the Ontario government to lobby predominantly, increased funding.

Ryan said the majority of his time at AMO in recent years has been spent delegating on behalf of the Township of Zor-

ra, Oxford County, or the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus.

"Most of my time is spent in meetings with ministers trying to realize opportunities or address issues. I think the main issues we are trying to prioritize or get traction on with ministers are around the Community Paramedicine Program we deliver through funding from the Ministry of Long-Term Care."

The program is a proactive healthcare initiative developed by Oxford County Paramedic Services that extends care beyond 911 responses. Instead of focusing solely on emergencies, it emphasizes preventative care, chronic disease management, and in-home support for vulnerable populations.

CONTINUED TO PAGE 3



**CHECK OUT OUR NEW KITCHEN & BATH DESIGN CENTRE**  
OFFERING ESTIMATES, INSTALLATION, DESIGN, AND DELIVERY FOR YOUR RENOVATION  
CONTACT WALTER WEBB AT 519-532-2939 FOR DETAILS

**ADAMS**  
BUILDING SUPPLY

VISIT US AT:  
**1000 PARKINSON ROAD,  
WOODSTOCK, ON**

**(519) 539-1211 • ADAMSBUILDINGSUPPLY.COM • MON – FRI: 7 AM TO 6 PM, SAT: 8 AM TO 5 PM**



# Woodstock

---

## DENTURE CLINIC



### Accepting CDCP Patients

We are accepting  
patients with the  
Canadian Dental Care  
Program.

Keeping your smile looking great and feeling happy is the number one priority of the team at the Woodstock Denture Clinic. We specialize in complete, partial, metal-free dentures and implant retained dentures.

### Complete Denture Services

- Digital Impressions
- Exams and Free Consultations
- Implant-Supported Dentures
- Standard and Immediate Dentures
- Partial Dentures
- Relines, Rebases and Repairs
- Referrals to Other Specialists

**Ben Beattie, DD**  
**Sara Lauzon, DD**  
**Denturists**

**79 Montclair Drive, Woodstock**

*Plenty of parking available!*

**woodstockdentureclinic.ca | 519-320-7080**

# Homelessness funding among the top issues

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

“Our funding for it was always year by year; it was never stable. The province announced a couple of weeks ago it was going to be permanent, but there hasn’t been an increase for inflation in a couple of years. We had a constructive conversation with the minister about that.”

To no one’s surprise, Ryan admitted the number one issue in his conversations was around funding for the county’s homelessness prevention plan. Oxford has received just over \$2.9 million for several years.

“It’s not indexed to inflation, so we’ve gotten the same amount for five years, and as everybody knows, the cost of everything has gone up over five years, so we are doing a little bit less every year. I struck up a conversation with the minister about what we would be doing with that money if we got more of it.”

Ryan said several pieces, including the upcoming HART Hub, are coming together to improve the homelessness situation in the county, but stable funding with inflationary increases would make a big difference in the battle to get more people off the streets.

He explained it is difficult for him to explore parts of the conference where pioneering ideas are presented. As a mayor and warden, he has more opportunities to try and advance issues on behalf of residents. He admitted he isn’t able to attend as many learning sessions where new ideas are floated.

“The parts of the conference where people go and hear from people present on new and innovative things they are doing, I just don’t get to go to those anymore. I have to rely on other councillors or staff telling me about them. I literally go with a binder of delegation packages, and I literally go from room to room, sitting down with different ministers and parliamentary assistants, telling them about policy and funding we need in Zorra and Oxford.”

Ryan and the rest of the county’s team had an opportunity to debrief on the drive home from Ottawa, and he has gone over notes from Oxford’s Sarah Hamulecki, Oxford’s Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Intergovernmental Relations.

“We will be having a sit-down meeting to

discuss next steps, and we do have an advocacy strategy now. That’s fine if the mayor or the warden wants to talk to a minister, that’s great that I got some facetime and a photo, but all that matters to residents is did I get the policy change or the funding I wanted to get.”

He explained an extensive review is undertaken after conferences like AMO, done under the lens of what comes next to advance priorities important to residents.

The cost to attend AMO is approximately \$1,000 per delegate, plus hotel, travel, and other expenses. Ryan said taxpayers have every right to ask the total cost of the convention and other lobbying efforts, but he is confident the expenses are justified. He provided an example of just how important government relations is, saying it is an investment.

“Oxford County made a delegation to Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs in January and said we need \$722,000 from a funding envelope from a funding envelope we’ve never gotten money from before. It would allow us to build more affordable housing, do more community outreach to the homeless population, and start a seasonal emergency shelter in Tillsonburg. In March, we received that money to do all those things.”

Ryan said he is aware of other municipalities that didn’t receive money from that particular funding stream.

“Three-quarters of a million dollars compared to the cost of a few of us going to the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) in January is money well spent. The cost of a hotel and a few meals is a drop in the bucket if we can get funding and policy changes that structurally change the Oxford County budget.”

The AMO conference is Ontario’s largest annual gathering of municipal officials. It is a non-profit organization that represents Ontario’s 444 cities, towns, townships and counties. It attempts to further municipal interests to the Ontario and federal governments, researches and develops positions on issues like housing, transit, climate change, policing, and municipal finance. It also provides training, workshops, and conferences for municipal staff and elected officials.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Oxford County was well represented at the recent AMO Conference in Toronto. CAO Ben Addley and Warden Marcus Ryan (left) sit across the table from Ontario Education Minister Paul Calandra.

## Attention: NAME CHANGE

*Family Owned & Operated since 2008*

**Glendinning**  
**Funeral Home LTD**  
**McBeath-Dynes Chapel**

A Tradition of Comfort. A Promise of Care.



### Directors

**Robert Rivest**  
**Dave Nancekievill**  
**Jeff Glendinning**

- Transfer of Funeral Arrangements & Prearrangements from other establishments at NO COST
- Options to pre-plan at NO COST
- Full Service Funeral Home that offers: Cremation Services, Traditional Services, Memorial Gatherings
- After funeral assistance at NO COST
- We offer a wide selection of: Caskets, Urns, Scattering Tubes, Keepsake Urns & Jewelry



Owners  
**Jeff & Michelle**  
**Glendinning**

**246 Thames Street South**  
**Ingersoll, ON N5C 2T7**

Phone:  
**519-425-1600**

Website:  
**www.mcbeathdynes.ca**

Email:  
**info@mcbeathdynes.com**



# Trustees concerned about lack of advocacy for local education issues

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Trustee Dave Cripps echoed concerns regarding communication between the board and families as September and a return to school are imminent.

“We are likely to see an influx of questions from Oxford County residents for everything from transportation, where folks have their kids going to school, and why they are split across different schools.”

He added that in the absence of trustees, it will be very difficult to locate the correct resource at the board to resolve issues in a timely manner.

“Those are the pieces I am most concerned about at this point. Leanne and I remain committed to that advocacy to support people through navigation of the system and communication.”

Councillor and Woodstock Mayor Jerry Acchione asked Cripps what the best way is for parents to get answers to their local education questions.

“You should be directing residents to reach out to MPP Ernie Hardeman’s office. (They) have been provided with a 1-800 number for someone in Toronto who is supposed to answer those queries. Our anecdotal information tells us those aren’t being responded to very quickly.”

He added the alternative is to reach out to a superintendent or the TVDSB’s director of education, Bill Tucker.

“The challenge with that, as you can imagine, is the director...is a very busy man and tends not to be able to respond in a timely fashion.”

One question on the minds of many people affected by the province’s takeover is how long the situation is going to last. Deputy Warden and Ingersoll Mayor Bri-

an Petrie posed that question to Cripps.

“The supervisor will be in place until such time as the budget deficit is turned into a one per cent surplus. Based on the structural nature of the deficit at TVDSB, it is likely to be two cycles, so likely until 2027.”

Petrie added he doesn’t have children but understands the importance of education and added the county is fortunate to have Cripps and Hopkins advocating for parents and students. His issue with the adoption request is the lack of jurisdiction.

“From my short research, the trustees are clearly under the Ministry of Education, so it makes it difficult to be able to step in like that. But I certainly would advocate for the return of those functions that are not directly related to any sort of financial matters.”

Acchione said he has reached out to the pair of trustees on many occasions, so families were able to get the help they needed to navigate the local education landscape. He added

“I’m not really sure how we go about doing that as a council and what authorities, if any, we would have. I would certainly support both of them as great advocates for all of Oxford County and all the changes going on.”

He added he would support any opportunity to advocate to the Ministry of Education.

“To say listen, we are having people in our neighbourhoods dealing with our local problems is just an absolute must.”

Warden Marcus had the final say following the trustee’s presentation and took the opportunity

“It’s unfortunate some of the communication around



(TVDSB PHOTO)

Dave Cripps was one of two Oxford TVDSB trustees to ask Oxford County Council to adopt them at a recent council meeting. Councillors received the presentation as information as they had no jurisdiction over Ministry of Education matters.

the school board being placed under supervisorship paints all the trustees with the same brush. I know for a fact there are many, unfortunately, a minority of trustees who have pointed out the exact reasons why the board is in this position.”

*Missed an issue? View all past issues online anytime:*  
**theecho.ca**

**GRANT  
HAVEN  
MEDIA**

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

**Woodstock Ingersoll Echo**

**Publisher**

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

**Editor**

Lee Griffi • [leegriffi@rogers.com](mailto:leegriffi@rogers.com)

**Graphic Design / Sales Inquiries**

Stacie Eden • [info@theecho.ca](mailto:info@theecho.ca)

**Business Development**

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

**Billing Administrator**

Cindy Boakes • [boakescindy1576@gmail.com](mailto:boakescindy1576@gmail.com)

**Administrative Assistant**

Wendy Lamond • [wendylamond74@gmail.com](mailto:wendylamond74@gmail.com)

**Photojournalist**

Ron Yuzark • [ryuzark@rogers.com](mailto:ryuzark@rogers.com)

**Contributors**

Emily Stewart, Paul Knowles, Nancy Abra, Gary West, Doris Weir

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

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



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



**SUBMIT YOUR LETTER TO THE  
EDITOR TO US!**

**EMAIL:  
INFO@THEECHO.CA**

**Woodstock Ingersoll Echo**

**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

# The Kia Niro EV

Get **0%** financing for up to  
**84 months\***



Canada

## Counts on Kia

Savings Event



Movement that inspires



**Anderson Kia** 1231 Dundas St. Woodstock, ON, N4S 7V9  
Sales/Service: 519-537-6681 | [www.andersonkia.ca](http://www.andersonkia.ca)

# New WAG director/curator Hartstone looking to connect community to the gallery

EMILY STEWART  
*Echo Correspondent*

Alexandra Hartstone knew that when she saw the Woodstock Art Gallery had a job opening for a new director/curator, she had to apply.

Hartstone has been part of the gallery as the new director/curator for about three weeks. Before joining the Woodstock Art Gallery Team, she spent more than a decade working in other Ontario art galleries like the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, the Art Gallery of Guelph, and the Grimsby Public Gallery. Hartstone admires the work of previous director/curator Mary Reid and has kept her eye on the Woodstock Art Gallery for quite some time.

“Physically, it's one of the most beautiful buildings I've really laid eyes on so I'm quite excited to be here, but Mary Reid has done a lot of really great work bringing the visibility of the gallery really on the map in terms of the culture

landscape across Canada and within this region,” she said.

Although she studied fine arts in post-secondary, Hartstone found that working in arts management was better suited for her than being a creator.

“I always had such a love even as a child for making and being creative and while I don't think I have it to be a practicing artist, I always wanted to be involved in some way so my way of being in this role of supporting the arts and artists and culture is in this kind of fashion,” she said.

So far, she's enjoying her new position.

“The team is wonderful and they've done a really good job, really getting me organized and sorted and bringing me into all the upcoming projects that are happening right now, and there are so many really exciting things on the horizon for the gallery, so it's been really fun to just kind of dive in,” said Hartstone.

As Woodstock Art Gallery director/curator, Hartstone wants to ensure that

the gallery further establishes itself as an inclusive and accessible space for everyone, not just those who are experts in the visual arts.

“There's this kind of unspoken idea that you can't go in there unless you know about art and you have to whisper in there and you have to be quiet, and it's totally not the case,” she said. “I really want to break down those barriers and really make sure that the community of Woodstock feels welcome to come in.”

Hartstone's time as director/curator begins just as the gallery prepares for its 60th anniversary in 2026. Sneak peaks are expected around the end of this calendar year, and announcements on programming and exhibitions will be made in January 2026. In the meantime, Hartstone is looking forward to meeting everyone at upcoming events like the Taste of Art on Sept. 20.

"I just hope to meet and look forward to meeting all the different faces of Woodstock and Oxford County," she said.



(PHOTO PROVIDED BY ALEXANDRA HARTSTONE)  
New Woodstock Art Gallery director/curator Alexandra Hartstone is thrilled to be part of the gallery and is looking forward to getting to know the Oxford County community.

Visit us online at [theecho.ca](http://theecho.ca)

# Share moments, not measles.

Measles is a contagious virus and it's spreading.

But there's good news, the measles vaccine is safe, highly effective and can provide life-long protection from measles.

Vaccination doesn't just protect you, it also protects your family and your community, especially at-risk groups like babies or people with weakened immune systems.

Contact your local public health unit to check your vaccination status or book a vaccine appointment today.

[ontario.ca/measles](http://ontario.ca/measles)  
Paid for by the Government of Ontario

Ontario 



# Big Brothers, Big Sisters encourages Oxford County to ignite a spark

EMILY STEWART

*Echo Correspondent*

Big Brothers, Big Sisters Oxford County plans to Turn the Town Teal and spark mentorship opportunities and memories with their Spark Campaign.

Oxford County residents can either participate in the Spark campaign by donating in honour of a mentor, mentoring a young person, and sharing stories about life-changing mentors in their own lives. Current volunteers with the organization are also encouraged to share their mentoring experience. The Spark Campaign will take place in September, which is also Big Brothers, Big Sisters month.

