LOCAL AUTHOR RELEASING BOOK PAGE 7

HCFA MARKS 85 YEARS PAGE 9

Exeter Examiner

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Deadline extended for college property cleanup

JOHN MINER

Examiner Reporter

Faced with a municipal order to clean up debris and secure the former Centralia College of Agricultural Technology site in Huron Park, the owner of the property is pleading poverty.

"We have no money. I'm going to make it very clear, we do not have enough money to clean it up right now," Frank Wang told a South Huron property standards appeal committee hearing.

Wang had been ordered to board up the doors and windows on the first floor of all buildings by November 16, 2026. He was also required to remove the debris by Nov. 30, 2026, from a February 2025 fire that destroyed the easterly portion of the Centralia College building.

The former college property, including residential pods, cafeteria and library, has been vacant for years.

A report from bylaw enforcement officer Ed Pimentel said the property is extremely prone to vandalism and trespass and the debris from the buildings raised by the fire poses a safety risk.

In appealing the order to the committee composed of South Huron council members, Wang asked that he be given until the end of August 2027 to do the work. He said he needed the time to find the money for the work and that he had no insurance coverage for the fire damage.

The committee voted instead to give Wang a three-

CONTINUED TO PAGE 5



EXETER GATHERS TO REMEMBER (DAN ROLPH PHOTO)

It was a morning of reflection and remembrance on Sunday, Nov. 8, as Exeter's annual Remembrance Day service was held at the Exeter cenotaph. The service, which is organized by the Exeter Legion R. E. Pooley Branch 167 each year, began with a parade that started at the Exeter Legion and marched toward the cenotaph, which was followed by a wreath-laying ceremony. Pictured is a member of the honour guard at the cenotaph during the ceremony.

MORE PICTURES FOUND ON PAGE 8

Bluewater says goodbye to three councillors

DAN ROLPH

Editor

Tears, hugs, and warm goodbyes were shared Nov. 2 in the Bluewater council chambers in Varna as the final meeting of the 2022-2026 council term was held.

Following the Oct. 26 municipal election, three members of council — Tyler Hessel, John Becker and Winona Sangster — won't be returning to the chamber for the next term.

Hessel, who was formerly Bluewater's mayor and has served as the Hay West councillor for the last four years, lost in the election against current mayor Paul Klopp.

"I just want to say a special thank you to all the staff

CONTINUED TO PAGE 7



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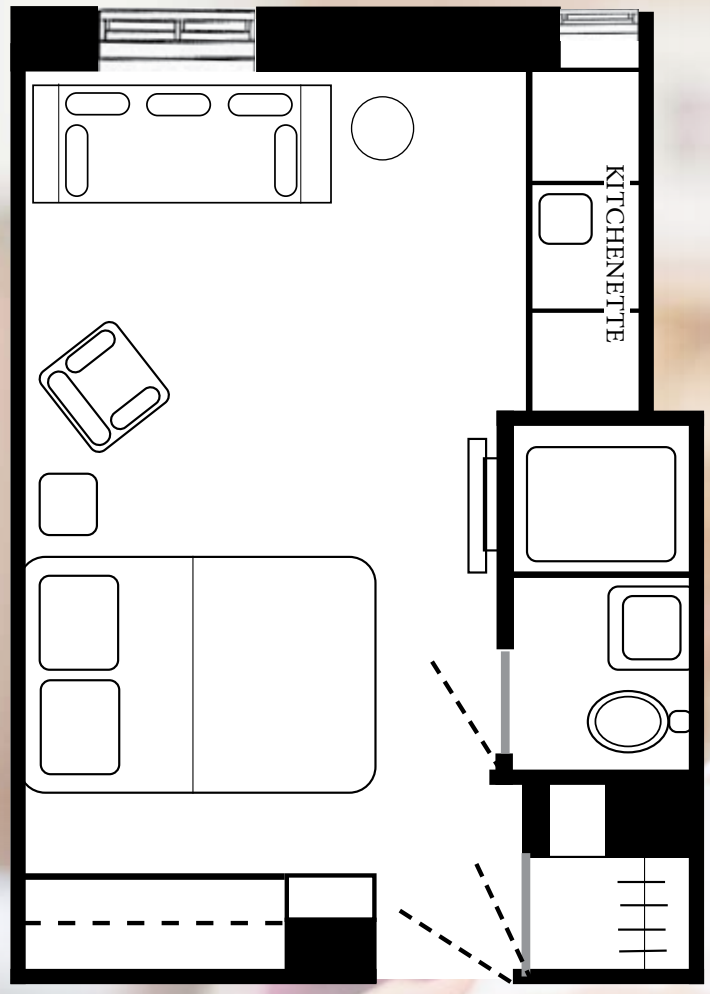
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EDITORIAL

A ‘thank you’ to our community’s firefighters



DAN ROLPH

Editor

This edition of the Exeter Examiner is dedicated to honouring the many volunteer firefighters who selflessly choose to serve our communities.

In 2026, I think it may be too easy to take our volunteer firefighters for granted. We rely on them, but because we don’t call on them every day, we may not often think about the everyday people in our community who choose to serve in the role.

But any one of us could someday need to dial 9-1-1 and ask our local firefighters for help. Whether it’s a fire, an accident on the road, a medical emergency, a public hazard or a rescue in a remote spot, our community’s volunteer firefighters are ready to respond when we need them most.

And though it’s in those moments that we see the value of their service most clearly, their willingness to help deserves our gratitude long before we ever make that call.

I think the word “volunteer” is key. Volunteer firefighters are people who choose to serve their neighbours. Behind that service we rely on are individuals who have decided that helping others is a responsibility they are willing to take on. Those individuals have families, friends, and loved ones who share in the sacrifices that commitment can bring.

A call for help can mean time apart, plans changed at a moment’s notice and worry for someone they love. It can mean adapting to an unpredictable schedule, offering encouragement and being there after a difficult call.

Those contributions may be less visible to the rest of us, but I think they deserve recognition, too.

So, in that spirit, to our volunteer firefighters and everyone who supports them: we are grateful for the time you give, the sacrifices you make and the care you show our communities.

From all of us here at the Exeter Examiner: **thank you.**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DICK LORD

I must say a sincere thank you to the staff, students, school administration of South Huron District High School and to Branch 167 of the Royal Canadian Legion for such an outstanding Remembrance Day Observance November 11 at the school.

The organizers had a special observance to Canadian Women in War. My dad served in the British Royal Navy and my mum in the Royal Air Force, so it certainly meant a lot to me personally to have a special acknowledgement to women that served, either side of the Atlantic but towards a common goal.

Thank you to all for giving remembrance a place in school life, encouraging thinking of service, sacrifice and peace.

Your commitment to keeping remembrance meaningful for young people is very appreciated and thank you for allowing me to attend for my own observance.

Lest we forget.

GRANT HAVEN MEDIA

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Exeter Examiner NEWSPAPER

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Exeter Examiner NEWSPAPER

Have something to say?

Submit your Letter to the Editor to us at **info@exeterexaminer.com**

Exeter Examiner NEWSPAPER **Guiding Principles**

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3. Good news beats bad news
4. A Newspaper should be a community effort (contribute to your local paper!)
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8. Newspapers should be locally-owned and operated

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COMMUNITY

Deadline extended for college property cleanup

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

month extension until Feb. 28, 2027, to comply with the orders. In the interval, Wang was also directed to keep a security fence in place around the property.

If he failed to meet the new deadline, the municipality would undertake the work at his expense.

Wang advised he will appeal that decision to the Ontario Superior Court.

"That will cost the council a tonne more money," Wang said in a video link before the committee voted.

At one point in the hour-long hearing, Wang suggested the municipality provide him with an interest-free loan to carry out the work sooner.

"I don't think that is going to happen Mr. Wang," Mayor George Finch said.

Wang said he has had the property on the market for more than a year for less than $2 million, but has received no offers. His plan when he does find a buyer is to use the deposit from the buyer to clean up the site.

If he hired contractors to do the work now he wouldn't be able to pay them for months, he said.

He emphasized during the hearing that he intended to deal with the concerns that have been raised about the property.

"We are not here to avoid our responsibilities. We fully intend to address outstanding issues," he said.

Wang described the continual vandalism of the college site by people that trespass during the night, destroying property and stealing materials. A security fence that was installed has been cut down and security cameras vandalized.

No trespassing signs have also been torn down and thrown away.



(JOHN MINER PHOTO)

South Huron council has extended the deadline to clean up the former Centralia College property until Feb. 28, 2027.



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White Squirrel Watch



PHOTO BY: MICHELLE BAPTIE

SPOTTED IN RIVERVIEW ESTATES, ON OCTOBER 2026. MICHELLE NAMED THIS SQUIRREL SNOWFLAKE.