"We want people to see the Spark campaign and be able to coordinate that with Big Brothers Big Sisters, but we really want people to help us in keeping the spark going throughout the community," said Liz Wismer-Vanmeer, communications manager.

Big Brothers, Big Sisters connects volunteer mentors to children and youth through their 108 member agencies to more than 1,100 communities across Canada and has since 1912. The mentorship program provides positive role models for youth so they can overcome barriers. The Oxford County chapter is looking for more mentorship matches, especially as there is a waiting list for youth who need a mentor.

"Sometimes we don't realize the impact that mentorship had on our lives," Wismer-Vanmeer said. "I think that every per-

son can think of somebody, at least one person, whether it's family, a friend, a teacher, a coach, was a mentor to Big Brothers, Big Sisters or another program, you can think of somebody in your life who got you to where you are today and gave you that bit of encouragement or whatever that might look like."

She added that some people feel overwhelmed with the idea of mentoring, and if they have time to do so. However, there are lots of ways to get involved. For example, a mentor can spend their lunch break mentoring youth at their school for just an hour a week.

"Mentorship through Big Brothers, Big Sisters can seem daunting to some folks because they might think, this is a commitment I have to make. That's every week I'm meeting with this person. It's a few hours a week," she explained. "It can be a little overwhelming, we realize that. Most folks who have been mentoring will be the first to tell you that it's actually not nearly as much as they expect it to be, but we also want people to know that there are multiple opportunities to get involved as a mentor."

Participating businesses will be Turning the Town Teal as part of the Spark Campaign by decorating their spaces with teal décor to represent Big Brothers, Big Sisters. The businesses will hand out affirmation cards with positive messages and will have their own Spark initiatives as well. The Oxford County chapter will also celebrate Big Brothers Big Sisters Day on Sept. 18.



(LIZ WISMER-VANMEER PHOTO)

As part of the Spark Campaign run by Big Brothers Big Sisters Oxford County, participating businesses will use décor to Turn the Town Teal.

The organization will also have a 50/50 draw running from Sept. 1 to 30, with a draw on Oct. 1. Tickets can be purchased online starting Sept. 1, at <https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/bbbs-oxfordcounty>.

More information about the Spark Campaign can be found online by visiting <https://oxford.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/what-we-do/the-spark-campaign>.

## Ontario Provincial Police briefs

LEE GRIFFI

*Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

### Fatal collision leads to charge

Provincial Police have laid a serious charge following a collision on the afternoon of April 14.

Police, along with the Oxford County Fire Department and Oxford County Paramedic Services, responded to a collision involving a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) and a sedan at the intersection of Oxford Road 8 and 16th Line in Oxford County.

The driver of the sedan, a 22-year-old from Maple, Ontario, was transported to hospital with life-threatening injuries, where they were later pronounced deceased. The CMV driver was also taken to hospital with minor injuries.

The 51-year-old CMV

driver from Vineland Station has been charged with careless driving causing death.

### SWOX collision claims one life

Police, Oxford County Paramedic Services and South-West Oxford Fire and Emergency Services responded to a collision between a sedan and a transport truck at the intersection of Culloden Line and Mount Elgin Road in South-West Oxford. The collision occurred on the evening of Aug. 17.

As a result, the driver of the sedan, a 30-year-old from Strathroy, sustained life-threatening injuries and was pronounced deceased at an area hospital. The sole passenger was taken to a trauma centre with injuries that have yet to be determined. The transport truck driver was

not injured.

Culloden Line between Ebenezer Road and Daniel Road, as well as Mount Elgin Road between Pigram Line and Dereham Line, were closed for several hours to allow for the investigation. No word from police on whether any charges will be laid.

### Traffic complaint leads to charges

Police responded to a traffic complaint in Ingersoll, resulting in several charges.

Police were called to Harris Street on Aug. 17, and after investigating, charged a 22-year-old Staffordville man with impaired driving and dangerous operation of a vehicle.

The accused has been released from custody and is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Woodstock on Sept. 23.

## Woodstock Police briefs

LEE GRIFFI

*Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

### Woodstock man charged with impaired driving and other charges

A 50-year-old Woodstock man is facing multiple charges following an impaired driving investigation on the evening of August 12.

Woodstock Police Service responded to a report of a suspected impaired driver at 9 p.m. Officers located the vehicle in the area of Upper Thames Drive. The driver failed to stop for police and was observed dangerously operating the vehicle before being arrested.

The accused has been charged with impaired driving, flight from a peace officer, dangerous driving, and driving a motor vehicle with an open container of liquor.

The male was released on an undertaking with a future court date. His driver's licence was suspended for 90 days, and the vehicle was impounded for seven days.

### Three suspended drivers stopped in under two hours

Woodstock Police officers stopped three separate drivers for operating vehicles while their licences were suspended, all within less than two hours on the same day.

The stops occurred on Aug. 9 in the areas of Devonshire Avenue and Oxford Road 4. Additional charges included speeding, operating without insurance, and failing to display two licence plates. Two of the vehicles

were impounded, and all drivers face upcoming court dates.

These incidents highlight the effectiveness of Automated Licence Plate Recognition (ALPR) technology, which helps officers quickly identify vehicles linked to suspended drivers, expired plates, or other offences, making our roads safer.

Driving while suspended is a serious offence that can result in significant fines, vehicle impoundment, and possible jail time.

**Horse, Livestock  
Car, Utility, Landscape  
and Enclosed Trailers**



324025 Mount Elgin Rd  
Mount Elgin, Ontario  
N0J 1N0

**Jamie Belore**

[www.beloretrailers.ca](http://www.beloretrailers.ca)

Phone: 519-485-5358  
Toll free: 1-877-247-7227  
[jbelore@gmail.com](mailto:jbelore@gmail.com)

# Small-town pride inspires

AMANDA MODARAGAMAGE

*Echo Contributor*

After leaving for Laurier to study business last year, Seth Martin realized just how deeply connected he was to his roots in Sweaburg, his hometown. Faced with the challenges of living in a bigger city, he found himself missing the small-town life he grew up with.

This inspired the business-minded Martin to create his own clothing line in homage to Sweaburg.

"Being away from home made me realize just how special The Burg really is," said Martin. "I started to feel disconnected, like a piece of me was missing. That time away helped me see how important it is to be proud of your roots. It made me fall back in love with the place I grew up."

Reflecting on his upbringing, Martin says his family—especially his grandfather—had a significant influence on his work ethic and outlook on life.

"My grandpa was a farmer, and he taught me the value of hard work and to have pride in everything you do," he said. "We actually have a farming collection coming out soon in honour of him."

The Burg clothing line, currently available online, blends local pride with designs meant to help shoppers feel connected to their communities across southwestern Ontario.

The website features a wide range of items, including men's, women's, uni-sex and kids' hoodies, quarter-zips and

T-shirts. There are also trucker hats, with more styles—along with the new farming collection—set to be released this fall.

Martin designs all logos and graphics himself and says his pieces are curated for small-town life.

"There are a lot of people out there drop-shipping different clothing items, but I'm not one of them," he said. "I run this business myself, and I want to make sure it's tied to my small-town roots."

While travelling back and forth to university, Martin says he still feels most connected when he's home.

"From a young age, it was more than just a place to live; it was my entire world," he wrote on his website. "The best memories of my life happened there: back road bonfires, early morning fishing, bike rides with my buddies, baseball games, beers around a fire, community events, and having my whole family close by. The Burg wasn't just home, it was the best time of my life."

Looking ahead, Martin hopes to see how far The Burg can go.

"I really just want to show people it's good to be proud of where you came from," he said. "I don't know how big The Burg will get, but I just want people to look at this brand and say, 'ya, I love where I'm from.'"

The Burg is currently featuring their summer line, but will soon be promoting their brand new fall line on their website and social channels. For more information, follow @shoptheburg on Instagram or visit [www.shoptheburg.ca](http://www.shoptheburg.ca).



(AMANDA MODARAGAMAGE PHOTO)

Ty Friesen, left, and The Burg clothing line owner Seth Martin wear T-shirts and hats from the small-town-inspired brand.



## STONETOWN TRAVEL

collette  
**GROUP TRAVEL  
PRESENTATION**

Join us to learn more about our upcoming group trip:

### DISCOVER SCOTLAND

**May 23 - June 1, 2026**

**PRESENTATION DATE:  
Thursday, September 18**

**St. Marys Pyramid Recreation Centre at 2 p.m.**  
317 James St. S., St. Marys (The End Zone - upstairs)

**Wilmot Recreation Centre at 7 p.m.**  
1291 Nafziger Rd., Baden (Meeting Room A - upstairs)

**To RSVP, email [stew@stonetowntravel.com](mailto:stew@stonetowntravel.com)  
or call our office.**

St. Marys Branch: 150 Queen Street East,  
St. Marys, ON N4X 1B4 | 519-284-2332  
[agent@stonetowntravel.com](mailto:agent@stonetowntravel.com)  
TICO #5002839

New Hamburg Branch: 210 Mill Street,  
New Hamburg, ON N3A 1P9 | 226-333-9939  
[newhamburg@stonetowntravel.com](mailto:newhamburg@stonetowntravel.com)  
TICO #5002840

**[www.stonetowntravel.com](http://www.stonetowntravel.com)**



## STONETOWN TRAVEL

GROUP TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY HOSTED BY STONETOWN TRAVEL

### FRENCH RIVIERA & PARIS

**APRIL 23 - MAY 4, 2026**

**Head Office:** 150 Queen Street East, St. Marys, ON N4X 1B4  
☎ 519-284-2332 ✉ [agent@stonetowntravel.com](mailto:agent@stonetowntravel.com)  
TICO #5002839

**Branch Office:** 210 Mill Street, New Hamburg, ON N3A 1P9  
☎ 226-333-9939 ✉ [newhamburg@stonetowntravel.com](mailto:newhamburg@stonetowntravel.com)  
TICO #5002840

**[www.stonetowntravel.com](http://www.stonetowntravel.com)**

# Ingersoll Pipe Band celebrates anniversary

The Ingersoll Pipe Band marked its 115th anniversary in grand style on Aug. 16 with a spectacular parade and pipe band tattoo that drew enthusiastic crowds to downtown Ingersoll and Memorial Park. The celebration began at 1 p.m. with a parade that stepped off from Wonham Street and Charles Street, winding its way through town before concluding at "Bonnie" Holmes Mott Yvonne Memorial Park. Spectators lined the streets to cheer on the colorful procession of pipers and

drummers, who proudly showcased the time-honored sounds of the Great Highland bagpipe and drums. Joining the band for the occasion were five other distinguished guest bands: the London Firefighters Pipe Band, the London Police Pipes and Drums, the St. Thomas Police Pipes and Drums, the Branch 642 Chatham Royal Canadian Legion Pipe Band, and the Branch 176 Forest Royal Canadian Legion Pipe Band. At 2 p.m., the celebration continued in Memorial Park with a formal

pipe band tattoo. Each of the participating bands took the stage in turn, performing a selection of traditional Scottish airs and marches. The afternoon concluded with a stirring massed band finale, as all the pipers and drummers assembled on the field, filling the park with a powerful wall of sound. Organizers noted with pride that the finale featured close to 115 performers, echoing the milestone anniversary being celebrated. Community groups added to the festive atmosphere with food

and refreshments, including P.B.'s French Fries and Ice Cream, while local service organizations shared information with attendees. Families and music lovers alike brought lawn chairs and enjoyed an afternoon of culture, tradition, and community spirit. The Ingersoll Pipe Band, one of the oldest continuously operating pipe bands in Canada, expressed gratitude to its guest bands, volunteers, and community supporters who helped make the celebration a resounding success. (RON YUZARK PHOTOS)



MC for the Tattoo was Doug Turner and Pipe Major Doug Collins from the Ingersoll Pipe Band.



A mix of selected members from the bands present marched down Wonham Street and Charles Street to "Bonnie" Holmes Mott Yvonne Memorial Park.



The crowd was wowed during the opening ceremonies by members of each band.

## Echo

**Contribute to your local  
community newspaper!  
Send articles, sports or event  
recaps, and photos to  
info@theecho.ca**

## Weekend Quiz

By Jake Grant

1. Moose Jaw is a city in what province of Canada?
2. The U.S. Marine Corps' motto is "Semper Paratus" which means what?
3. In Curious George, who is George's right hand man?
4. Apart from eggs what is in an Arnold Bennett omelette?
5. A gemshorn is made from what animal?
6. Who wrote the famous book: Lord of the Flies?
7. Which playing card is known as The Devil's Bedpost?
8. Name Batman's crime-fighting partner?
9. Which singing voice is the highest pitch? Soprano, tenor or baritone?
10. What kind of tree do prunes come from?

**This week's answers are found on pg. 31**

# BBQ fundraiser in Beachville

The Beachville District Historical Society hosted its much-anticipated Annual Summer Beef BBQ Fundraiser on Friday evening Aug. 15, welcoming guests from across Oxford County for an evening of food, fellowship, and fun in support of the Beachville District Museum. Attendees gathered on the museum grounds to enjoy a locally sourced feast that featured tender roast beef, baked potatoes, creamy coleslaw, hearty baked beans, fresh-picked corn, and a selection of homemade pies, complemented by hot and cold beverages. The aroma of the meal filled the air as guests settled at picnic tables or took advantage of the sheltered dining area. In addition to the meal, visitors were invited to tour the museum's exhibits, meet with

fellow community members, and take part in lawn games. Live entertainment added to the festive atmosphere, making the evening as much a social gathering as a fundraiser. Proceeds from the event went directly toward supporting the museum's operations and programming, helping preserve Beachville's rich history for future generations. The fundraiser was sold out, with many guests also choosing the take-out option, bringing their own containers to help reduce waste. The Beachville District Historical Society expressed its gratitude to all attendees, volunteers, and sponsors who contributed to making the Summer Beef BBQ a memorable and meaningful community tradition.

(RON YUZARK PHOTOS)



The whole family enjoyed the dinner at the Beachville Museum Summer Beef BBQ Fundraiser.



Zorra Deputy Mayor and Museum Board member Katie Grigg welcomed attendees to the event.



Under the shade trees, attendees dug into their beef BBQ dinner.

**Visit us online at [theecho.ca](http://theecho.ca)**



## Try Curling Next Winter!

We're looking for **new members** to join our friendly, fun and social club.

**No experience necessary!**

**Come out as a group or just bring yourself,  
we have a place for everyone!**

Registration in September. Season runs October to April.

Questions? Email: [info@ingersollcurlingclub.ca](mailto:info@ingersollcurlingclub.ca)

Website: [Ingersollcurlingclub.com](http://Ingersollcurlingclub.com)

**With over 30 years of industry experience, my goal is to work together with you to develop a successful marketing strategy for your business needs.**

**Contact Lisa Roberts**

Marketing Media Specialist

[lisa@granthaven.com](mailto:lisa@granthaven.com) | 416.455.4687

**GRANT  
HAVEN  
MEDIA**

.....



St. Marys Independent The Paris Independent The Wilmet-Tavistock Gazette STRATFORDTIMES Woodstock Ingersoll Echo Goderich Sun  
Tillamook PINT SIMCOEADVOCATE NORFOLK FARMS BRANT FARMS NIAGARA FARMS INDY stmarys radio



# Live Fully at Cedarview

At Cedarview Retirement Living, we believe the best chapters are still being written — a place where purpose, joy, and freedom come together so you can live each day fully, on your own terms.

## Why Cedarview?

- Beautifully landscaped grounds
- Daily prepared meals
- Bi-weekly housekeeping
- Community Bus
- Weekly activities & entertainment
- Onsite salon
- Designed for comfort, wellness & independence at every stage

## Book a Tour Today!



519-602-0282

511 Finkle Street Woodstock, ON  
N4V 0C4 CA



CEDARVIEW

**We are a family run, values-based business that provides affordable solutions, products and services for all your plumbing and water treatment needs.**

**Just some of our many services:**

- **Water Treatment**
- **Residential, Commercial & Industrial New Builds**
- **Renovations Large and Small**
- **Plumbing Service**
- **After Hours Emergency Service**

**New for our clients, we are now offering financing and rental programs!**



**(519) 535-9983**

**[www.freemanmechanical.ca](http://www.freemanmechanical.ca)**

# Police offer Labour Day weekend and back-to-school safety tips

**STAFF**

*Woodstock Ingersoll Echo*

The Oxford Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police wants to remind everyone of some safety tips approaching the long weekend and the start of the school year.

"The Labour Day long weekend is often a very busy time for last-minute travels, coming home from the cottage, moving college and university students and back-to-school shopping. All these things have one thing in common: travelling on the roadways," said a news release.

"Police want to remind everyone to give themselves a little more time while travelling this weekend and ensure to follow the rules of the road. Oxford OPP will be on the roadways of Oxford County enforcing these rules for your safety. Remember, traffic safety is everyone's responsibility," it added.

Oxford OPP Constable Randi Crawford explained that after the long weekend, the back-to-school routine changes for everyone.

"Parents, students, school staff and commuters all have a shared responsibility to ensure everyone gets to and from school safely. Parents and guardians, please review with the children in your care about safety when travelling to and from school, whether by vehicle, bus, bike or walking."

Students of all ages should use sidewalks whenever possible. Where sidewalks are unavailable,

they should walk on the left side of the road, as far from traffic as possible, facing oncoming vehicles. Both pedestrians and cyclists are encouraged to take advantage of crossing guards, who are trained to assist students in crossing the street safely.

"Commuters are reminded that traffic volume will increase with the start of school, and bus routes may affect their commutes. Drivers should travel cautiously when following or approaching a school bus and must be prepared to stop when flashing lights and/or stop signs are extended and wait until the bus resumes motion before driving. Motorists must stop for crossing guards displaying a school crossing stop sign and wait until all pedestrians, including the crossing guard, have fully cleared the roadway," added Crawford.

She added first day of school pictures make great memories but is asking parents to safeguard their family by ensuring you have your security settings on your social media platforms set to only people you know.

"Make sure not to mention the school the children are attending or their full name. Be mindful of the background of your photo to ensure your house number or street name is not in the picture. The start of a new school year brings excitement to our communities. The OPP is committed to ensuring everyone's safety by educating and enforcing safety laws. Please stay vigilant, be patient, and show compassion towards others."

## THE HELP YOU NEED, WHEN YOU NEED IT.



**Ask about our trial or respite stays!**

**Monthly fee starting at \$2,950**

If your current situation is not working for you, come take a look at the Gardens. We're a terrific retirement living option!

Call us at (519) 425-9999

Visit us at [www.gardensofingersoll.ca](http://www.gardensofingersoll.ca)



**GROUP TRIP  
TO**

# Dubai

**Abu Dhabi & Oman**

**January 16-28, 2026**

**Experience luxury like never before with 5-star hotels and Emirates flights on a breathtaking journey to Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Oman. With dazzling futuristic skylines, stunning coastal views and ancient charm, this is the Middle East at its most magnificent!**

**St. Marys Branch:**  
150 Queen Street East, St. Marys, ON N4X 1B4  
☎ 519-284-2332  
✉ [agent@stonetowntravel.com](mailto:agent@stonetowntravel.com)  
TICO #5002839

**HOSTED BY**

## STONETOWN TRAVEL

**[www.stonetowntravel.com](http://www.stonetowntravel.com)**

**New Hamburg Branch:**  
210 Mill Street, New Hamburg, ON N3A 1P9  
☎ 226-333-9939  
✉ [newhamburg@stonetowntravel.com](mailto:newhamburg@stonetowntravel.com)  
TICO #5002840



**The Best  
Custom  
Ice  
Cream  
Cakes  
in Oxford  
County!**

AND...

- 50 Flavours of Ice Cream
- Delicious Desserts • Great Selection of Nostalgic Candy!

127 Thames Street South,  
Ingersoll, ON  
519-303-0230  
icecreamingersoll.ca

**Local Shopping  
At Its Best**

**Ingersoll BIA**

**Buying or Selling?  
Let's Make It Happen!**

**Alister Maclean**  
Realtor,  
CCIM  
519-860-4113  
amaclean@execulink.com

**Tracey Flynn**  
Realtor  
519-532-0164  
reachtracey@gmail.com  
traceyflynnrealtor.ca

**SUTTON  
GROUP  
SELECT  
REALTY INC.**  
Brokerage

**Specializing in  
Senior's Men Cuts**

**INGERSOLL  
BARBER  
SHOP**

**SINCE  
1909**

**WALK IN ONLY  
ROSALYN (519) 520-5995**

Tuesday - Thursday 8:30 - 5:00 p.m.  
Friday 8:30 - 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday 7:30 - 1:00 p.m.

**10 KING STREET WEST**

SHOP, DINE AND ENJOY OUR CHARMING DOWNTOWN  
AND DISCOVER WHAT INGERSOLL HAS TO OFFER.



**Ingersoll BIA**

# INGERSOLL SHOPPING NIGHTS

**SEPTEMBER 18  
& OCTOBER 16**

Participating stores will be open extended hours and have unique offerings and special promos during Ingersoll Shopping Nights

**Desjardins**  
Insurance

Auto • Home  
Life • Business



**Ann Lofthouse, Agent**  
519-485-0750  
annlofthouse.ca

**LESSER  
JEWELLERS**

*Beat the summer heat!*



*Come see us for  
some cool ice!*

146 Thames Street S.  
Ingersoll, N5C 2T4  
519-485-2190  
www.lesserjewellers.ca



**SHOP Local  
Support Downtown  
Ingersoll**

We invite you to shop  
locally and rediscover all  
that Ingersoll has to offer!

**Visit FB: Ingersoll BIA**

**Barkin Boujee**  
**RAW&MORE**  
*Because your fur baby  
wasn't born to be basic.*

Raw meals • House-made freeze-dried treats  
Chew bar • Luxe walk-wear

Raw nutrition meets boujee boutique.

Exposed brick. Curated shelves.

Premium collars. Small-batch, locally sourced.

*This isn't a pet store — it's an experience.*



113 THAMES ST. S., INGERSOLL  
Mon-Fri 10-6 | Sat 10-3  
BarkinBoujee.ca | 519-761-9798



# Get ready for a brand-new Ontario Place

Toronto's waterfront is being revitalized to become a year-round destination. It's going to be the perfect place for family-friendly fun and one-of-a-kind memories.

Learn more at [ontario.ca/OntarioPlace](https://ontario.ca/OntarioPlace)



Bailey and Harmony displayed the funds raised to date as they worked toward the \$6,000 goal.



A&W staff Bailey and Harmony welcomed contributors to the Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society of Canada fundraiser.

# Burger fundraiser in Ingersoll

The Ingersoll A&W at 170 Culloden Road joined communities across Canada on Thursday, August 21, in support of the annual Burgers to Beat MS Day, raising funds and awareness for the Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society of Canada. \$2 from every Teen Burger sold was donated to the MS Society of Canada. Ingersoll’s A&W staff and customers rallied together with a shared goal of raising \$6,000. To add to the excitement, guests who donated \$2 or more received raffle tickets for a chance to win prizes, with additional tickets earned through “Round-Up” donations at the counter. The event blended good food with community spirit, as customers enjoyed their meals while giving back to an im-

portant cause. Beyond burgers and raffle draws, the day also included fun giveaways and a focus on raising awareness about MS, a disease that affects nearly 100,000 Canadians. A portion of all proceeds from the day was also directed to the MS Society of Canada, ensuring that every meal contributed to the fight against multiple sclerosis. Since its launch in 2009, A&W’s Burgers to Beat MS campaign has raised more than \$22 million nationwide, supporting research, programs, and services that improve the lives of Canadians living with MS. The Ingersoll event once again demonstrated how a small-town community can make a big difference through generosity and participation.

(RON YUZARK PHOTOS)



The Ingersoll A&W at 170 Culloden Road is holding the annual Burgers to Beat MS Day.



WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT ALL WE DO? CHECK OUT OUR

## WELCOME BACK OPEN HOUSE

Check out our tables with info on programs and services, try out a few fitness classes, celebrate our OTF funding, and enjoy a tasty BBQ for lunch!

 **Tuesday, September 16th**

 Info Tables and Fitness Demos 9:30 to 11:30am

 The Overtones 11:15am

 OTF Funding 11:30am

 BBQ Lunch 12pm - \$10

### EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Sneak Peak at New Fitness Classes
- ✓ New Fall Drop-In Programs
- ✓ Volunteer Opportunities
- ✓ Community Services
- ✓ Assisted Living
- ✓ Funding Announcements

**Register for the BBQ Hamburger and Sausage Lunch by Monday, Sept 15th at 12pm**



**REGISTER FOR LUNCH BY SEPT 15TH AT 12PM**

**Ingersoll 50+ Activity Centre**  
250 Ingersoll St. S  
Ingersoll NSC 3J7

**519-485-3869**  
info@ingersollseniors.com  
www.ingersollseniors.com



**Local 636 Office**  
126 Beale Street Woodstock, ON  
N4S 6X5

Tel: 519.537.5942  
Fax: 519.421.0064  
E: uniforlocal636@rogers.com

**BRENT THOMPSON**  
President

**CRAIG WARNOCK**  
Financial Secretary

# RETIREE’S BREAKFAST

## UNIFOR LOCAL 636

IS HOSTING BREAKFASTS FOR RETIRED WORKERS AND/OR THEIR PARTNER

# SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

## STARTING AT 9:00 AM

### \$5.00 Per Person

## Retiree’s meeting to follow

### AGENDA

**Important Information** – Guest speaker Suzanne Godin partner Brown, Beattie, O’Donovan  
**Topic:** Unifor wills and power of attorney presentation and question period to follow  
This topic affects everyone. These documents require updates to remain current.  
Please plan to attend

**Nomination and Election of One (1) Alternate Delegate to Area Council**

**ROUTINE BUSINESS**

Doug Steele  
Unifor Local 636  
Retired Workers Chapter  
Chairperson  
DS/cmcorp343

Susan Veenstra  
Unifor Local 636  
Retired Workers Chapter  
Recording Secretary

# Ingersoll's second annual Good for the Soll music festival draws over 4,000 attendees

KYRAH SMITH

*Echo Contributor*

On Saturday, August 23rd, Ingersoll's Memorial Park was packed with enthusiastic festivalgoers as Good for the Soll returned for its second year.

With ideal weather and a strong sense of community in the air, over 4,000 people showed up to enjoy a night of live music, local food, and hometown pride. Fans could be seen proudly sporting band tees and merch, ready to

cheer on this year's incredible lineup.

The free event started at 5 p.m. and wrapped up just after 11 p.m., featuring food trucks and vendors from across Oxford County. Festival founder Jay Panaseiko and his team were front and centre, welcoming guests and introducing each act.

"Of course, kicking it off we got Miss Conduct, One Way Streets, Charlie Edward, and then at 9:45, we have a legend. You are all in for an abso-

lute treat," Panaseiko and team announced early in the evening.

One surprise of the night was a special performance from the Ingersoll Pipe Band, celebrating their 115th anniversary. First up was local punk band Miss Conduct, who brought high energy and attitude with original tracks like "It's My Life" and "Upper Hand." The female-driven group delivered an electrifying show full of raw energy and passion.

Between sets, Panaseiko



Local punk band "Miss Conduct" opens the 2nd annual music fest.

(KYRAH SMITH PHOTO)



(KYRAH SMITH PHOTO)

Local Band "One Way Streets" returns for the second year at Good for the Soll.

was presented with an award by Oxford MP Arpan Khanna for his hard work and dedication. This year's festival was also dedicated to Jay's late father, Nick Panaseiko.

"I'm just glad you're all here having a good time," said Panaseiko. "That's what this was supposed to be about, good for the soul. That's Ingersoll's soul. We want to be a community together under the stars. And Dad, I hope this makes you proud."