If you would like to submit a White Squirrel Sighting, contact us at info@exeterexaminer.com

Exeter Examiner Photo Quiz

Who are you looking at?

By Judy and Barry Johnson



My brilliant fall shades of reds, oranges, and yellows rival those of other Ontario natives, sugar maple trees. Don't confuse me with a toxic relative that behaves like poison ivy. Its stalks/bark are smooth, my young stalks and bark have tiny hairs; its berries are white, mine are red; it likes wet areas, I don't. You will find me in colonies in sunny spaces at forest edges and roadsides. I grow several metres high and have fuzzy upright cones of red berries on branch tops.

HINT: I am named for a male animal's antlers because of the velvety surface on my stalks.

This week's answers are found on pg. 38

WEEKEND QUIZ

By Jake Grant

1. Jiminy Cricket first appeared in what book?
2. The apostle Paul was called by Jesus on the road to which city?
3. What items did the Stamp Act levy a tax on?
4. What is the layering process of making pastry called?
5. Who is the villain in "A Nightmare on Elm Street"?
6. The 1976 Summer Olympics were held in which city?
7. What bird can swim but cannot fly?
8. Where do "Yoopers" live?
9. SpongeBob SquarePants lives in a house shaped like what?
10. What is Wales' national dish called?

This week's answers are found on pg. 38

Jessica's House HOSPICE

Hope For The Holidays

BEREAVEMENT WORKSHOP

The holiday season can be a particulary difficult time for those who are grieving. Traditions, celebrations, gatherings, and memories can bring both comfort and pain, and it can be challenging to navigate the expectations that often come with the holidays.

Join us virtually for Hope For The Holidays, a supportive one-hour workshop designed for individuals who are experiencing grief during the holiday season.

When: Thurs, Nov 26 | **Time:** 7pm - 8pm | **Where:** Virtual

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GRANT HAVEN MEDIA

Huron County author Meg Pearson to launch memoir-meets-business book this month

DAN ROLPH

Editor

A Huron County author, entrepreneur, speaker and breathwork facilitator is ramping up to the release of her newest book, which she says is part memoir and part personal development, told with a focus on business development.

Meg Pearson's latest book, The Brand That Breathes, will release during a Nov. 29 book launch at Studio 111 in Hensall. Though Pearson has written cookbooks and children's books over the years, her newest book represents her first foray into non-fiction writing.

Being part memoir, Pearson said The Brand That Breathes doesn't shy away from some of the most challenging moments in her life, including her struggles with alcohol addiction, bulimia and abuse, but she noted that being open about her experiences has been a vital part of her healing process.

"Being able to talk about my experience and share it and make it real and less shameful was a big part of my journey for healing."

The Brand That Breathes is based around two of the largest pivots in Pearson's life — her choice to quit her successful television career, and her decision to move from Costa Rica back to small-town Ontario where she grew up.

"Everything with me has changed as much as I change my underwear," she said. "I get excited, I change, I pivot, and I redo.

"People forget that we can pivot and change. That doesn't mean you need to burn everything down the way that I did. Most of us don't have that luxury. You have families, you have kids, or people that count on you. In the book, I go through different ways of how you can start to explore change without having to throw the baby out with the bathwater."

While she prepares for her book launch later this month, Pearson said it feels "beautiful" to finally reach the point where she gets to share her work with the public after spending months colleting her thoughts on the pages.

"I love that it got to be exactly how I wanted it to be," she said.

Pearson described The Brand That Breathes as a legacy piece that will forever be able to share her voice in a way her previous works haven't.

"I'm an older mom. I'm 46 and my son's four. I want there to be pieces that he can go back and hear. He can hear my voice thorough the pages, and it feels really important to me. And it's even more important for me to keep writing."



(PHOTO COURTESY OF MEG PEARSON)

Local author Meg Pearson is releasing her new book, The Brand That Breathes, on Nov. 29.

Though she's on the cusp of releasing her new book, Pearson said she already has her sights set on the future. Having moved from cookbooks and children's books into non-fiction with The Brand That Breathes, she said the experience has only strengthened her desire to keep putting her voice on the page, particularly with her young son in mind.

"I've got a couple more books in me in the next few years."

The book launch event for The Brand That Breathes will take place Nov. 29 at Studio 111 in Hensall from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., which will include a reading by Pearson and signed copies.



Bluewater says goodbye to three councillors

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

for all your hard work," said Hessel during the Nov. 2 meeting. "I know this council, and future councils, are in great hands."

Hessel thanked the residents of Bluewater in his remarks for the trust that's been placed in him over his time serving the community.

"I look forward to watching this new council, moving forward, develop, and look at how they're going to save us money."

Hessel also highlighted outgoing deputy mayor John Becker in light of his retirement from public service after serving on councils for many years.

"I've had a chance to serve with the deputy mayor for 16 years on Bluewater council. I wish him a great retirement from public service. I'm sure you're going to keep yourself busy in the Bluewater community, and I know you're going to do a great job being a grandfather."

Becker congratulated everyone who'd been elected in October, as well as those who stepped forward to put their name on a ballot.

"Thank you for making democracy work," he said. "We've served. That's the best thing we can do for our community. To serve."

During his last meeting as deputy mayor, Becker went around the council chamber, directly speaking to each member of council while keeping the mood lighthearted.

"Your concerns are always for the residents. Keep being the good leader, but call the damn question," Becker quipped about Klopp. "You don't always have to give your side of the story and drag it out for 20 minutes (and confuse) the rest of the people around the table."

Outgoing Zurich councillor Winona Sangster thanked those who have supported her over the last four years, as well as those who have been there for her before she was serving on council.

"Zurich's my home, and so is Bluewater. You'll always see me around. You're not getting rid of me. I've already got a few initiatives on the go."

Sangster took the opportunity to highlight the work of Bluewater's staff as she spoke.

"Nobody knows what you guys do behind the scenes," she said. "The calls, the conversations, the support you guys have for this municipality and the passion you have is outstanding.

"You're the backbone of council. You're the backbone of this municipality. You take care in everything you do, so thank you."

As for what comes next for Sangster, the outgoing councillor was clear.

"I'm not going away," she said. "You'll see me in four years."

Exeter gathers to remember



David Frayne places a wreath on behalf of the Sunset Community Foundation.



(DAN ROLPH PHOTOS)

Clinton Legion Branch 140 Pipes and Drums led the march to the cenotaph.



This year's ceremony saw the community pay tribute to the four soldiers who died in the Oct. 17 fire at Canadian Forces Base Wainwright in Alberta.



South Huron Mayor Ted Oke approaches the cenotaph with a wreath he presented on behalf of the municipality.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

- 7 November Sports Day: Euchre, Pool, and Darts. Registration at 11:30. Gameplay at 12:00 *Downstairs*
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Huron County Federation of Agriculture marks 85 years of advocacy



The Huron County Federation of Agriculture is celebrated its 85th anniversary during an Oct. 15 gala in Wingham. Pictured are present board members. Back row: Paul Klopp, Ethan Wallace (OFA Zone Director), Harvey Hoggart, Arletta Hallahan, Lori Gordon, Joan Vincen and Teresa Van Raay. Front row: Shawn O'Rourke (President), Rob VandenHengel, Anna Vincent, Erica Murray and Murray Workman. Forefront: Chris Koch. Missing: Ian Scott, Darryl Faber and Brad Pryce.



(PHOTOS COURTESY OF HCFA PHOTO)

Above are past presidents of the Huron County Federation of Agriculture. Back row: Murray Workman, Rob VandenHengel, Tony McQuail, Ethan Wallace. Centre Row: Charles Regele, Chris Palmer, Erica Murray, Paul Klopp, Doug Garniss, Bill Wallace, Joan Vincent and Shawn O'Rourke. Front row: Nick Whyte, Carol Leeming, Neil Vincent.

EXETER EXAMINER STAFF

Staff Contribution

A local organization that advocates on behalf of thousands of Huron County farm family members is marking a major milestone this year.

The Huron County Federation of Agriculture (HCFA) celebrated its 85th anniversary with a gala that was held in conjunction with its annual meeting on Thursday, Oct. 15, at the Wingham Columbus Centre.

More than 200 guests attended the gala where motivational speaker Chris Koch was featured as the evening's special guest. Born without arms or legs in a small ranching and farming community in Alberta, Koch shared his hopeful "If I Can…" message with attendees.

"Every day may not be great, but there's something great in every day," said Koch.

In a press release, HCFA noted that Koch's message of encouragement and that those struggling are not alone was timely with the stresses of harvest.