Panaseiko also teased

ideas already in the works for next year's festival and expressed deep gratitude to staff, sponsors, and attendees for making the event possible. At 7:20 p.m., returning favourites One Way Streets hit the stage. The teenage alt-rockers from Ingersoll performed mostly original music, including a preview of a new unreleased track. Their powerful cover of "Use Somebody" earned them an enthusiastic encore.

As the sun dipped, the crowd welcomed Lon-

don-born rock artist Charlie Edward. His performance included "Are You Happy Now?", co-written with Canadian rock band Finger Eleven, and a fiery cover of "War Pigs" as a tribute to late Ozzy Osbourne. His charisma and stage presence kept the energy sky-high. Finally, closing out the night was the one and only Sass Jordan. Opening with "Damage," she delivered a powerhouse set, including fan favourites like "If You're Gonna Love Me" and "Make You a Believer."

CONTINUED TO PAGE 17

## Ingersoll 50+ Activity Centre

250 Ingersoll St S 519-485-3869



**Perch  
Fish  
Fry**

PB's  
Fries

**FUNDRAISER**

**Friday, Sept. 26**

**Doors Open 5:00pm - Serving begins 5:30pm**

**Register by Sept 19th**

Payment due at time of registration

Join us for a Fish Fry Dinner  
Includes 6 pieces of perch, fries,  
coleslaw, dessert, and drink

**\$35**



## JFP COINS

PROFESSIONAL NUMISMATIST  
(COIN DEALER)

# IS BUYING!

- A local Olde Oakville business owner
- Over 40 years of experience
- Canadian Coin and Banknote Specialist
- Specializing in coins and paper money from all countries
- Gold jewelry and all rare collectibles
- Consultant to local jewelry stores, antique and estate dealers, as well as a probate law firms in Ontario and registered coin buyer for the Ontario Public Trust office.

**No overhead, means receiving top dollar for your items!**

Call with any questions and for a free appraisal avoiding inconvenience, indiscretion and risk of hostel buyers.

**PS: Never, clean your items.**

I have abundant references and an impeccable reputation

**A TARIFF FREE COMPANY MADE IN CANADA!**

John Probert, Owner and President | JFPCOINS@gmail.com



**905-599-6460**

**23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL**

**INGERSOLL COMMUNITY CRUISE**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025**

**10 AM - 3 PM**

**at VERSPEETEN CARTAGE**

**274129 Wallace Line, Ingersoll**

**SILENT AUCTION  
CHARITY BBQ  
MUSIC  
& MORE**

**PROUDLY  
SUPPORTING**

Power of HOPE  
Community Organization  
Helping Other People Everywhere

**CORPORATE  
SPONSOR**

VERSPEETEN  
CARTAGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

The crowd wasn't ready to say goodbye, and after loud cheers for more, Jordan returned for an unforgettable encore. The 2nd annual Good for the Soll was a huge

success. A night full of heart, music, and community spirit. It's safe to say this festival has become a highlight of the summer in Ingersoll.



"Charlie Edward" London-Born Rock Artist performing. (KYRAH SMITH PHOTO)



Canadian Rock Legend "Sass Jordan" closing out the night with a bang. (KYRAH SMITH PHOTO)

# GRANT HAVEN MEDIA

Work with local media to distribute special discounts or offerings. This can help attract new customers and encourage repeat business. Want to learn more?



heather@granthaven.com 226.261.1837

# BAD Golfers Championship – Oxford

**\*Beginner + Amateur (>20 handicap) + Disabled\***

**Sunday October 5th @  
STONEHAVEN GOLF Oxford**

**FREE CLUB rentals, FREE motor-cart for disabled. FREE Putting school @ 12:30**

**B.A.D. Golfers = Non-Golfers, Beginners, Youth, Seniors, Disabled, & Women & Men > 20 handicap**

**\$25 ENTRY FORM available at:  
HOME TOWN Delivery - 519-788-5490  
STONEHAVEN GOLF Course - 41st Line, Oxford**

**MANY FREE PRIZES!**

*Special Thanks to: DUNLOP's Custom Golf, BANG LONG DRIVE Equipment, HOME TOWN Delivery, STONEHAVEN Golf Course, The ECHO, Grant Haven Media, IMOH + all volunteers for this event to Oxford County*

# Join us FOR THE OXFORD APPRECIATION PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6  
9:30 - 11:00 AM**

**WOODSTOCK OFFICE  
4-208 Huron St, Woodstock, ON N4S 7A1**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



**ARPAN KHANNA**  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT for OXFORD

519-421-7214 • ARPANKHANNAMPCA • ARPAN.KHANNA@PARL.GC.CA

# TASTE OF ART

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
A Decade of Taste,  
A Lifetime of Art

## Saturday September 20

7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

- Local food and craft beverages
- Culinary demonstrations
- Music by Ingersoll Pipe Band, Jack Redman and the Wright Stuff
- Silent auction, photobooth and art activities

**EARLY BIRD TICKETS** **\$75**

on sale July 2

**REGULAR** **\$90**

after August 31

Thank you to our sponsors!



449 Dundas Street, Woodstock ON N4S 1C2  
woodstockartgallery.ca



## MENU



The Charles Dickens





WOODSTOCK  
ART GALLERY

# 2025 SUMMER EXHIBITIONS

Open  
Tuesday to Saturday  
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

449 Dundas Street  
Woodstock ON N4S 1C2  
519.539.6761  
woodstockartgallery.ca



## ANNUAL JURIED EXHIBITION **visual elements 67**

**JURORS:** MICHEL DAIGNEAULT  
MATTHEW RYAN SMITH  
NICHOLAS CROMBACH

On view until Oct. 11, 2025  
Juror Walk & Talk: Sept. 6, 1 – 3 p.m.



### Jaquie Poole Present in the Moment

On view until Jan. 24, 2026

Reception with the Artist:  
Oct. 25, 2025

Jaquie Poole, *Flat Rock*, 2009, Acrylic on board, 91.5 cm x 122.3 cm, Gift of Jaquie Poole. Photo Credit: Rita Taylor



### Lyn Carter *The Pinks*

On view until Jan. 24, 2026

Canada Council Conseil des arts  
for the Arts du Canada

ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL  
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO  
an Ontario government agency  
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

Ontario

*Pink 3 and Pink 2*, 2025, animation, presented on a 146 x 84 cm display screen

CELEBRATING OVER  
**175 YEARS**  
OF OXFORD COUNTY

**175** 1850-2025  
OXFORD COUNTY 175<sup>TH</sup>  
LIBRARY 60<sup>TH</sup>  
ARCHIVES 25<sup>TH</sup>  
**Oxford County**  
Growing stronger together

On view until Jan. 24, 2026



Court House Square photograph,  
1865, Oxford County Archives

# Woodstock Ingersoll Echo SPORTS

## Sportsnet's Jamie Campbell pays it forward, gives back in Woodstock

JEFF TRIBE

*Echo Correspondent*

Sportsnet Blue Jays Central host Jamie Campbell continued to pay it forward and give back through Baseball Canada 13U opening ceremonies Thursday, Aug. 21, at Woodstock's Southside East Diamond.

Along with an engaging address, Campbell delivered a ceremonial first pitch, delighting both the crowd and 'guest umpire' City of Woodstock Mayor Jerry Acchione.

"Right down the centre, it was perfect," credited the mayor. "He may not be a pitcher, but we're sure glad he's here."

Opening ceremonies featured introductions of 12 participating teams from Ontario (3), Quebec (2), British Columbia (2), Alberta, Nova Scotia, PEI, and Newfoundland and Labrador, the latter 'enjoying' a lengthy bus ride after disruptions in scheduled flights.

"Thirty-seven hours," Acchione marvelled. "And they made it here just in time to celebrate our opening ceremonies."

The list of dignitaries warmly welcoming participants included Baseball Canada representative Dirk Driederg, Oxford MP Arpan Khanna and Acchione, extending a sincere thank-you to the grounds crew (city parks and rec staff) and all the volunteers responsible for making the event.

"We are so proud to host this again this year and showcase the City of Woodstock - the Friendly City - to everyone across Canada."

Campbell's presence came about in part through the confluence of three fortuitous events: the Blue Jays having a night off, the attraction of a fun event, and the fact his mater-

nal grandfather, Osborne Canfield, is buried in the family plot within the city. But mostly, it's the lingering legacy of a chance 1977 encounter a nine-year-old Campbell had with Lyman Bostock, then an outfielder with the Minnesota Twins.

Jamie had begged his father, Peter, to take him from their Oakville home to Exhibition Stadium as his dad relented for a Jays/Twins game the first weekend in May. Hoping to get an autograph or chat with hometown heroes, including Doug Alt and Bob Baylor, Jamie got to the park after the Jays had taken batting practice and retreated into their clubhouse.

"So, I ran down to the field anyway," he recalled.

Bostock, a major leaguer Campbell would subsequently be told was a highly compassionate and caring individual, was taking in the sun on the field, glancing up to spot the only kid within 100 metres. Instead of looking away and ignoring him, the career .311 hitter with the Twins and California Angels walked over to, "nine-year-old red-headed me."

"I froze," Campbell smiled, but would eventually be drawn out by Bostock's informal approach, asking him about Toronto and what fun things there were to do in the city. "Just conversational," said Campbell, for whom Bostock's kind and generous gesture planted the seed for his future career. "I was hooked from that moment."

After graduating from the then Ryerson Polytechnical Institute with a radio and television degree, Campbell's path eventually led to Sportsnet, play-by-play coverage, and, since 2010, as studio host of Blue Jays broadcasts. The highly recognizable television personality



(JEFF TRIBE PHOTO)

**Showing decent form for a little league baseball non-pitcher, Sportsnet Blue Jays Central host Jamie Campbell fires a ceremonial first-pitch strike Thursday evening at Southside East Diamond.**

was clearly the star of the show through both official duties and an extended autograph and selfies session.

"That probably comes from him (Bostock)," said Campbell, who never lost his appreciation for their brief, yet formative encounter. Bostock was tragically killed in September of 1978, mourned as an outgoing, friendly human being who always looked for the best in people.

"That was the saddest time of my young life," admitted Campbell, who patiently accommodated each request.

"I don't do it because I feel obligated, I do it because I want to," he explained, musing aloud about the possibility some other youngster might be inspired, as he was. "You never know."

As Campbell continued to make new fans, arguably his first, Mother Nancy, watched from the press area behind home plate, a slightly different vantage for the official first offering.

"Just a little over this way," she said, indicating an area inside to a right-handed batter. "But pretty darn good for a kid that didn't pitch."

Her son always was a sports fan, says Nancy, taking the train to go to games or discovering

where opposing teams were staying and hanging around the lobby looking for autographs.

"And I love the fact he's doing exactly what he wanted to when he was ten years old."

Enjoying Jamie's broadcasts has enhanced her own appreciation for baseball, along with the occasional opportunity for a live view from the Sportsnet booth.

"He sure loves what he does."

Full disclosure, what could be considered one of Jamie's signature moves involving a broom following a Toronto series sweep, isn't something he picked up at home. He was pretty helpful and his room was always neat and tidy, but Jamie was never front and centre when housework called.

"The broom is definitely for sweeping baseball," Nancy laughed. "Nothing he learned at home."

Thrilled to join her son for the trip to Woodstock, a proud mother thoroughly enjoyed the shared outing, supper in the city's downtown after, and watching her son perform both official and unofficial duties, giving back to a sport which offered him so much.

"He's just a kind, thoughtful and caring person," Nancy concluded. "Very generous with his time."



(JEFF TRIBE PHOTO)

**While meeting a cadre of new fans Thursday evening in Woodstock, Sportsnet Blue Jays Central host Jamie Campbell (right) brought along his first fan, Mother Nancy Campbell (left).**

# WLBC will be represented well at Aussie Pairs Provincials

JEFF TRIBE

*Echo Correspondent*

Seven Woodstock Lawn Bowling Club (WLBC) bowlers will represent their club and city at Provincial Aussie Pairs Novice championships, Saturday, Sept. 6, and Sunday, Sept. 7 at the club.

Traditionally, lawn bowling team members roll their bowls in a set order, lead and skip, for example, in pairs competition. 'Aussie Pairs' is a variant in which the skip throws two bowls, the lead throws the next four and the skip throws the last two of eight. In the next end, the order is reversed, with the lead rolling two bowls, the skip four and the lead rolling the final two. The flip-flop continues for the game's duration.

"It's definitely more challenging," said WLBC President Lorraine McLean. "Both players have to be on their game."

The province is divided into 16 districts, each of which has the opportunity to send both women's and men's teams. The 'Novice' designation indicates participants have been bowling for five years or less. As host of provincials, the WLBC has the option of a second entry to fill in any gaps in the draw.

Resultantly, two provincial berths were on the line during District 3 playdowns Saturday, Aug. 16, and Sunday, Aug. 17 in Woodstock.

In the women's division, WLBC team-

mates Sharon Godlewski and Barb Hinch took top honours and will enter provincials as top District 3 seed, with fellow club members Ann Brohman and Sheri Karlsen qualifying in second spot.

On the men's side, WLBC member Kevin Barber and Simcoe-based teammate Rob Eakins took honours, with WLBC compatriots Sil Nadalin and Sandy Brohman earning the second District 3 seed at provincials.

The WLBC hosts provincial events to support the sport at its higher levels, and also to showcase the club and what are reputedly among the top four greens in the province. Despite a hot, dry summer, greenskeeper Jim Roth has them in great shape, credits McLean.

"They are running good."

Provincial Aussie Pairs championships open Friday, Sept. 5, with an afternoon practice session. The competitive schedule for up to 32 teams begins the following morning at 9. Action is anticipated to run through both days on the weekend, concluding Sunday afternoon. Experienced bowlers and those new to the sport are all invited to come out and watch.

"We're hoping for good weather, that's for sure," McLean concluded, looking forward to quality entries and solid competition.

"I'm just hoping for the best for the Woodstock teams."



(JEFF TRIBE PHOTO)

From left, teammates Sharon Godlewski and Barb Hinch, and Ann Brohman and Sheri Karlsen finished first and second respectively at the Woodstock Lawn Bowling Club's Aussie Pairs Novice playdowns. Both qualified for provincials, also at the Woodstock club.



(JEFF TRIBE PHOTO)

Kevin Barber (left), from the Woodstock Lawn Bowling Club, and Rob Eakins from the Simcoe club teamed up to capture first place at Aussie Pairs Novice playdowns Saturday, August 16 and Sunday, August 17 in Woodstock. The tandem qualified for provincials with the victory.



(JEFF TRIBE PHOTO)

Woodstock Lawn Bowling Club teammates Sil Nadalin (left) and Sandy Brohman finished second at Aussie Pairs Novice playdowns Saturday, August 16 and Sunday, August 17 in Woodstock. The placing qualified Nadalin and Brohman for provincials.

# Wranglers 13U celebrate final four appearance at Baseball Canada nationals

JEFF TRIBE

*Echo Correspondent*

Last year, Lukas Lattimer's baseball team competed in a tournament in Cooperstown, New York, highlighted by a visit to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum featuring its 'original five' inductees.

"I don't know all of them," he confessed. "But I know Babe Ruth was part of it."

A competitive sojourn to Cooperstown featuring a brush with historical greatness has to rank as a signature moment for a baseball player of any age. It did, although compared to a final four appearance at Baseball Canada 13U National Championships in Woodstock, it admittedly stands second-best in Lattimer's personal pantheon.

"This is a lot better I think."

"It was really fun," agreed Woodstock Wranglers 13U teammate Chase Ireton, an assessment including not only the elevated level of competition, but its location.

"In front of your home crowd."

The Wranglers succumbed 20-10 to a powerful Whitby, Ontario A team in the bronze final on Sunday, Aug. 24 at Southside West Diamond. The game opened with offensive fireworks, Woodstock trailing 6-4 after a combined ten-run first inning.

Ontario A was pressing again in the top of the third with runners at first and second and one out when the Wranglers' Jaxson Lee fielded a sharply hit Hudson Cammisuli ground ball at short. For a second, it looked as though he might take it to the bag at second himself, before pitching to Lattimer, covering. Under pressure from approaching Whitby baserunner Ray Griffin, Lattimer pivoted, firing a strike to Liam Roper at first to complete the inning-ending double play.

"I saw he was too far from the bag to take it," Lattimer recalled.

The Wranglers built offensively on the momentum of the twin killing, Drew Klein-Geltink leading off the home third with a two-strike single to centre. Lee followed with a base hit between third and short, Connor Link loading the bases as a hit batsman. Klein-Geltink alertly scampered home on a wild pitch blocked a short distance along the first baseline, Lee following on a slow Sullivan Forbes ground-out to first.

Ireton capped the four-run frame with a two-run homer over the 235-foot sign in centre field.

"Up and in, fastball," he summed up succinctly.

Woodstock's 8-6 lead was short-lived. Whitby answered with a six-run top of the fourth, highlighted by an Alexander Penny grand slam. Ontario A added five runs in the fifth to effectively take control of the game, rounding the final with three in the visitors' seventh.

Colton Scott stroked a leadoff home run for Woodstock, his second of the tournament, to open a four-run first inning. One of seven additions to the Wranglers roster allowed under Baseball Canada rules for the national tournament, he echoed his teammates' assessment of the quality experience.

"I think we really bonded together," he added. "That's why I think we played so well."

Lee and Forbes followed with singles, a Link double and an error at short on an Ireton plate appearance, accounting



(JEFF TRIBE PHOTO)

**Woodstock's Ty Nadalin eases his way down the third baseline, watched closely by Wranglers third-base coach Sean Reilly.**

for three additional Woodstock runs. Lee singled, Forbes walked and both scored in the home fifth, an inning also including an Ireton single and a Jacob Baron double.

Ireton was named the Wranglers' player of the game, going 2 for 3 at the plate and pitching the final three innings.

"They were good and liked to attack," he credited. "And hit really well."

The Woodstock Wranglers 13U rode a crowd-pleasing 3-0 round-robin performance (14-2 over Quebec 2, 12-2 over New Brunswick, and 13-3 over Newfoundland and Labrador) into the quarterfinals. As hosts, the Wranglers had entered the tournament without expectations, said manager Mitch Lattimer.

"Kind of playing with house money if you will," he said, pleased with his team's performance.

Woodstock faced British Columbia 2 in the quarterfinals, up 8-1 early and 10-3 as the game advanced, but BC chipped away to tie the game up. Klein-Geltink came on to pitch, shutting British Columbia down for two innings. The Wranglers walked it off 11-10 in the bottom of the ninth as he scored from second on a Lee base hit into centre field.

"Hit a little dribbler up the middle, just got under the shortstop's glove," said Scott.

Trailing early to Ontario 2, the Wranglers battled back to drop a close 8-5 decision in their championship semi-final early Sunday afternoon. British Columbia 1 edged Whitby, Ontario 1, 4-3 in the other semi. Ontario 2 ultimately prevailed 12-2 over British Columbia in the championship game.

"Awesome weekend, great baseball, a lot of great talent from across the country here," said Baseball Canada representative Dirk Driederg.

"The hosts have been outstanding," he continued, crediting a combination of facilities and organization extending to off-field activities for the players, surpassing even the great job the Friendly City did hosting a nationals two years previous. "They've taken their game up even higher this year."

Every player will not share in a championship, Driederg concluded, but each had the opportunity to create special memories.

"And last them for a lifetime, quite frankly."

The 13U nationals brought together the best of the best of the best in age group players and teams, the Wranglers proving they belonged in the mix.

"We were right there," Lattimer continued of a fourth-

place finish. Obviously, picking up some hardware along the way would have been preferable, but Woodstock's performance had been undeniably remarkable.

"Can't be prouder of them."

With nationals in the rear-view mirror, the Wranglers' focus, along with other Woodstock Minor Baseball Association compatriots, shifts to Ontario Baseball Association tournaments scheduled for the Labour Day weekend. Coming off their fourth Inter-County Baseball Association (ICBA) Tier 1 title in five years and last year's OBA 12U AA victory, the 13U Wranglers have elected to compete at the AAA level in Vaughan.

"We'll be the smallest centre by a mile," Lattimer concluded. "But we'll play our hearts out and hope for the best."



(JEFF TRIBE PHOTO)

**Woodstock's Chase Ireton completes a 4-3 putout in a comfortable 12-2 win over New Brunswick Thursday evening at Southside Park East.**



**SEPT. 9-11, 2025**  
Woodstock, Ontario  
[outdoorfarmshow.com](http://outdoorfarmshow.com)

Explore where  
innovation  
comes to life.

- ▶ 600+ exhibitors in all areas of agriculture
- ▶ Demonstrations in crops, livestock, equipment, technology and more
- ▶ An experience for every member of your farm family

# Woodstock FC celebrates diversified success in 2025 outdoor season

JEFF TRIBE

*Echo Correspondent*

If one can imagine a soccer equivalent to the concept of diversified vertical integration, Woodstock FC has leveraged it toward positive 2025 outdoor outcomes.

The club's house league opens the door for everyone to play, its youth competitive squads provide an opportunity to grow and excel, and the adult teams provide a place to play afterwards. Although the season is not officially finished, President Metaxas Makedos can point to success throughout the organization.

"We are inclusive of every skill level," said Makedos. "From first-time players with no experience up to highly competitive leagues."

The 2025 outdoor list of accomplishments would feature the Woodstock Stallions' Western Ontario Soccer League's (WOSL) Premier Division Cup, captured Sunday, Aug. 17 via an exciting 3-2 win over London Jagiellonia. The Stallions opened cup play with a 5-0 shutout of London Serbs A, advancing to the final with a 5-2 success against the London Thunder.

The Division II Stallions added a Second Cup division victory, edging Sarnia FCA in their final. Woodstock downed GCFC decisively 8-2 in their semi-final encounter after opening with a 2-1 win over the St. Marys Juggernauts.

The Woodstock Stallions Masters also made their mark on the campaign with a 2025 Provincial Championship semi-final match, hosted in Woodstock Aug. 9.

On the women's side, the Woodstock FC Strikers have captured the London and Area Women's Soccer League Elite Division league cup (a league cup means top of the standings at the end of the season, a division cup, a form of in-division tournament victory), seven points ahead of second-place German Canadians FC Bullets with one game left on the schedule. The Strikers compiled a 14-1-0 win-loss-tie record in 2025, scoring 57 goals for compared to seven against to date.

At the youth level, Woodstock's Boys U16 entry sits atop the table in the elite IModel West Region C2 Division, six points up on Southwest Optimist FC 16B with two games left on their respective schedules. Woodstock's undefeated record is 7-0-1, with 29 goals for and nine against as of Sunday, Aug. 24.

The Boys U16 16/17 Strikers won their division cup and additionally have locked up the Elgin-Middlesex District Soccer League T2 Division League Cup, a full ten points up on St. Thomas at 11-1-3, 39 goals for, 13 against. The Girls U15 Strikers have also taken the EMDSL crown. Woodstock has



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

**The Woodstock U10 Strikers 2025 outdoor season has featured a 23-2 won/lost record, including a victory in the 32-team Grimsby Gateway tournament. Pictured in the front row, left to right, are: Max Routliffe, Carter Privatt, Owen Kuron, Sam Mealand and Connor Pomietlarz. In the back row, are Coach Josh Howard, Griffin Howard, Luke Falcon, Remy Johnson, Rowben Vanderpol, Vimahni Thompson, Anhad Taggar, Brad Wilson and Coach Sean Mealand.**

a six-point lead in that loop, 10-1-2 with a single game to go, enjoying a plus-22 goal differential with 35 for and 13 against.

And while the 5-0-5 Woodstock U13 Strikers remain in a tight battle for their T1 title, a division cup victory finalized with a 2-0 shutout win over Chatham Sunday, Aug. 17 at London Athletic Fields has boosted morale for the stretch run.

Leah Miller and Hanna Nelson scored for Woodstock in the final, with keeper Livia Cohelo earning the shutout.

"We really played an amazing game in all areas," said head coach Karl Lindau. "A very connected game."

The U13 Strikers opened division cup play with a 2-0 win over the Sarnia Spirit July 7, fueled offensively by Blythe Whetstone and Zoe Brignolio and backstopped by Cohelo. Presley Rivers and Elly Kerr-Bragg found the back of the net for Woodstock in a 2-1 semi-final win over London Alliance FC on July 16.

With a home-and-home regular season set remaining against Alliance, the two teams are tied for second in U13 standings, one point behind first-place St. Thomas FC. Chatham is three points back and the Spirit one behind them.

"Very, very like-styled teams," Lindau assessed of the upcoming challenge. "It's going to be interesting."

Chatham has one game remaining, also against London Alliance, leaving the door wide open to a range of possibilities.

Other Woodstock highlights beyond the EMDSL loop include a second-place finish at the St. Thomas Soccerfest and thirds at the Barrie Spiritfest and Stratford Graham Bunting Classic tournaments, made more remarkable by the team's comparative lack of victories the previous season.

"We've really pushed the girls to go to the top," said Lindau. "They've wanted it, accepted it, and run with it."

Beyond conditioning, hard work and a more technical approach, the coach credits support from FC head coach Iain Hume for advancing the squad's results.

"It has been successful, fun, team building... just one of those years so far," concluded Lindau, noting it has been great, regardless of how the season concludes. "But you know, we're always going to go to finish strong."

Makedos is also pleased to point to positive results in the Long-Term Player Development division. Standings are not kept for younger-age divisions, who rather play 'festivals.'

CONTINUED TO PAGE 24



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

**The Boys U16 16/17 Strikers won their Elgin-Middlesex District Soccer League division cup and additionally have locked up the T2 Division League Cup.**

## YOU LIKE TO SING

and the Stratford  
Concert Choir is looking  
for new members!

We are a warm and welcoming choir looking  
forward to an exciting season under our new  
Artistic Director, Alexander Cann. Four  
concerts of beautiful, moving music, including  
Handel's Messiah and Mozart's Requiem.

If you would like to join us, we  
will be pleased to arrange an  
audition for you.

For more information contact  
auditions@stratfordconcertchoir.org

# Woodstock FC celebrates diversified success in 2025 outdoor season

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

Among the positives in the U12 to U8 Boys' divisions are the U10 Tier Stallions, who put together a 23-2 won/lost record over the season, scoring 180 goals while giving up just 42. Their record includes a victory in the 32-team Grimsby Gateway tournament.

Woodstock finished pool play undefeated with wins over the Darlington Dash (17-0), Whitby FC (11-0) and Grimsby Town FC (6-1), defeating Toronto Olympia 5-1 in quarterfinals and Durham City 4-2. The Strikers faced 'The Rebels' in the final, a team just back from a tour of Spain, including a narrow 2-1 loss to the Barcelona U10 Academy. Trailing 2-1 late in regulation time, Woodstock scored the equalizer and then took the title on penalty kicks.

Makedos echoed Lindau's praise for Hume, crediting the former professional player and national team member for elevating the level of coaching throughout the organization. "He brings quite the resume to our program."

Other reasons for this year's success include a concerted effort to onboard youth-division players to adult clubs, formalizing an informal understanding of the value of two training sessions per week during the winter, and an effort



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

**The Woodstock U13 Strikers captured the Elgin-Middlesex District Soccer League division cup with a 2-0 shutout victory over Chatham Sunday, August 17th at the London Athletic Fields. The two teams shared a post-game photo following the contest.**

to find meaningful competition during what was formerly the 'off-season.'

"We've had some real success right across the club," Makedos concluded. "Men, women and youth."