"Our association is very proud of who we are and want to express our gratitude to all attendees," the federation stated. "The good conversations everyone was having reminded all of us we are not alone. And for those … not connected with farming, we thank you for trusting us, your food farmers, to feed you every day."

The evening also featured celebrations of HCFA past presidents, and Huron-Bruce MPP and rural affairs minister Lisa Thompson presented the federation with a congratulatory message from Premier Doug Ford.

HCFA recognizes one Huron County resident with the Outstanding Contribution to Agriculture award each year, and this year's award was presented to Florence Pullen.

Pullen's contributions to the community have been substantial, including serving as a 4-H leader for 40 years, teaching at Centralia College, maintaining a flock of Suffolk Sheep with Scottish bloodlines, leading 4-H Go For the Gold teams, organizing 4-H Go For the Gold competitions and 4-H County judging competitions, and organizing 4-H Club Christmas dinners.

"Florence Pullen certainly earned this award," HCFA stated.

The federation thanked the event's sponsors for making the evening possible, as well as the Huron County Museum for contributing historical displays and artifacts that demonstrated the agricultural roots of Huron County.

"Over 200 people coming together was a reminder that the federation continues to be about more than advocating for agriculture,' the federation stated. "It's about the people, relationships and sense of community that have kept it going."



The Oct. 15 gala at the Wingham Columbus Centre was a celebration of the Huron County Federation of Agriculture's 85th anniversary.



During the gala, Florence Pullen received the Outstanding Contribution to Agriculture award.

THANK YOU

to our Grand Bend Rotary Supporters!

Rotary Club of Grand Bend

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported Rotary's Autumn Indulgence 2026, "All The World's a Stage!"

We hope you enjoyed the wonderful venue, delicious meal, creative costumes, and memorable evening. A special thank you to everyone who embraced the theme and came dressed in costume. You truly helped bring the event to life!

Your generosity through ticket purchases, donations, and participation in our live and silent auctions will make a meaningful difference in our community and beyond.

We are incredibly grateful to our sponsors, guests, donors, volunteers, and everyone who contributed to making Autumn Indulgence 2026 such a tremendous success!

***Thank you for making a difference. We look forward to seeing you next year on* Saturday, September 25, 2027!**

With sincere appreciation,

Pete Janzen | Peter Hakvoort | Roger Wallis
GRAND BEND ROTARY AUTUMN INDULGENCE CHAIRS



Together, we achieved incredible results:

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SHDHS honours sacrifices of women on Remembrance Day



South Huron District high school students and staff gathered on Nov. 11 for the school's annual Remembrance Day ceremony. This year's assembly served as a moment to highlight the sacrifices of women who have served over the years. Teacher Tracy McLennan spoke about Vera Armstrong during the ceremony. Armstrong, who called Exeter home for most of her life and became a staple in the community, enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force when she was 19 years old and served as a wireless operator during the Second World War.



(DAN ROLPH PHOTOS)

The colour guard exits the gymnasium in South Huron District high school during the annual Remembrance Day service.



Exeter Legion R.E. Pooley Branch 167 president Barb Willard spoke during the ceremony.







Exeter McDonald's general manager wins grand prize in Team Reid Amazing Race

EXETER EXAMINER STAFF

Staff Contribution

After months of competition, dedication, and friendly rivalry among six restaurants, the Team Reid Amazing Race has crowned its champion.

Robyn Thomas, general manager of the McDonald's restaurant in Exeter, has won the grand prize in one of the most exciting incentive programs ever held across the Team Reid market.

Restaurants in Kincardine, Goderich, Grand Bend, Exeter, Mitchell, and Wingham spent the past year competing in monthly challenges designed to reward operational excellence, teamwork, guest service, and restaurant performance. The initiative followed the structure of the Amazing Race television show, except with business initiatives with included roadblocks, express passes, and opportunities to play a strategic game. Each victory earned managers valuable kilometres, helping their restaurant advance along a virtual journey around the globe.

The objective was ambitious: be the first restaurant to travel a total of 75,000 kilometers and complete a worldwide trek. As teams accumulated kilometres through competition wins, excitement continued to build as restaurants raced toward the finish line and the opportunity to claim incredible travel prizes.

The Amazing Race Worldwide Edition featured a collection of once-in-a-lifetime travel experiences, including all-expenses-paid trips to Spain, Alaska, Paris, Costa Rica, Universal Studios, multiple cruise vacations, and many other dream destinations. Along the way, managers across the market could earn memorable getaway opportunities to destinations such as New York City, San Francisco, Nashville, Newfoundland, and British Columbia, just to name a few.

After an impressive performance throughout the competition, it was Thomas who earned the coveted grand prize. For her winning destination, Thomas selected an unforgettable African adventure. She and her husband, Dan, will spend two weeks exploring Africa, including visits to a world-renowned safari reserve, the iconic Table Mountain, and the vibrant city of Cape Town.

"This program was about much more than winning a trip," said Paula Gorman, Market People supervisor for Team Reid. "It brought our restaurants together, created excitement, encouraged healthy competition, and recognized the incredible work being done by our management teams in all the restaurants every day."

Team Reid McDonald's congratulated all of the winners and participants who made the competition such a tremendous success, with a special congratulations to Robyn Thomas and her husband Dan as they prepare for the adventure of a lifetime.



(TEAM REID MCDONALD'S PHOTO)

Exeter McDonald's general manager Robyn Thomas will soon be on her way to enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime trip exploring Africa after winning the grand prize in the Team Reid Amazing Race incentive program.

Municipality of South Huron
Lease of Surplus Farm Land

MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

Sealed Tenders addressed to Julia Warwick, Director of Financial Services/Treasurer, Municipality of South Huron, 322 Main St. S., Box 759, Exeter, ON., N0M 1S6, will be received until:

2:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 25, 2026

Tender is for the lease of surplus farmable land owned by the Municipality for agricultural purposes at the following locations for a five (5) year term commencing January 1, 2027:

1. Weber Pit: Approximately 44 acres of farmable land surplus to the gravel pit operation, at Part Lot 25, Concession 8, former Usborne Township

2. Closed Stephen Landfill Site: Approximately 17 acres of farmable land surplus to landfill site operations at Part Lots 3 and 4 Concession 14, former Stephen Township.

Tenders are to be prepared on the form provided, and submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked on the outside of the envelope with **"Lease of Surplus Farm Land".** Tenderers must have their name and full mailing address clearly marked on the outside of the envelope. Tenders shall be accompanied by a cheque equal to 10% of the total first year lease payment, including HST. Tenderers may bid on one or both locations.
An annual payment is due and payable on April 1st of each year for the property, over the term of the lease.
Tenders are to be submitted on a **per acre basis only.**
Tenders will be opened virtually (on Zoom) at 2:05 pm on Wednesday, November 25, 2026 in the South Huron Municipal Office, 322 Main Street South, Exeter, Ontario.
Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

To obtain a tender package please contact Ange at abarnes@southhuron.ca

Volunteer Firefighters - Exeter



Aaron Datars
21 years



Andrew Snedden
15 years



Ben Case
12 years



Brad Ankers
22 years



Braden Talbot
12 years



Brady Brown
2 years



Bryan Denomme
15 years



Captain Doug Smith
31 years



Captain Jeff Ansems
33 years



Captain Scott Turkheim
20 years



Captain Tim Moore
32 years



Chief Jeremy Becker
32 years

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Volunteer Firefighters - Exeter



Jay Pollard
16 years



Cindy Oke
5 years



Will Riley-Smith
10 years



District Chief
Bill Vandeworp
29 years



Derrick Becker
24 years



Deputy Chief
Mike Herbert
22years



Devon Elliott



Tom Griffith
17 years



Greg Gielen
8 years



Captain
Dave Desjardine
19 years

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Volunteer Firefighters - Exeter



Jayden Desjardine
13 years



Jeff Musser
30 years



Jeff Van Niekerk
7 years



Marshall Jeffery
8 years



Mike Rader



Nathan Bedard
8 years



Robyn Denomme
2 years



Sam Datars
17 years

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Volunteer Firefighters - Bayfield