## Life is good, especially when it comes full circle and on the golf course



LEE GRIFFI

Editor

Some people say life repeats itself, déjà vu if you will. I recently experienced something I never thought I would again. A chance to share a round of golf with Canadian golf icon and Canadian Golf Hall of Fame inductee, Mike Weir. Oh, he also won a green jacket at Augusta. I think I shed a few tears when he beat Len Mattiace on the first hole of a sudden-death playoff in 2003. Tiger Woods, as defending champion, suited Weir up with his new sport coat.

I remember exactly where I was. I was playing a round of golf at the Stratford Golf and Country Club, a place where I worked for nearly 20 years. I started in the back shop at the age of 12, cleaning clubs and making sure members and guests had what they needed before teeing off. I eventually earned my way into the pro shop and was knowledgeable enough about the game to begin teaching lessons.

I made the high school team at the former Stratford Central all five years I was there, and I believe it was in my grade 12 or 13 year when the

Western Ontario Secondary School Association (WOSSA) tournament was held at Craigowan, just north of Woodstock. I had heard about this Weir fellow, and I knew how good he was. I was a pretty good player, but oh boy, could I knock the cover off the ball. My self-imposed nickname was 'Lee, Long Ball Griffi,' which I proudly displayed on my Jones carry bag. Some of you old golfers might remember the best carry bag ever made.

I had some success, winning a few stops on the old junior Tyson Tour. But the mystique surrounding Mr. Weir was huge. I just never had the chance to play with the Brights Grove native until one wet, snowy day in October. And I beat him.

I always tell people that is my golf claim to fame, and I never thought I would see him again. But after entering a Rogers draw online, I was given the opportunity once again. I was the only winner of the Beyond the Seat contest, which gave me a chance to play a round with Weir for the first time in nearly 40 years in Calgary as part of the PGA Champions Tour during a pro-am event.

Besides watching some of the best over-50 golfers compete, I was proud to be a part of the charity aspect involved, as is the case in any PGA and PGA Champions Tour event. Since the tournament's inception, over \$137 million has been raised for over 290 children and youth charities across Alberta. I was a bit bummed John Daly, Fred Couples and Ernie Els weren't there, but there were plenty of big names around, including former world number ones David Duval and Vijay Singh.

I don't think Weir believed me on the first tee when I mentioned I beat him years ago. He likened it to a fish

tale where he caught a 30-inch trout, but it was all in good fun. Also playing with us were three Rogers and Wasserman fellas, along with a club pro from Calgary. I can't remember a more enjoyable round of golf. Wasserman is a sports management company Rogers works with on the sports side of its operations.

My partner and I were very well taken care of with all expenses paid, including a ride to and from Banff during our free day. I have never had the majestic experience I did there with one of the world's most incredible natural wonders so present.

I guess my point in writing this column is to be humble and thankful. I have never had a lot in life aside from my family. I don't need much, mind you, so if they were all I had, I would be content. When something great happens in life, we should all be very appreciative. I'm not getting any younger, and with the amount of arthritis in my back, I honestly don't know how much longer I can play the game I love.

My brother Tony was a professional golfer in Alberta before passing away during the pandemic. All I wanted when he died was his golf clubs and bag. I took his Mizuno staff bag with me on the trip, so it felt a bit like he was there with me. I know he would have been pleased.

I normally don't give plugs to big companies, but I truly want to thank Rogers and Wasserman for their incredible customer service. They made this a once in a lifetime experience. A video of some of my trip is available at <https://www.instagram.com/reel/DNYrspiPRZv/>.

Lee Griffi is the editor of the Woodstock-Ingersoll Echo and a contributor to other Grant Haven newspapers.



(ROGERS CHARITY CLASSIC PHOTOS)

**The Echo's Lee Griffi won a contest recently and flew to Calgary to play a round of golf with Masters champion and member of the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame, Mike Weir**

# Route to the Past – Happy Anniversary Thomas

SCOTT GILLIES

Contributor

It was twenty-five years ago that Thomas Ingersoll returned to the place he once called home; a community which was named in his honour back in the 1830s. But it was in August of 2000 that the world got its first glance at the person who founded this community before the 19th century.

Thomas Ingersoll had been born in 1750 in the town of Westfield Massachusetts. He and his parents had moved to Great Barrington in 1774. Over the span of his life, Thomas served in the colonial army fighting against the British during the American Revolution; he took part in quelling a rebellion amongst his peers in the years which followed the creation of the new republic; became a businessman, and he had three wives – not all at the same time mind you.

In 1775, he married Elizabeth Dewey. Together they raised four children – four daughters – Laura, Elizabeth, Myra and Abigail. Elizabeth passed away in 1784 leaving Thomas with four young daughters. Thomas needed the merciful help of another woman to care for and teach his children. He found his second wife in the person of a widow named Mercy Smith. They had no children before Mercy died in 1789.

Thomas married for a third time, in the same year, to another widow. The third Mrs. Ingersoll was Sarah Whiting Backus. She was twelve years his junior and of good childbearing stock. She and Thomas Ingersoll welcomed another six children into the world. Charles, the first-born son arrived in 1791. He was followed by Charlotte, Appalonia, Thomas Junior, Samuel, James and Sarah.

Thomas Ingersoll had been granted a commission in the Massachusetts militia by the colonial governor John Hancock; the same man who signed the Declaration of Independence. Thomas rose through the ranks to become captain. Following the Revolutionary War, he was appointed a Major and given the task of putting down an armed insurrection, known as Shay's Rebellion. In simple terms, a group of locals took umbrage with the powers of authority and rules created by the new government. They not



Thomas Ingersoll statue.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

only took offence to the new government, they took up arms against it. This mini civil war pitted families and friends against each other – again. This may have been too much for Thomas. It wasn't too long before he appears to have become disenchanted with the new republic and he began to look elsewhere for new horizons, new opportunities, a new home to raise his growing family.

Thomas became a business partner with a small group of investors and speculators looking to move to British North America. They had heard about the free land grants being offered in Upper Canada.

Thomas Ingersoll was tasked with being the representative of this conglomerate. He met with Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe at Newark (now Niagara-on-the-Lake). Together they struck up a

deal whereby Ingersoll and his compatriots were granted 66,000 acres of land (the equivalent of a township).

Thomas moved his family from Massachusetts to Upper Canada and for a while he operated a tavern in Queenston. With this as a source of income, Thomas travelled westward to find the tract of land he had been allotted. Helping him on his journey were young Indigenous men directed by Mohawk chief Joseph Brant. Thomas arrived on the banks of what is now known as the Thames

River and erected his log cabin in 1793.

A proviso for most settlements in Upper Canada was the need to clear and maintain a road allowance in front of your property. For Thomas Ingersoll this meant that he had to clear and improve the footpath known as the Detroit Trail. He had to make it passable for wagons and oxen, from Burford through to his cabin on the Thames. This made travel by subsequent families much easier. Still known as the Old Stage Road, you can travel some of that original route.

By 1805, Thomas had exhausted his personal income and after several attempts to gain government assistance from Simcoe's successors, Ingersoll moved away from his original settlement and took on the duties of running the Government Inn at the mouth of the Credit River in what is now modern-day Mississauga. He died there in 1812. He died not knowing about the heroism of his eldest daughter Laura Secord. He died not knowing about the loyalty of his son Charles to the British during the War of 1812. He died not knowing that his original settlement of Oxford-on-the-Thames would be renamed in 1832 in his honour.

In the years leading up to the Millenium, a committee of town council was formed. Their task was to select a fitting memorial to mark this millennial milestone. The committee consisted of Councillor Ernie Hunt, his wife Yvonne, Mac and Margaret Meadows, Julie Finley, downtown businessmen Bob Mott and Gord Lesser, and local residents Brad Kempston and yours truly. The decision was to hire internationally renowned woodcarver Neil Cox, who just happened to be originally from Ingersoll.

Neil's efforts and talents resulted in the larger-than-life wooden sculpture of Thomas Ingersoll which still welcomes visitors into the Ingersoll Town Hall all these years later. It was twenty-five years ago, August 26, 2000, that Thomas Ingersoll came to town; this time he stayed.

*Route2thepast@gmail.com*

**Helping Seniors downsize and find the next perfect step with care and expertise**

**Let us make your transition smooth and stress-free!**



**Your Oxford Connection**  
Moving You in the Right Direction

**Call us today for a free consultation!**

**Jennifer Webb, Realtor®, SRES®, 519-709-6635**  
**Mario Spina, Broker, 519-615-2201**  
**Marianne Butler, Realtor®, 519-983-5173**  
SRES - Senior Real Estate Specialist®



*Worship With Us*



**Old St. Paul's**  
Anglican Church  
723 Dundas St., Woodstock

**Holy Eucharist**

**Sunday mornings at 11:00 am**  
with Rev Tony Bouwmeester

**ENJOY OUR COOL**  
**A/C COMFORT**

Historic Old St. Paul's: Celebrating 190 years

**GRAND RIVER**  
**MENNONITE**  
**CHURCH**

Princeton

**We invite you to**  
**worship with us.**

**Sunday School 9:30 am**  
**Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am**

Pastor 519.521.3491

**CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY**  
**Anglican Church**

560 Dundas St. Woodstock

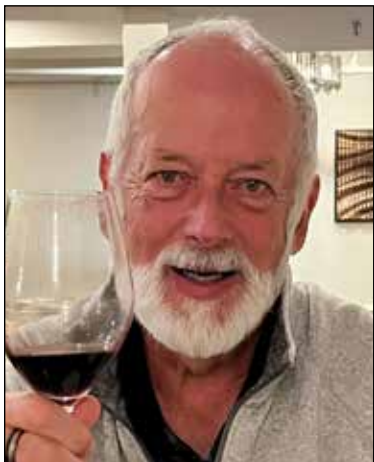
**Worship Services**

**Sunday 8:00 a.m.**  
**Sunday 10:30 a.m.**

*followed by Coffee Hour*

**Rev. Richard Hetke**  
**will be offering Communion.**

# OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Exploring the unexpected on the Toronto Islands



PAUL KNOWLES

*Echo Contributor*

As we boarded the ferry to Hanlan's Point, we could see the crowd of passengers swarming onto the neighbouring ferry, destined for Centre Island. Our much smaller craft was anything but crammed, and we started to wonder if all those Centre Island folks knew something we didn't.

In truth, they probably did – they knew that the heart of the action of the Toronto Islands is Centre Island, home to the Centreville amusement park, the pier, beautiful gardens, parks,

picnic areas, a beach, bike rentals, and lots of other activities.

But from the moment we left the dock at the Jack Layton Ferry Terminal, we were entirely happy with our choice of destinations.

Because Toronto Island Park – made up of several islands, all about a 15-minute ferry ride from Toronto's waterfront – is home to a wide variety of activities, attractions, and opportunities for leisure. Which is a good thing, I must note, since Toronto has generally done such a lousy job of making its waterfront attractive or enticing. Compared to other cities – Halifax, Kingston and Victoria come immediately to mind – Toronto has sacrificed waterfront quality of life to the gods of condominium investment. But I digress.

As my partner noted during our brief voyage, perhaps Toronto Island Park is the saving grace, offering a different kind of wonderful waterfront of Toronto residents and visitors.

Visitors to the islands have the choice of three ferries – bound for and from Hanlan's Point, Centre Island, and Ward's Is-



A Toronto Islands Ferry arriving at the Centre Island terminal.

(DAVID HOU PHOTO)

land. All the islands are linked by walking/biking trails.

Our whimsical choice of the Hanlan's Point ferry immediately paid dividends. The ferry was small but by no means crowded. And upon landing, we were immediately captured by the amount of history represented at this end of the Toronto Islands.

When you disembark, – you immediately encounter an imposing statue. It's a sculpture of Edward Hansan, namesake of this part of Toronto Island Park, and memorialized as "the most renowned oarsman of any age whose victorious career has no parallel in the annals of sport. Born and died in Toronto. July 12, 1855-January 4, 1908."

Full disclosure – until meeting his bronze likeness, I had never heard of Ned Hanlan. But having done some post-visit research, there is no doubt that he was a very significant figure in Canadian and international sport. I am happy to have finally "met" him.

Hanlan Point is historically significant for another reason. A little farther down the path past Ned Hanlan, is a prominent sign: "Welcome, you are entering Canada's oldest queer space. Hanlan's Point has been a gathering place for 2SLGBTQ+ people for nearly a century. Canada's first Gay Pride celebration was held here on August 1st, 1971."

The script concludes: "This space is built on freedom, acceptance, respect and diversity. While you are here, we ask that you keep these values in mind." That seems like really good advice – and in our current climate of looming repression, it seems especially important to espouse those values.

We opted to walk from Hanlan's Point to the Centre Island Ferry terminal, which should take about 45 minutes, if you don't wander from the main road. Which, of course, we did – to have a look at the clothing optional beach (which was also people-optional on the day of our visit... we were the only folks there, and remained fully garbed), at the other beaches, at the historic Gibraltar Point Lighthouse (built in 1808, it's the oldest surviving lighthouse on the Great Lakes – who knew?), the pier, the amazing gardens along what was once Manitou Road, and of course, Centreville, the venerable amusement park that was clearly the number one destination of the crowds on the Centre Island ferry.

We didn't press on to Ward's Island, but had we done so, we would have seen the homes of about 600 people who live on Ward's Island and Algonquin Island. These determined folks live without the benefit of cars, stores or public transportation.

We did wander off the main

route to stroll through the amusement park, where folks were having a heck of a good time riding a roller coaster, a mini-train, a flume ride, swan-shaped boats and much more. We took a break to have ice cream from a shop that had a sign advertising American-made ice cream, but which has switched its actual product to Canada's own Chapman's ice cream. For which we thanked them.

I admit that I approached our visit to Centre Island with a very limited concept of the place. So our time there was a delightful revelation.

And the cost? Well, the ferry ride costs \$9.11 for adults, \$5.86 for students and seniors, \$4.29 under 14. And that's for the round trip. There is plenty to enjoy that won't cost you anything (we were impressed with the frequent placement of water fountains, so you don't need to buy hydration, and with the large number of picnic tables); an all-day pass for a family of four at the amusement park costs \$182. The smiling families seemed to suggest it was a good investment.

*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](mailto:pknowles@gold-en.net).*



(DAVID HOU PHOTO)

The statue of Ned Hanlan, a world-champion oarsman, for whom Hanlan's Point is named.

# Ingersoll's Kiwanis Harvest Market Brings in Hundreds

KYRAH SMITH

Echo Contributor

Saturday, Aug. 23, was a busy day in Ingersoll, with parking spots hard to come by as the beloved Kiwanis Harvest Market returned in full swing. Running from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., the market stretched from the Ingersoll Cheese and Agricultural Museum, through Centennial Park, and all the way to the Ingersoll Creative Arts Centre (ICAC).

"This is the biggest turnout we've had," said Donna Schurman of Deep Purple Lavender Farm. "It's the craziest it's ever been."

Schurman, a vendor for the past three years, noted how the market has grown. This year even included an entirely new vendor lane to accommodate the increase in sellers. With over 80 local vendors from across Oxford County, there was something for everyone: from handmade crafts and wood-burned art to handpicked flowers and ethically sourced honey. Shoppers strolled through the market, enjoying a wide variety of unique and locally made

items. Live music from local performers added a lively soundtrack to the day, and food options were abundant. Visitors could grab a bite from Beans and Brews, Brannigan's Fish & Chips, Poppin' Kettle Corn, Camp Coffee, PB's French Fries, a community barbecue, and more. The event was especially family-friendly. Kids lined up for the bouncy houses, face painting, and balloon animals, while parents also enjoyed a car show hosted by the Ingersoll Masons and activities at the ICAC's Artisan Market.

The Cheese Museum opened its doors for the day, offering guests a chance to explore Ingersoll's history while enjoying the festivities. Even Mayor Brian Petrie got involved, hosting an "Ask the Mayor a Question" booth, an opportunity many residents took full advantage of. As the day wound down, the energy stayed high, with guests still milling about, shopping, and enjoying the community atmosphere. If you're interested in future events hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Ingersoll, you can follow them on Facebook.



(KYRAH SMITH PHOTO)

Kiwanis Harvest Market 2025 attendees enjoying some of the many local vendors.



Local Strawberries for sale from Turner's Farmers Market.

(KYRAH SMITH PHOTO)

DISCOVER

Rural  
Oxford

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING CANADA'S  
OUTDOOR FARM SHOW WITH US!

Rural Oxford

Economic / Development

RURALOXFORD.CA/DISCOVER

# COMING EVENTS

**The Oxford Basketball Officials Association in partnership with the Oxford Attack Basketball Club will be presenting an EXHIBITION BASKETBALL GAME BETWEEN THE FANSHAWE FALCONS AND THE MCMASTER MARAUDERS WOMEN'S TEAMS at St Mary's High School in Woodstock Sunday September 21 at 2:00pm. Admission: Adults \$10.00 and Youth \$5.00.** Net proceeds to the Canadian Cancer Society. For more information, please email [oxfordbasketballofficials@gmail.com](mailto:oxfordbasketballofficials@gmail.com)

**SACRED HEART PARISH EUCHRE**  
Henderson Hall, 133 John Street Ingersoll.  
**Tuesday, September 2, start at 1 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, September 16, start at 1 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, September 30, start at 1 p.m.**  
We invite everyone to join us for a Euchre afternoon.  
Refreshments provided.  
For more info call or text Martha 519-320-0785

**NEW DURHAM CEMETARY DECORATION DAY SERVICE**  
**Sunday, September 7: 2 p.m.**  
Service of Remembrance by Lola Mather-Dyer.  
Music by the Norwich Musical Society Band.

**INNERKIP CEMETERY DECORATION DAY & MEMORIAL SERVICE**  
**Sunday, September 7: 2:30 p.m.**  
We welcome you to decorate your family gravesite  
(No glass containers please)

**TILLSONBURG FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION IS HOSTING ANNUAL STEAK BBQ FUNDRAISER**  
**Saturday September 13:**  
**Meal is served from 4 to 8 p.m.**  
**Lions Auditorium,**  
**45 Hardy Ave, Tillsonburg**  
\$30.00 per person  
Children under 12- Free Hotdogs  
Tickets Available through one of the local Firefighters or email [dvan.occ@gmail.com](mailto:dvan.occ@gmail.com)

**CANADIAN HARVARD AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION OPEN HOUSE & FLY DAYS**  
**Sept 13 – Wings & Wheels**  
**All event dates take place from 9am to 4pm**  
**Tillsonburg Regional Airport**  
Join us for our Open House & Fly Days during our special 40th anniversary season. These monthly family-friendly outdoor events are always FREE and offer the opportunity to see our collection of Harvard aircraft up close, tour our hangars, explore restoration projects, purchase souvenirs, and best of all, purchase a flight! Pre-booking your flight experience is recommended by contacting [crewflights@harvards.com](mailto:crewflights@harvards.com).

**The Ingersoll Rotary Club is proud to host: THE 2025 INTERNATIONAL SOFTBALL CONGRESS (ISC) MEN'S FASTBALL TOURNAMENT**  
**in Ingersoll September 26-28**  
**at Victoria and Garnet Elliott Parks.**  
**Games begin 7 p.m., Friday.**  
See some of the best league teams vying for a berth into next year's World's ISC Championship Tournament in Kitchener, Ontario in August 2026. At press time, registered teams are Georgian Bay, Sebringville, Saugeen, St.

Thomas, Puslinch, Wiarton, Waterdown, Jarvis, Walton and Kitchener.

**The Woodstock and Innerkip Lion Clubs host: PET VALU 40TH WALK FOR DOG GUIDES: BRIGHT FUTURES, COUNTLESS POSSIBILITIES**

Come and join the local Lions Clubs as we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides, theme Bright Futures, Countless Possibilities. [www.walkfordogguides.com](http://www.walkfordogguides.com) **The walk this year will be held at the Pavillion (beside the playground/ Sea Cadets building) in Southside Park in Woodstock, Ontario on Saturday, September 27. Registration is at 10 a.m., Walk starts at 10:30 a.m.** Bring your family, friends, and sociable dogs. Fun for the whole family. Please contact Jennifer and Tatum "dog guide" at [jharrington743@gmail.com](mailto:jharrington743@gmail.com) for more information.

**Hearts for Ethiopia Hosts: A WALK IN THEIR SHOES**  
Register today for Hearts for Ethiopia's A Walk in Their Shoes! This meaningful community event is happening soon on **Saturday, October 18 in Woodstock**, and individuals and teams are encouraged to sign up today at [www.heartsforethiopia.com](http://www.heartsforethiopia.com). A Walk in Their Shoes invites participants to step into the daily experiences of women and children in Ethiopia, while raising vital funds to support those living in extreme poverty. The event features a family-friendly walk, interactive education, a silent auction, an Ethiopian Merkato, refreshments, and opportunities to learn how the money raised will change the lives of women and children in Ethiopia.

**LET'S FALL INTO COUNTRY MUSIC WITH THE INGERSOLL COUNTRY MUSIC JAMBOREE**  
**Every other Friday: 1 to 4 p.m.**  
**Masonic Hall, 190 Thames St., Ingersoll**  
Join us. Walk ins welcome. Qualifications, love 50-70's country music, perform, listen, dance, and enjoy. September 5 & 19, October 3, 17 & 31, November 14 & 28, and December 5.

**MODERN SQUARE DANCING IS FOR YOU!**  
Looking for something to do in the evening or something new to try? Modern square dancing is a great way to learn something new, have fun, meet new friends, relieve stress, and get some exercise! **At Thames Valley Dance Club, we dance on Monday nights from 7 to 9 p.m.** All you need is comfortable shoes and casual clothing. No experience or partner is required and anyone over the age of 12 is welcome (children from 12-15 with an adult, please). **We will be starting our 2025-2026 season on Monday, September 8, at the Ingersoll Pipe Band Hall, 108 Wonham St. S. Ingersoll.** The first night is free, and after that the cost is \$7.50 per person each Monday, paid monthly at the start of the month. For more information, contact Julie at 519-535-3314.

**INGERSOLL CHORAL SOCIETY Rehearsals for the 2025/26 season begin**  
**Monday, September 8: 7 to 9 p.m.**  
**at Ingersoll CRC, 429 King St. W., Ingersoll.**  
Come out to 3 rehearsals with no commitment necessary. Find us on FB or email [holly.langohr@gmail.com](mailto:holly.langohr@gmail.com) for more info.

**MONTHLY VON BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC**  
**Last Tuesday of every Month:**  
**10 a.m. to Noon**  
**Ingersoll Pharmasave**  
**19 King St. E., Ingersoll**

**TILLSONBURG DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB**  
**Interested in Bridge? Join us every Friday at the Tillsonburg Duplicate Bridge Club at 1 p.m. at The Senior Centre.** Don't have a partner? Come anyway and we will match you up with someone. For more information, visit their Facebook page: TburgBridge.

**THE OPTIMIST CLUB OF OXFORD COUNTY**  
The Optimists bring out the best in Youth, Community, and Themselves. If anyone is interested in coming out to meet us and learn more about us please email [brenda7621@outlook.com](mailto:brenda7621@outlook.com)

**REPAIR CAFÉ - TOSS IT? NO WAY!**  
**1st Saturday of each month: 9 a.m. to Noon**  
**St. John's Church 685860 Oxford Highway 2, Eastwood, ON N4S 7V9**  
St. John's, Eastwood, now affiliated with Repair Café International (look for us at [repaircafe.org](http://repaircafe.org)). Meets the first Saturday of every month 9am to noon at St. John's Church 685860 Oxford Highway 2, Eastwood, ON N4S 7V9. Repairs made to clothing, linens, household items, toys, musical instruments etc. Save money, learn how to make your own repairs. Volunteers welcome. Payment by donation.

**GRIEF SUPPORT FOR MAID RELATED LOSS**  
This monthly in-person grief support group for loss related to Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) offers a compassionate, safe space to explore this unique loss. **The group will meet the 4th Wednesday of the month from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Thamesford Library, 165 Dundas St., Thamesford. The group is free of charge and pre-registration is requested.** To register or inquire about an evening group, contact Faye Brekelmans at 519-866-3016 or email [faye@compassionategriefsupport.ca](mailto:faye@compassionategriefsupport.ca).

**50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLANDFORD-BLENHEIM TOWNSHIP'S AMALGAMATION**  
**The Plattsville & District Heritage Society at Chesterfield Museum/Archives, 816661 Oxford Road 22, Bright**  
**Yummy food at the free outdoor barbeque, cool drinks and groovy music on Saturday, August 16, by Bill & Bev Bell, happening from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**  
Enjoy the Exhibit in the Museum/Archives **"Retro Rewind to the 70's & 80's" from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., every Saturday until September 13, or by appointment (519-535-1417).** Donations appreciated.

**PEER SUPPORT GROUP FOR PARENTS & CAREGIVERS**  
**Third Wednesday of each month:**  
**6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**  
**21 Wellington St., Woodstock (Virtual options available)**  
PCMH is a peer support program providing support to parents and caregivers across Ontario with lived experience raising children

and youth with mental health challenges. For more information, please visit [family.cmho.org](http://family.cmho.org) or [oxfordcounty@pcmh.ca](mailto:oxfordcounty@pcmh.ca). We are also on Facebook: Parents for Children's Mental Health ~ Oxford County

**LIVING WITH LOSS: A SIX-WEEK GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**  
**Caring Hearts Support Network:**  
**St. David's United Church,**  
**190 Springbank Ave., Woodstock ON**  
The next 6-week Living with Loss Grief Support Group will begin on **Tuesday, September 2.** For more information please call 519-536-3370 or visit our website [www.caringheartssupportnetwork.com](http://www.caringheartssupportnetwork.com)

**VON OXFORD GRIEF CARE: FREE MONTHLY GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**  
**Register at: [oxford.griefsupport@von.ca](mailto:oxford.griefsupport@von.ca) or 519-539-1231 Ext 6299 or 6296**

**TILLSONBURG**  
**WHEN:** 2nd Tuesday of every month  
**WHERE:** VON Oxford Office 24 Brock St. W., Tillsonburg  
**TIME:** 6:30PM-8:00PM  
**INGERSOLL**  
**WHEN:** 4th Tuesday of every month  
**WHERE:** Ingersoll Public Library 130 Oxford St., Ingersoll  
**TIME:** 10:30AM –12:00Noon  
**WOODSTOCK**  
**WHEN:** 3rd Saturday of every month  
**WHERE:** Sakura House Hospice 715180 Oxford Rd.4, Woodstock  
**TIME:** 10:30AM-12:00 Noon

**THE LIONS CLUB OF WOODSTOCK**  
The Lions Club of Woodstock has been serving the community and Oxford County with kindness and generosity since 1931. The Lions always place the needs of neighbours and communities first. Through the dedication and hard work of our volunteer members, we are serving those in need together. If you are interested in becoming a member or simply wish to learn more by attending one of our monthly meetings, please email Steve Iorio at [steveiorio4@gmail.com](mailto:steveiorio4@gmail.com) for more information.

**COLOURING THROUGH GRIEF**  
**Caring Hearts Support Network:**  
**St. David's United Church,**  
**190 Springbank Ave., Woodstock ON**  
Third Wednesday monthly. One time fee of \$15. Registration is required.  
Call 519-536-3370. Check out website [www.caringheartssupportnetwork.com](http://www.caringheartssupportnetwork.com)

**OXFORD COUNTY BRANCH OF ONTARIO ANCESTORS**  
Are you looking to start a summer pastime? Are you interested in your family history? Oxford Branch has an extensive collection of family history and genealogical resources that can help you. **Come visit our Resource Centre at 82 Light Street, Courthouse Square, Woodstock. We are open Tuesdays to Thursdays 10:00 am to 4:00 pm** where volunteers are ready to help you get started or help you research for missing information. You can also connect with us on the web at <https://oxford.ogs.on.ca>. We are dedicated to supporting and promoting genealogical research in Oxford County. Hope to see you through the summer!