Mark Philips
20 years



District Chief
Brian Brandon
36 Years



Deputy District
Chief Wade Berard
26 years



Captain
Don Knox
17 Years



Captain
Dennis Roy
17 Years



Kyle Kruse
11 years



Auxiliary Firefighter
Odin Hessel
1 year



Captain
Paul Egbers
27 Years



Joshua McClinchey
19 Years



Auxiliary Firefighter
Liam Pal
1 year



Engineer
Braid Maidment
25 Years



Auxiliary Firefighter
Trent Holmes
3 months



Nathan McBride
13 years



Jim Koene
33 years



Julian Bolinger
5 Years



Damon Holmes
3 years



Thomas Genoch
11 years



Auxiliary Firefighter
Brody Gould
1 year



Mark Saggers
5 years



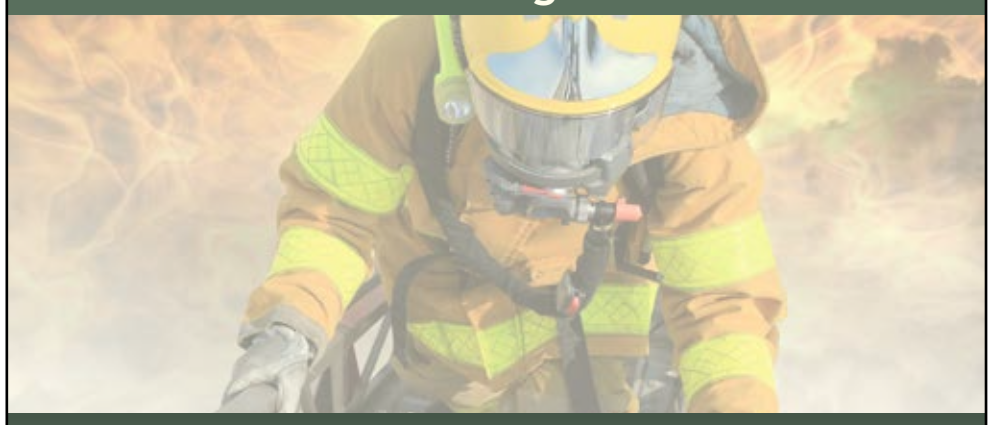
Michael Dietz
5 years

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Volunteer Firefighters - Brucefield



District Chief
Jeff Denys
24 years



Sam Vreugdenhil
8 years



Greg Medd
8 years



Captain
Everett Ridder
17 years



Captain
Chris Preston
12 years



Engineer
Gerard Boon
48 years



Brian Wammes
10 years



Mark Boekee
6 years



Jake DeJong
6 years



Jeff Allan
39 years



Trevor Engel
16 years



Matt Denys
15 years



Bryce Vantyghem
7 years



Isaac Klaver
6 years



Basil Cantelon
4 years



Deputy District
Chief Darrell DeJong
29 years



Brian Wynja
2 years



Zack Vulders
1 year



Justin Brunner
4 years



Captain
Ron Thompson
43 years



Tyler tenPas
1 year



Devon Taylor
11 years



Colin VanDenBerg
11 years

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Volunteer Firefighters - Zurich



District Chief
Marty Merner
31 years



Deputy District
Chief Jordan Jeffrey
20 years



Captain
Dan Turkheim
46 years



Captain
Doug Finlay
30 years



Captain Curtis Regier Training Officer
13 years



Training Officer
Cody Merner
7 years

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Chris Fielder
15 years



Steve Masse
14 years



Auxiliary Firefighter
Matt Smith



Auxiliary Firefighter
Cheyenne Monteith

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Auxiliary Firefighter
Ethan Willert



Auxiliary Firefighter
Will Smith



Chad Ramer
20 years



Korey McKinnon
15 years

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Volunteer Firefighters - Zurich



Auxiliary Firefighter
Pat Wood



Auxiliary Firefighter
Lasse Mueller
Thomsen



Isaac Ward
6 years



Turner Consitt
5 years



Ty Merner
2 years



Matt Webster
2 years



Dale Miller
31 years



Steve Consitt
25 years



Justin Regier
10 years



Matt Groot
7 years



Ashton Willert
1 year



Mitch Finlay
6 years

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Volunteer Firefighters - Grand Bend



Aaron Voskamp
1 year



Amber Judge
3 years



Brittany Kadlecik
5 years



Carson Brown
1 year



Dylan Rooney
3 years



Jack Coleman
3 years



Jarett Kobe
30 years



Jon Crandon
4 years



Justin Digby
19 years



Kalvin Thornton
10 years



Macaulay Morton
3 years



Maddy Mcarthur
5 years

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Volunteer Firefighters- Grand Bend



Captain
Mark Pedlar
12 years



Matt Barber
3 years



Captain
Mike Stanlake
25 years



Mitch Sereda
1 year



Rick Wilson
14 years



Rob Holmes
18 years



District Chief
Ryan Taylor
27 years



Captain
Terry Brown
39 years



Captain
Todd Mellin
26 years



Tyson Myer
4 years



Korey Herman
7 years

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Volunteer Firefighters - Dashwood



Brian Martene
18 years



Brooke Gielen
2 years



Byron Freiter
20 years



Shara Johnson
5 years



Captain Matt Miller
13 years



Zach Desjardins
2 years



Jesse Blane
2 years



John Becker
53 years



Jamie Hodge
13 years



Jason Masse
12 years



Dwayne McNab
19 years



James Becker
18 years



District Chief
Jamie Hoffman
28 years



Phil Van Raay
10 years



Richard Hooiveld
2 years



Marc Metzger
1 year



Captain Cole
Dorssers
14 years

THANK YOU!

Missing photos:
Peter Datars
(40 years),
Erik Sorensen
(26 years),
Anne Poirier
(20 years),
Devon Elliott
(19 years),
James Yates
(15 years),
Austin Baker
(2 years)

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Volunteer Firefighters - Granton



Lucan Biddulph
Fire Chief Ron DeBrouwer
30 years



Captain
Adam Verhoog
26 years



Captain
Barry Stone
29 years



Captain Jeff Nairn
18 years



District Deputy
Chief Brian Bates
9 years



Jake McDonald
4 years



Amanda Parnham
8 years



Blake Forron
12 years



Brad Mayer
9 years



Brian Barker
12 years



John Urquhart
11 years



Kyle Landon



Kyle McManus
4 years



Roman Roduner
5 years



Rylan Shetler
5 years



TJ Spence
9 years

THANK YOU!

Missing photos:

Missing photos: Jeremy O'Shea (20 years), Ryan O'Shea (14 years), Keegan Marshall (10 years).

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Volunteer Firefighters - Hensall



District Chief
Paul Clandenning
29 years



Deputy District
Chief Brian Cooper
33 years



Captain
Ben Hovius
13 years



Acting Captain
Luke Alexander
15 years



Cody Clarke
12 years



Adam Penn
6 months



Captain
Ryan Cooper
20 years



Engineer
Dan McClinchey
12 years



Greg Campbell
43 years



Liam McGregor
1 year



Robin Campbell
4 years



Jeff Penn
3 years



Brent Ingram
5 years



Paul Tarnawski
3 years



James Harter
13 years



Dan Ferguson
14 years



Jeff Smale
10 years



Acting Captain
Matt Foulon
26 years



Lisa Heynink
1 year



Auxiliary Firefighter
Steve Thomson
1 year



Shea Ingram
3 years

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Volunteer Firefighters - Lucan



Matt McFalls
5 years



Mike Ankers
19 years



Mike Loyens
28 years



Sean Lawrence
28 years



Captain
Ryan Dukeshire
12 years



Lucan Biddulph Fire
Chief Ron
DeBrouwer
30 years



Blake Loyens
14 years



Brad Holden
8 years



Captain Dave Allen
12 years



Captain
Jeff Campbell
31 years



District Deputy
Chief Ryan Herbert
25 years



Chris Bell
4 years



Craig Williams
25 years



Dave Hodgins
14 years



Kyle Miller
5 years



Nathan Williams
2 years



Carter Lawrence
2 years



Jon Sims
5 years



Kody Tapper
5 years

THANK YOU!

Missing photos:
Dane VanderMolen (13 years),
Nicole Blanche (5 years),
Kory Ambrose (5 years),
Adam Froats (15 years).



THANK YOU
TO OUR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS
For your courage, dedication and service to our community.
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LUCAN BIDDULPH

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MINOR SPORTS SCRAPBOOK

(DAN ROLPH PHOTOS)



It was another busy weekend of local football action on Saturday, Oct. 31, as the Huron Perth Flag Football League was back on the field in Exeter. The local co-ed league is open to young athletes from ages six to 17, with seasons in both the spring and fall. The league also hosted a tournament on Sunday, Nov. 8, where the league's teams went head-to-head in an action-packed competition. Pictured is Tomas Fragiskatos of the Rookies division as he sprints with the ball.



Jacob Starr of the Panthers passes to a teammate during an Oct. 31 match.



Ray Kenyon Ross and Joey Fisher start a play.



Kaleb McClure was on the field Oct. 31 as Huron Perth Flag Football held games throughout the morning.



Devin Langan looks for an opportunity to pass as his teammates get into position.



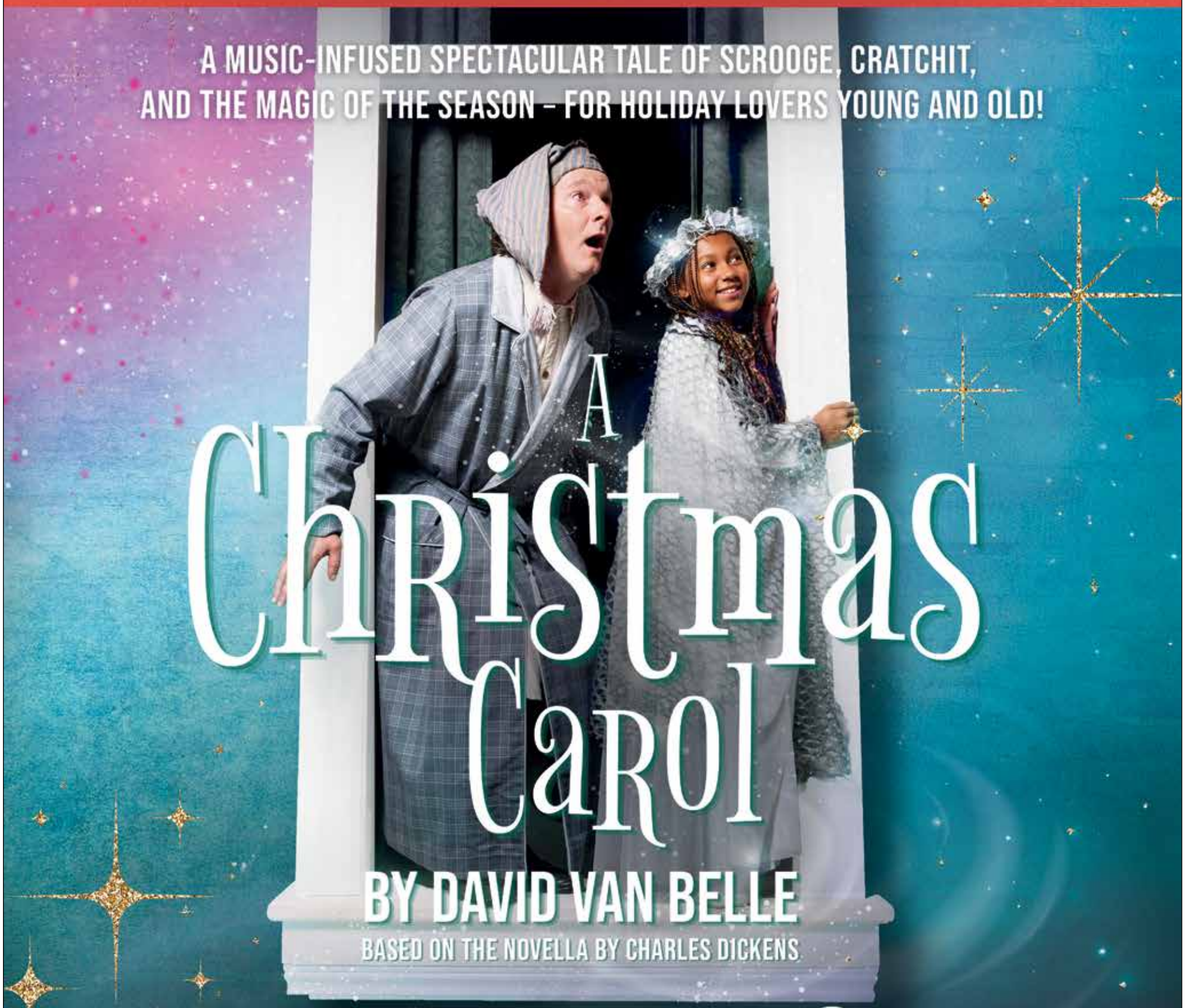
Panther Kennett Rose was as fast as lightning when he played on Oct. 31.

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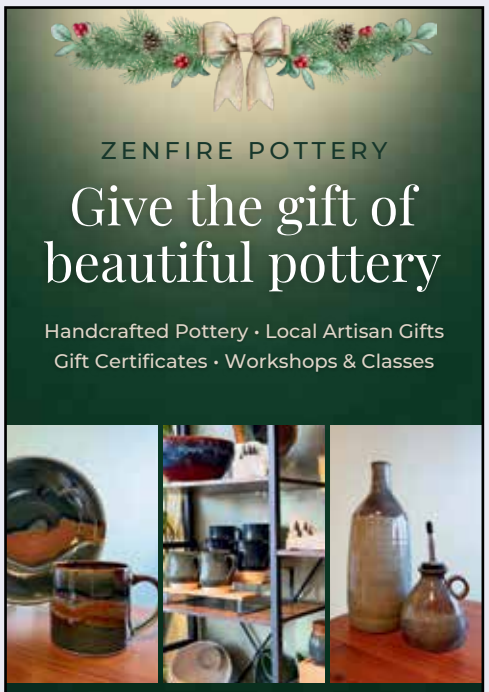
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BACK IN TIME

30 Years Ago

November 20, 1996 - Les Wernham, brewmaster and owner of Pints Unlimited in Exeter, won a number of awards at the Taste of the Great Lakes Craft Beer Brewing competition recently at Frankenmuth, Michigan. From six entries submitted Wernham received three firsts, one second and one third place award.

40 Years Ago

November 19, 1986 - At the Queensway Nursing Home in Hensall, 80-year-old John Kats lets his memory slip back for decades to when German troops began their occupation of his native Holland.

The only First World War veteran to attend the recent Remembrance Day banquet at the Exeter Legion was Comrade Reg Knight.

Area winners at Friday's Huron County 4-H Awards Night were Dan Weigand, Rob Hern and Janice Bishop.

55 Years Ago

November 18, 1971 - Wednesday afternoon the South Huron Panthers under the direction of coaches Doug Ellison and Dave Cox won their third straight Huron-Perth Conference junior football championship by defeating the Goderich Vikings 25-6. It was also their 27th straight victory.

65 Years Ago

November 17, 1961 - The double bill this weekend at the Lyric Theatre contrasts historical excitement in "Carthage in Flames" and childhood warmth in "My Dog Buddy."

The new $40,000 Bethel Reformed Church on Huron Street was dedicated Tuesday night before a full congregation.

South Huron Hospital Association has purchased the property of Miss Vera Rowe on Huron Street, for expansion of the nurses residence.

70 Years Ago

November 18, 1956 - Captain J. Grant Mills, M.D., son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Mills of Woodham expects to sail for Egypt this week with the first contingent of the Queen's Own Regiment, which all represent Canada in the United Nations police force.

80 Years Ago

November 19, 1946 - More than 400 men are employed on the construction work of the new buildings at the R.C.A.F Training School at Centralia.

Eighteen-year-old Jack Kinsman of Cromarty was awarded the King's Guinea's and sold his calf for $4,950 at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto.

Membership in the Exeter Chamber of Commerce is nearing the 100 mark according to membership chairman W.G. Cochrane.

105 Years Ago

November 20, 1921 - Mr. William Sillery has disposed of his 100 acre farm in Usborne Township, situated on the corner of London Road and Thames, Road to Mr. Peter Moir of Usborne.

The 50th anniversary of Oddfellows in Exeter was celebrated Wednesday evening when Exeter Lodge No. 67 gave an At Home in the Opera House.

130 Years Ago

November 19, 1896 - C. Fritz has moved his stock of boots and shoes into the Hartleib Block, one door west of Paulin's Hardware store in Dashwood.

SOUTH HURON COUNCIL BRIEFS

JOHN MINER

Examiner Reporter

Historical society recognizing Fleck strike

South Huron council is being asked to help recognize the 1978 Fleck strike in Huron Park that is credited with leading to major changes in Ontario labour laws. The Huron County Historical Society proposes to create and install a plaque or story board in a public location near the former Fleck auto parts plant site. Council agreed to have staff investigate a suitable site for the plaque.

The 163-day strike by 80, mainly women workers, escalated into a major provincial issue at the time with the deployment of as many as 500 OPP officers while hundreds of auto workers and other strike supporters joined the picket lines.

Construction activity up over a year earlier

Construction in South Huron in the third quarter of this year outpaced the same period in 2025 with residential, commercial, and industrial building all up. The total value of the 72 building permits issued by the municipality reached $33 million, an increase from $15.9 million a year earlier.

Fifteen permits were issued for new single-family dwellings.