# COMING EVENTS

**OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY**  
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday (2 to 4 p.m.) and 4th Tuesday (7 to 9 p.m.)  
September to May  
Church of the Epiphany, 560 Dundas Street, Woodstock  
Ontario N4S 1C7  
If you have never belonged to a stamp club, now's the time. Meet new friends, grow your knowledge and collection.  
Contact: Don Eaton dhfe@silomail.com  
Website: <http://www.rpsc.org/chapters/oxford>

**OXFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY FALL SPEAKER SERIES**

**Industrial Woodstock – Timberland Machines Limited**  
**Wednesday, September 24: 6:30 p.m.**  
**Location: Woodstock Museum NHS**  
Special Guest Speaker Wes Magill – Join Wes as he takes us through the history of “Industrial Woodstock” including Timberland Machines Limited and Timberjack Inc., founded by his father Weston A. Magill, Vernon B. King and Bob Symons – the undisputed “industrial kingpins” of Woodstock.  
Free Event, Donations Welcome!

**CONDEMNED: WOODSTOCK’S WICKED PAST**  
**Wednesday, October 29: 6:30 p.m.**  
**Location: To be announced.**  
Special Guest Jennie Grevers - Uncover the gripping stories behind the executions that shaped Woodstock and Oxford County’s past. Dive into the fascinating historical accounts from people who faced the gallows and learn how their lives – and deaths impacted our community. Join us for an evening filled with dramatic tales, historical insight, and a deeper understanding of Woodstock and Oxford’s most somber chapter.  
Free Event, Donations Welcome!

**OXFORD GOES TO WAR**  
**Wednesday, November 26: 6:30 p.m.**  
**Location: To be announced.**  
Special Presentation by Scott Gillies, Chair OxHS.  
Free event, Donations welcome!

**OXHS - BOARD MEMBER CURRENT VACANCY**  
The Oxford Historical Society celebrates, shares and commemorates the County’s stories of its people, places and events in history. We are currently looking for a volunteer Board member to fill a current vacancy. Consider getting involved behind the scenes. For more information, please email us at [info@oxhs.ca](mailto:info@oxhs.ca).

**BEACHVILLE LEGION EVENTS:**  
**434852 ZorraLine, Beachville**

**EUCHRE: THURSDAYS - 7 p.m.**  
**DARTS: FRIDAYS - 8 p.m.**  
**FREE POOL**

**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION**  
**BRANCH 55 EVENTS:**  
**642 Dundas St, Woodstock**

**EXECUTIVE MEETING**  
**September 2: 7 p.m.**

**BRANCH GENERAL MEETING**  
**September 9: 7:30 p.m.**

**DARTS**  
**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday nights.**

**SOUP N SANDWICH**  
**September 4: 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.**

**SHUFFLEBOARD LEAGUE IS BACK**  
**SEPTEMBER 11**  
**1:30 p.m. Every Thursday.**

**MEAT DRAW**  
**September 13: 3 p.m.**

**SILENT AUCTION**  
**September 10 through to September 13.**

**CADETS ARE BACK**  
**September 8**

**BATTLE OF BRITAIN IN INGERSOLL**  
**1:30 p.m.**

**LASAGNA & CAESAR SALAD DINNER**  
**September 28: 5-6 p.m.**  
Pre-Order no later and pay by September 23. For more information please contact the office 519-537-3112 or canteen 519-539-3401.

**PRIVATE FUNCTION ON SEPTEMBER 19**  
Canteen not open. Office is open.  
**SERVICE OFFICER VISIT**  
**September 24: 10 a.m.**  
Please be here if you need to see her.

**CHARLIE DALGARNO 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS**  
**September 20: 2-4 p.m.**

**ENTERTAINMENT SATURDAY NIGHTS**  
**September 6 - Blue Sky 7-11 p.m.**  
**September 13 - DJ Wolfeman 7-11 p.m.**  
**September 20 - Steve Beach & James Anthony 7-11 p.m.**  
**September 27 - Private Function - Canteen Closed.**

**DOWNTOWN WOODSTOCK BIA**  
**IMPORTANT DATES:**

**DOWNTOWN WOODSTOCK SHOPPING NIGHT**  
**September 25, October 23, November 27, December 18: 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.**  
Our monthly shopping event, Woodstock Shopping Night, typically occurs every 4th Thursday of the month. Participating stores stay open late until 8 pm to facilitate late-night shopping. Enjoy a great night out in downtown Woodstock with extended store hours & exciting specials.

**CHRISTMAS IN THE SQUARE**  
**December 12/13 & December 19/20**  
Get ready for a festive family adventure in Downtown Woodstock! Join us for free festive fun in Museum Square; expect smiles, laughter, and a jolly good time. Bring the kids and snap a free photo with Santa at his house. Take the opportunity to do some last minute shopping for your loved ones at the wonderful downtown businesses.

**SOUTH GATE CENTRE EVENTS:**  
**[www.southgatectr.com](http://www.southgatectr.com) or 519-539-9817**

**FALLSVIEW CASINO**  
**Friday, September 19: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.**  
South Gate Centre Bus Trip  
Members pricing and non-members pricing.

**DAY IN PORT DOVER**  
**Wednesday, September 10: 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**  
South Gate Centre Bus Trip  
Lunch at Erie Beach Hotel, Lighthouse Theatre’s “Here on the Flight Path,” travel by luxury motorcoach. Members pricing and non-members pricing.

**BLUE JAYS VS. TAMPA BAY**  
**Saturday, September 27: 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.**  
South Gate Centre Bus Trip  
Members pricing and non-members pricing.

**Visit us online at**  
**[theecho.ca](http://theecho.ca)**

20% LARGER

HALIBUT

BUY ONE, GET SECOND

50% OFF

AUG. 29 ~ SEP. 2, 2025



NOW 6 OZ

519-290-8800

194 SPRINGBANK AVE.N.

WOODSTOCK ON.

Echo

PROMOTE YOUR EVENTS WITH US! HERE’S HOW

Deadline: Tuesday prior at 3 p.m.

Contact: [info@theecho.ca](mailto:info@theecho.ca)

Coming Events are for non-profit organizations to promote their free admission events at no charge. Event listings can include your event name, date, time and location as well as a phone number, email address or website. If your event is not free admission or you would like to include more details than stated above, you have the following options:

Coming Events Word Ad (50 word max.) - \$10 + hst

Coming Events Boxed Word Ad (50 word max.) - \$15 + hst

Display Ad - Sizes begin at a business card size for \$35 + hst

# Riddles

I have a head and a foot but no body; I have four legs but cannot stand.  
What am I?  
*Bed*

I have a bow but no arrows; What am I?  
*Violin*

It has wheels and flies, yet it's not an airplane. What is it?  
*Garbage truck*

Which month has 28 days?  
*All of them*

The more I'm shared, the more I grow; keep me to yourself and I shrink.  
What am I?  
*Happiness*

I start with "P," end with "E," and hold thousands of letters. What am I?  
*Post office*

I have teeth in rows but never eat; one pull opens or closes me. What am I?  
*Zipper*

I guard your treasures with a word; share me and I'm useless. What am I?  
*Password*

I sit in the middle of water but never get wet. What am I?  
*The letter "T"*

# Sudoku

by PeterS 2025

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

Solutions on page 27

\*\*\* 🐾 \*\*\*

## Featured Pet

\*\*\* 🐾 \*\*\*



### LOLA

Lola is a five-year-old West Highland Terrier who calls Woodstock home. She loves walks, car rides, and snuggling with her family and friends.

Nominate your pet to be a Featured Pet by emailing [info@theecho.ca](mailto:info@theecho.ca)

# Word Search

## BACK TO SCHOOL

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

BACKPACK

NOTEBOOK

PENCILS

LOCKER

RECESS

TEACHER

HOMEWORK

BUSRIDE

SUBJECTS

MARKERS

RULER

CALENDAR

SCISSORS

BINDER

SCHEDULE

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

## REAL ESTATE

### CARLY BRINTNELL

REALTOR®

Gale Group Realty Brokerage Ltd.  
425 Dundas St. Woodstock ON  
519-635-8640  
carlybrintnell@gmail.com



## E-BIKES AND SCOOTERS



**Brite Solutions**

- E-Bikes • Mobility Scooters
- Sales and Services • Battery Replacements and Upgrades

[britesolutions.ca](http://britesolutions.ca)

Official **AVVENIRE** Dealer

406 Simcoe St, Woodstock

519-602-7545

[britesolutions@gmail.com](mailto:britesolutions@gmail.com)

## CRAFT SHOW

*Sharlene Creative Presents:*

**CRAFT SUPPLIES  
CLEAN-OUT**

The Polish Hall Woodstock  
878 Dufferin St, Woodstock, ON  
Sunday October 19th, 10am-2pm

\$4 at the door  
or cheaper online!

Make and Take  
pre-reg. required

**VENDORS WANTED!**



*Missed an issue?*  
*View all past*  
*issues online*  
*anytime:*  
**[theecho.ca](http://theecho.ca)**

## SUDOKU

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

## QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Saskatchewan
2. Always Faithful
3. The Man with the Yellow Hat (Ted)
4. Smoked Haddock
5. Chamois (goat)
6. William Golding
7. Four of clubs
8. Robin
9. Soprano
10. A plum tree

# CLASSIFIEDS

## BAD GOLF OXFORD CHAMPIONSHIP

"Beginner And Disabled"

Sun October 5: 1 p.m.:

STONEHAVEN Golf {after churches}

\$25 ENTRY FORM @

HOME TOWN Delivery 519-788-5490

FREE CLUB rentals, FREE moto-cart for disabled.

FREE Putting school @ 12:30 FREE SNACKS

PRIZES: Best New Golfer, Closest to the Green,

Most Trees hit etc.

including: Complete Custom made Set of DUNLOPS Wedges (made in Oxford).

## TREES

Shade trees, Fruit trees, Apple, Pears, Peaches, Plums, Sweet and Sour Cherries, Apricot, Nectarines, Blueberry, Haskopp, Black Chokeberry, Grapes etc. Lots of Spruce, Pine, Cedars for windbreaks and privacy hedges, Sizes 1 to 6+. Flowering shrubs and much more. Come check us out Mon-Sat 7:00am - 6:00pm Martin's Nursery, 42661 Orangehill Road, Wroxeter (1 concession north of Wroxeter on Belmore Line)

**Visit us online  
at [theecho.ca](http://theecho.ca)**

**The  
Woodstock Ingersoll Echo**

**Is Now On**



Follow Us:  
**@WI\_Echo**

**PUT YOUR  
MONEY  
WHERE YOUR  
HOUSE IS**

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

News Media Canada  
Médias d'Info Canada



## CELEBRATION



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
HENRIETTE VAN DEN BORRE!  
LOVE ALWAYS FROM YOUR FAMILY**

**GRANT  
HAVEN  
MEDIA**

**WE ARE  
HIRING**

**JOIN OUR TEAM AS A  
NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING  
SALES REPRESENTATIVE!**

Are you a motivated self-starter with a passion for sales and marketing? Do you thrive in a flexible work environment where you can set your own schedule? If so, we have the perfect opportunity for you!

**Location:** Work from Anywhere!

**Schedule:** Your Own Schedule

**Type:** Commission

**About Grant Haven Media:** At Grant Haven Media, we are committed to delivering top-quality news and information to our readers. As a leading newspaper company, we take pride in our dedication to journalistic excellence and community engagement. As we continue to grow, we're looking for enthusiastic individuals to join our dynamic sales team.

If you are interested, contact  
Heather Dunbar at:  
[heather@granthaven.com](mailto:heather@granthaven.com)



**Contribute to your local community  
newspaper! Send articles, sports or event  
recaps, and photos to [info@theecho.ca](mailto:info@theecho.ca)**

BUY IT TODAY...TAKE IT TODAY!

SOURCE FLOORING

SOURCE FLOORING  
DISTRIBUTORS

WE ARE  
FULLY  
STOCKED

BUY IT TODAY...  
TAKE IT TODAY!  
DEALS! DEALS! DEALS!

|                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div>FULLY STOCKED</div> <div>GLUE DOWN VINYL</div> <div>LUXURY<br/>IN STOCK</div> <div>FROM 99¢ /SQFT</div>                              | <div>FULLY STOCKED</div> <div>LUXURY VINYL</div> <div>PAD ATTACHED<br/>20 YR WARRANTY<br/>IN STOCK</div> <div>FROM \$139 /SQFT</div> | <div>FULLY STOCKED</div> <div>DROP LOCK MODERN LAMINATE</div> <div>WATER RESISTANT<br/>AC4 COMMERCIAL<br/>IN STOCK</div> <div>FROM 99¢ /SQFT</div>                            | <div>FULLY STOCKED</div> <div>ENG. HARD WOOD</div> <div>HANDSCRAPED<br/>IN STOCK</div> <div>FROM \$399 /SQFT</div>       |
| <div>FULLY STOCKED</div> <div>MODERN PORCELAIN TILE</div> <div>TONS OF SIZES<br/>AND COLOURS<br/>IN STOCK</div> <div>FROM 99¢ /SQFT</div> | <div>FULLY STOCKED</div> <div>SUBWAY TILES</div> <div>3" X 6"<br/>IN STOCK</div> <div>FROM \$189 /SQFT</div>                         | <div>FULLY STOCKED</div> <div>BATHROOM VANITIES</div> <div>ASSEMBLED<br/>INCLUDES: HANDLES<br/>SOFT CLOSE<br/>24" QUARTZ TOP<br/>&amp; BACKSPLASH</div> <div>FROM \$399</div> | <div>FULLY STOCKED</div> <div>NEW! INTERIOR DOORS</div> <div>HALLOW CORE &amp;<br/>PRIMED IN STOCK</div> <div>\$99</div> |