South Huron's cannabis fund sits at $28,467

Municipal staff reported that South Huron's Cannabis Legalization Reserve Fund has a balance of $28,467.59. The cannabis fund money was granted to South Huron by the province in 2019 after council voted to allow retail cannabis stores. Council was advised it can use the money for increases in costs directly related to the stores such as enforcement, development of bylaws and policies, fire services, and responses to public inquiries.

Lawn bowling club seeking heritage designation for green

The Exeter Lawn Bowling Club is asking council to consider giving the lawn bowling green formal heritage designation. In a letter to council, club president Phyllis Dalgleish noted the green was established in 1902 and has been an integral part of the community.

"Through changing times, it has remained a gathering place where people come together to enjoy the sport, share experiences, and strengthen the social fabric of our community."

Council referred the request to South Huron's heritage committee.

Swimming lesson registrations remained strong

Swimming lesson registrations at the Kirkton-Woodham pool were up significantly this past summer. A total of 372 registrations were received during the 2026 season, up 58 percent from the previous year. Registrations also remained strong at the Exeter pool with 545 received during 2026, a slight decrease from the 550 registrations recorded in 2025.



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COLUMNS

Exeter and area contribute to Second World War effort

BOB HEYWOOD

Examiner Columnist

According to Wikipedia, the Second World War officially started on Sept. 1, 1939. Bitter conflict raged in Europe for 68 months, finally coming to an end on May 8, 1945, when Germany signed an unconditional surrender. Berlin had fallen and Adolph Hitler was dead and Canadian soldiers started coming home. Four months later Japan announced its unconditional surrender, signing the documents on Sept. 2, 1945. Hirohito capitulated, reeling from the devastation of the USA dropping atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki on Aug. 6 and 9 respectively. Then the Soviet invasion of Japanese occupied Manchuria was the final death blow to Japan's aggression. The Second World War had claimed the lives of 60 to 75 million people, the majority of whom were civilians.

As proud Canadians, we remember that as a nation we also were at war with an estimated 42,042 Canadian Armed Forces members paying the supreme sacrifice. All of our nation's communities and families, with few exceptions, were affected greatly in this noble cause.

By the time of the Second World War, Exeter had only one weekly newspaper, the "Times Advocate." The local readership were anxious to receive their copy every Thursday, especially since J.M. Southcott was committed to saturate the publication with war related news, both in Europe and at home in Huron County. Recently I took the time to carefully read and study the contents of the Times Advocate's Jan. 7, 1943, edition. All eight pages painted a picture of how our South Huron Communities were "coping with" and "rising to" the challenge of dealing with a war that was raging on another continent and yet was weighing heavily on the citizens here. No one had any idea that the war would last 2.5 more years and many local families had been and would continue to live in both hope and fear. Since this was the first edition of the year, it included a recap of events throughout 1942.

The front page included:

- A large ad on the front page announced the "Annual General Meeting of the Exeter District War Time Committee."

- The Red Cross News offered a long list of donations made by local churches, schools and fraternities.

- L. Cpl Doug Triebner underwent an operation for appendicitis in Shilo, Manitoba where he was serving.

- A long list of generous individuals and organizations below the heading "Russian Relief Contributions are still being received." The column reminded the public, "Every mile of retaken territory reveals the fact that Russian women and children are in a shocking condition of health – needing food, clothing and medical supplies owing to the Nazis."

- "Local Ration Board prepared to accept new applications."

- "In Train Wreck – Troopers Mahlon and Wes Ryckman and Bill Pehale while returning to camp at Dundurn Saskatchewan, following Christmas leave at their homes in Exeter, were on the train that wrecked at Lazare, Manitoba, killing the engineer of their train."

Other pages featured the following stories:

- Pilot officer Ralph Delbridge who is visiting with parents on two weeks furlough received word on Christmas Eve that he had graduated from Summerside SFTS. (Service Flying Training School)

- Troopers Max Harness and Wib Coward visited at their homes for a few days last week.

- Avro Anson bombers are scheduled to arrive at the new Centralia airport within the next few days.

- Dr W.L. Lawson, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Lawson of Exeter has enlisted with the dental department of the Army Corps.

- Sgt Charles Triebner, after spending a year and a half in England, arrived home for a few days leave.

- Proceeds of $94.00 were realized at an entertainment and dance sponsored by Red Cross Unit 17, SS #4 & 5 Usborne.

- The War Salvage Committee of Exeter recently disposed of 11 tons of old paper, receiving a cheque for $112.02.

- The Exeter Lions Club contributed $413.90 to the British Childrens War Victims Fund

- Lieut. Donald Gladman was welcomed home after being overseas for a few months

- Murray Moore and Gerald Lawson have enlisted with the RCAF.

- Word has been received that Pilot Officer Ralph Delbridge has arrived safely in the Middle East.

- Arrangements are being made for the erection of a building 24' x 90' on the farm of Fred Ellerington at Eden for the housing of Japanese labour to help with the sugarbeet crop.

- SS #2 Hay has collected 830 lbs of rubber for salvage in the war effort.

- Fifty-nine Japanese lads arrived from B.C. on Thursday of last week

- The members of the RCAF now on duty at Centralia Airport are no longer coming to Exeter for meals. Their mess hall has been temporarily fitted up and a new staff and cook are in charge.

- About 20 local women answered the call of the Red Cross for help in jam making. Over a ton of gooseberry, raspberry and black currant jam was made.

- Congrats to Pilot Officer Leroy Schroeder of Stephen Township who received his wings and commission on the same afternoon at the Hagersville SFTS.

- At a meeting of the Wardens Committee of the Huron County Council, a grant of $1800.00 was made to #9 SFTS at Centralia.

- Alvin Rowe son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Rowe enlisted with the army at London.

- Distribution of more than half a million permanent ration books started through the Post Office at Windsor

- $113.60 earned by the adults for blocking and thinning sugar beets has been turned over to the Exeter War Time Board. $79.20 was earned by the boys and girls.

- Sept. 24th 1942 – Estimated eight to ten thousand people attended the official opening of #9 Flight Training School on Wednesday.

- Oct. 8, 1942 – The first flying fatality at the Centralia Airport occurred on Thursday morning in a crash on the farm of Murray Dixon.

- A plane from No 9 SFTS made a forced landing on the farm of Milo Snell on Monday, when the engines of the plane failed.

- Seventy-one parcels were sent to the boys overseas from the Exeter District Wartime Committee.

- Nov. 12, 1942 – When an Anson Bomber crashed on Saturday on the farm of Roy Gingerich north of Zurich, one of the members of the RCAF lost his life and the large bank barn was complete destroyed by fire.

- The Exeter Hensall Branch of the Canadian Legion have furnished their building on Main Street for the comfort and entertainment of all men and women in uniform.

- LAC Allan F Penhale is to be congratulated on winning the squadron commander's trophy for high academic standing in the class for wireless air gunners.

- Pte. Sidney Neeb has returned to Halifax N.S. after spending a 5 day leave at his home near Khiva.

- Mrs. Vernon Heywood has received word that her husband has been promoted to the rank of Sgt Major. Congrats. (His father Hector served in the 1st World War and his brother Calvin fought in Europe)

- Benson Tuckey is the chairman of the newly formed local ration board.

- LAC Carfrey Cann who has spent the last few weeks on leave at his home here, left on Monday for Victoriaville to train as a pilot.

- Privates Percey Willis, Ray Broderick, Gerald Cornish, Stanley Frayne and Ray Snell, all of whom are stationed at Ipperwash, spent a New Years 5 day leave at their homes

Page six of the same paper featured letters from overseas by Pte. L Brimacombe, Pte. Norman Sanders, Pte. W. Ballantyne, Capt. C.B. Gladman, Trooper Sammy Bowers.

Throughout this edition, large ads portrayed support for the war effort.

As promised in my last column, here is the story of the two missing Exeter boys:

The May 3 edition of the Times in 1945 carried this somber headline, "Exeter Home Saddened as Oldest Son is Presumed Dead and the Other Missing." The uniformed brothers were pictured beneath the heading, "The sympathy of many friends is extended to Mr. and Mrs. George W. Lawson of town, who on Friday of last week received the sad news that their son, Pilot officer Gerald W. Lawson was reported missing following recent air operations. He had gone overseas in October of 1943 and had completed one tour of operations … He left Exeter High School in June 1942 to join the RCAF. Mr. and Mrs. Lawson just recently received word that their eldest son, Warrant Officer Orval Percy Lawson, who was reported missing on May 7, 1944, was now

presumed dead. Orval went overseas the latter part of June 1943. He was an observer with the RCAF and was serving in North Africa at the time he was reported missing. For a year now Mr. and Mrs. Lawson and Orville's only sister Olive Hicks of Usborne, have carried the burden of suspense in the fate of their oldest missing son."

Two weeks later, the May 17 edition of the Times reported "There was rejoicing in Exeter on Tuesday morning when it was learned that Mr. and Mrs. Lawson had received word from Ottawa that Gerald had arrived back in England."

They would learn later that their surviving son, after 28 successful Flying Missions out of both England and Scotland, had left Yorkshire on his 29th which would prove to be his last. His fellow pilots formed up as a striking force, flying across the North Sea. The squadron was approaching Germany when all hell broke loose from the land based German anti-aircraft fire. The plane that Lawson was flying was suddenly cut completely in two pieces when the plane next to him was hit and veered wildly into the collision. Gerry was able to get out of his seat and plunge from the free-falling plane, his parachute opened and he plunged into the cold North Sea. Blowing up his lifejacket, he swam approximately 300 feet to shore where he was greeted by a German soldier with his rifle pointed at his head. He came to the realization he was on an island where he was marched to a prison camp. There he was held for seven days before being transported to a prison camp on the mainland.

Gerry was the sole survivor of the horrific crash, with the other six crew men perishing. Lawson's prisoner status was short lived as the camp was liberated on the 12th day of his internment. Germany had capitulated and within days, thousands of Canadian boys boarded the Ille de France liner and came home.



(PHOTO COURTSEY OF BOB HEYWOOD)

A Bank of Montreal advertisement that ran in the Jan. 7, 1947, edition of the Times Advocate that features the phrase "Hold high the torch of freedom" prominently.

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Trois Rivières: a nice surprise along the St. Lawrence



PAUL KNOWLES

Examiner Columnist

It doesn't require an extensive knowledge of French to figure out that the name "Trois Rivières" means "Three Rivers". That's good linguistics, but bad geography. Because this historic city's name is based on a 16th-century mistake.

In fact, there are two rivers – here, the Saint-Maurice flows into the Saint Lawrence. But the mouth of the Saint-Maurice is occupied by several islands, splitting this river into three outlets. The first European visitors mistakenly took those three "mouths" to indicate three rivers.

This was just one of a plethora of facts, anecdotes and stories we heard during one of the finest historical walking tours I have ever experienced. Jean-Phillipe Marcotte, of "Personare", was our guide as we strolled through the historic centre of Trois Rivières.

Trois Rivières is the second-oldest French-speaking city in North America, but it is not as well-known as the two larger cities located less than two hours away – Montréal and Québec City. Tourists tend to drive straight past Trois Rivières to get to the more popular destinations. But they are making a mistake.

Trois Rivières is has a deep and rich history, reaching back long before written records to the time before Europeans arrived. But it's also a city that offers a lot of modern-day delights to travellers. We were both surprised and impressed.

But back to the history. There are statues and monuments throughout the city, honouring the original European visitors to Trois Rivières, names that we remember from the history class: Samuel de Champlain, Radisson, Groseilliers, La Vérendrye – all noted explorers with strong connections to Trois Rivières.

But my favourite was the monument to M. Laviolette, apparent founder of Trois Rivières. I say "apparent" because there is scant evidence of the illusive M. Laviolette. Our guide admitted that "we don't have a clue" who M. Laviolette is. In fact, "for a long time, Trois Rivières did not have a founder." But while the city was founded in the early 1600's (there had been French fur traders in the area since 1585), M. Laviolette was not acknowledged as the city founder until centuries later.

In fact, as Jean-Philippe told us with a laugh, as we stood before the bust of M. Laviolette, it is generally agreed that even the name is not the real deal. It's probably a nickname; it translates as "The Violin".

But the rest of the story of Trois Rivières is undoubtedly more historically accurate. And that story unfolded as we walked around the surprisingly well-preserved historic parts of the city. This in spite of a 1908 fire that destroyed hundreds of homes in part of the city centre.

Although the fur trade was the original impetus that created most of Canada's historic cities, Trois Rivières soon had other enterprises on the go, as well. This was the site of what might have been the first forge in North America. Later, Trois Rivières became an important ship-building centre (a historic reality that has an echo in one of today's important economic drivers – the cruise ship port).

Later still, lumber mills dominated the local economy – which was temporarily good for employment and financial gain, but terrible for tourism because of the incessant odors created by the pulp and paper factories.

That business thrived for decades; massive numbers of logs were still being floated down the Saint-Maurice River until the mid-1990's.

Today, that business is almost entirely gone. But here's where Trois Rivières again emerges as an impressive community – on the site of some of the pulp and paper mills stands a state-of-the-art entertainment centre, the Cocego Amphiteatre. The Amphitheatre has hosted performers ranging from Céline Dion, Bryan Adams and Burton Cummings to Cirque du Soleil. It's an impressive space – but in my historically-focused opinion, it's not the most impressive building in town. That one was once home to nuns.

Trois Rivières is still home to dozens of historic buildings, and the city has a program that funds up to 50% (capped at $40,000) of the costs of restoring homes to their original form. Many have taken advantage of this, and walking the streets of Trois Rivières can feel like journeying back in time.

The most impressive structure is probably the Ursuline Convent. The Ursuline nuns played a prominent role in the history of the city. Today, they no longer occupy the palatial building that once housed the Convent, although there is still a small group of Ursulines in Trois Rivières. The Order sold their Convent, chapel, school and more to the city for $1, on the condition that the building could not be converted into condominiums. Instead, it houses a museum, classrooms for students ranging from kindergarten to university age.

Trois Rivières is a city of stories, ranging from its probably fictional founder to community-minded nuns to Ezekiel Hart (1770-1853), a Jewish entrepreneur elected to represent the city in Québec's legislative assembly, but who was not allowed to serve because he was a Jew. So the city re-elected him, twice more.

And that's the kind of informed determination that has made this city what it is today – an often-bypassed destination well worth your time.

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



(PAUL KNOWELS PHOTOS)

The Cogeco Amphitheatre sits on the former site of pulp and paper mills.



Historic Trois Rivières: the Usuline Convent is shown at the centre of the photo, the former Anglican church in the right foreground.



A more historically accurate monument to early explorers connected to Trois Rivières, including Pierre Gaultier de Varennes, sieur de La Vérendrye.

About Time and Times: In-laws, war and peace



JUDY FINKBEINER JOHNSON
Examiner Columnist

When I married Barry, he came with an extraordinary bonus — my in-law family. I became part of an extended family of interesting and loving individuals that celebrated ordinary days and big occasions together. What treasures!

Barry's parents, Margaret and John (nickname Jack), met through Fanny Rastall Johnson, the matriarch of the family. Fanny and her husband Herbert had a family of five sons and two daughters. A diminutive woman, Fanny might have been thought to find raising that brood difficult but there was no doubt she was up to the challenge!

On a road trip in the Model A from the family home in Niagara Falls to visit Toronto relatives, a speeding American tourist forced the Johnson car off the road and into the ditch. The driver stopped and was relieved to learn no one was injured. When asked what it would cost to fix the car, Fanny simply said that she knew the woman would be fair. Feeling guilty, she left after handing the redoubtable matriarch a sizable number of bills. The Johnson boys lifted the car upright, checked it was roadworthy and continued to Toronto. Fanny was happy because that cash was enough to pay for all their trip expenses!

Matchmaking

Fanny devised a master-chess-strategy to find suitable matches for her sons. Her daughter Kay had friends who each had all the attributes on Fanny's mental checklist — Margaret Waterworth, Margaret, and her sister Winnifred Barratt. She invited the young women to spend a week at a big cottage she had rented in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Three of her handsome bachelor sons would also be there.

Move one: sending the right duos off together on errands as soon as they arrived. She anticipated that studious Arthur and book-loving Margaret Barratt would have lots to talk about. Surely nature-lover Tom would be interested in Margaret Waterworth who loved long walks. Jack and Winnifred had different personalities; he was outgoing and she was more reserved, but Fanny knew that opposites also often attract.

Fanny's skills as a matchmaker were neither a complete success nor a complete failure! Within a day Margaret Barratt had decided Arthur was too serious; she found him boring. Winnifred and Jack were simply too different to even enjoy a first promenade together around the resort town; their frank opinions clashed. Anyway, Jack could not take his eyes off auburn-haired Margaret Barratt. For Tom and Margaret Waterworth, it was love at first sight, and they soon married.

Wartime wedding

Jack Johnson and Margaret Barratt remained in touch and by early 1943 were planning their June wedding when he learned in the first week of April that he was shipping out ASAP with the Royal Canadian Engineers. He presented two options to Margaret: they could wed the following Saturday or after the war ended. She chose the former.

A talented seamstress and milliner, Margaret had already made the men's suits for the wedding and the dresses and headpieces for her attendants. She proceeded to burn the midnight oil to finish her wedding gown.

The couple married at Grace-Carman United Church on College Street in Toronto, the Barratt family church. Decades later, also on an April day, Barry and I walked down that same aisle to exchange our wedding vows.

Shipped out

Within days after he and Margaret married, Jack was in Petawawa near Ottawa for training, one of 20,000 soldiers there. He shipped out to the U.K. on the Queen Mary. The luxury liner was retrofitted to carry thousands of troops, up to 16,000 at one crossing. Jack was one of the men sleeping on the floor. There were also tiers of bunks with inches between them. It was not advisable to choose a lower bunk: many soldiers, including those in upper bunks, were bedridden and throwing up while seasick for days. The troops had no idea where or when they were going to land. For security reasons they were not allowed to tell loved ones that they were about to leave Canada. Jack's field company received training in England in preparation for the massive cross-Channel July 1943 invasion. They used wooden rifles for training because of the weapons' shortage.

His unit of the Royal Canadian Engineers, the 2nd Field Company - RCE Combat Engineers landed in France and fought their way north to free waterways and roads in advance of the allied troops to liberate Holland. Records show they worked between the Allied and German lines in deep freezing mud in Belgium to sweep for deadly enemy S-mines, Schrapnellmine. The company moved on to Holland where at one point a brave Dutch family gave him shelter. They remained life-long friends.

The only war experience on the front Jack shared with Barry was how close he came to being killed while on duty clearing mines, wearing the headphones used for the job. He looked up at one point and realized he was now alone on the road and under enemy fire. His sapper comrades were in the roadside ditches, shouting and gesturing for him to take cover!

I saw wounds of war that he carried into old age when Barry and I went to his parents' home from the hospital where Jack's beloved Margaret had just passed. A while later, after Barry had given his father this news, I went into Dad J's bedroom and sat silently beside him on the bed. He could tell I was upset and expressed concern about me. When I asked about him, he said, "Oh Judy, I have seen so much death in my life." And brown eyes that I had so often seen

dancing with delight were dimmed by not just the loss of his life partner that day, but all those losses that came forward from decades ago, of his friends and comrades who did not come home from war.

Second World War items

As a RCE Combat Engineer, Jack was issued a cloth escape map; his shows the English Channel, Northern France, Belgium, and parts of Holland. These maps folded silently to hide in a tiny space like the heel of a boot in case of enemy capture. Marked with a scale of 1:2,000,000 and 31.5 English Miles to 1 Inch, the tiny town names, rivers, and roads are virtually impossible to distinguish.

His Royal Canadian Engineers' cap badge has the Cypher of King George VI with a maple leaf surround. An army-issued Christmas card to Margaret with its military-vetted handwritten message from the front has an image of that coat of arms.

His wartime mementos include cards and letters, a 10 Reichmark bill and Eine 1 Rentenmark bill, propaganda booklets, and tourist-type photos of places he served in the war effort, but in the way they looked before the war, not during those war years.

I wear a gold heart-shaped locket Jack gave to Margaret with his photo before shipping out. I am sure she wore that every day until he returned. The prayers and tears that locket have seen can only be imagined.

Into the future

John Herbert Johnson was discharged from active service on Feb. 22, 1946, returning to civilian life and his home to Niagara Falls. Jack came back as the gentleman, and the gentle man, he had been before he went into war. He and Margaret welcomed their son John Barry in December that year.

Among other volunteer work, Jack was a Scoutmaster for years. In his box of mementos is a card signed by his Scouts, many of whom remained in touch. One of the highlights for his charges was taking them to shoot in the rifle range in the basement of the local armoury.

To all my treasured in-laws, with gratitude, love, and thanks for the wonderful memories!



(JOHN BARRY JOHNSON PHOTO)

Second World War Royal Canadian Engineers sapper, combat engineer John Herbert Johnson's silk escape map, Cap Badge, wartime locket: John (Jack) and Margaret.

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Mentoring Matters: The Little Shop is worth a stop



AMY WILHELM
Examiner Columnist

I know I've written about The Little Shop before, but it's something worth talking about again! If you haven't had a chance to visit, I encourage you to stop by and check us out. Not only is it a fun little shop, but it plays an important role in helping sustain the mentoring programs offered by Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron (BBBSSH).

When the store first opened, my youngest was just about to turn three. I often think about how much I wish The Little Shop had been around during those early baby and toddler years. Kids grow so quickly! You buy something, they wear it once or twice, and suddenly their toes are poking out the ends of their sleeper, or you can no longer get that zipper done up. And let's be realistic, purchasing all those clothing items brand new can get expensive! Especially right now, when it seems like the cost of just about everything is creeping up – groceries, rent, mortgage payments and everyday expenses. Shopping second-hand is a great way to save money, reduce our environmental footprint, embrace the reduce, reuse and recycle mindset, and, most importantly, support a great cause right here in our community.

And while you might be thinking, "I don't have little kids, so there's really no reason for me to shop there," think again! We have recently partnered with Page and Petal Press, a local, community-run initiative, to bring novels into the store. They have both new and gently used books, all priced right! So, even if you're well past the baby and toddler stage, there's still something for you to discover.

How can you get involved? First, if you are already a consignor, THANK YOU! If you regularly donate items to the store, THANK YOU! Your support makes a difference. If you've been thinking about becoming a consignor, reach out to us. We'd be happy to explain what consigning looks like. You can also support us by donating gently used children's items that your family no longer needs. For donated items, 100 per cent of the proceeds go directly back to BBBSSH!

Why does The Little Shop matter so much to our agency? Operating BBBSSH costs money. There are direct costs associated with delivering safe, high-quality mentoring programs, along with the everyday operating expenses – wages, mileage, rent, utilities, insurance and membership dues, to name a few. Our agency is responsible for generating approximately 96 per cent of its annual budget. That's a lot of fundraising! And here's something important to consider: the more time we spend trying to generate the funds needed to operate, the less time we have available to focus on delivering programs and supporting the children, youth and families. Our most important work is creating and supporting life-changing mentoring relationships that help young people reach their full potential.

If you haven't had the chance to visit The Little Shop yet, we'd love to welcome you! Stop in and see what we're all about at 355 Main Street South in downtown Exeter.

Christmas on the Farm
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LIVING RETIRED: Carpool conundrum



BY GARY CHALK

Examiner Columnist

Living Retired should not be this difficult. I'll explain…

Six mature baby boomers — okay so that's an oxymoron! — decide to squeeze into an SUV to carpool to an evening concert.

It's a full-size vehicle with four doors and three rows of seats that glide forward with the press of a button. The salesperson at the dealership said, "Gary, these seats are easy entry: designed for baby boomers' bum knees. Easy access to the third-row seats." They sounded like a Living Retired godsend. I was sold.

We are standing in our driveway. All four doors are swung wide open. We have a problem: for the life of us we cannot figure how to tilt the second-row seats forward so one couple can climb into the third row.

The six of us look hopeless — the same as Toronto Maple Leafs fans.

We are not stupid people. We have university degrees — information technology professionals, project management, engineering, communication, even a librarian. We raised children who now enjoy successful careers complete with mega-mortgages. We even have experience lifting our grandchildren into their car safety seats — while being kicked in the groin!

All six of us are stymied. Finally, one of the men scrunched himself up and climbed in behind the second row of seats when it happened: he got sandwiched between the second row and third row — his head and shoulders are in the third row, but his legs are still out on the driveway!

Without missing a beat his wife sarcastically quipped, "Why did you have to open your mouth and suggest we all go in one car? You do this stuff every time!"

Standing in the driveway all that is visible is his bum sticking through the side doorway, with a seatbelt wrapped around his neck. It isn't pretty.

It is tense. Everyone has an opinion of what to do which make things worse...

The retired librarian is talking some gibberish about the Dewey Decimal System would have the answer in 306.7!

My wife Jan figures she has the solution. "Gary. It's your vehicle. You should know how to operate the seats!"

My glare silenced everybody! But not for long...

HONK! HONK! HONK! HONK! HONK! HONK!

OMG! I triggered the security alarm on the key fob! Now the neighbours are peering at us through their California shutters!

Immediately one woman realized things had taken a turn for the worse! Instinctively, she grabbed her iPhone and posted a picture with 'LOL!'

Jan complained a migraine is coming on! The guy who is stuck half in and half out of the vehicle is perspiring. He needs his inhaler when he has difficulty breathing.

All this leads Jan to take control of the situation, "Gary, now what have you done! Can't you turn off that ear-piercing horn?"

The other couple takes a run at it and leaps overtop the guy still stuck in the door to the back seat — who's gasping for breath so much you'd think he's in need of the Heimlich maneuver. The couple smack their heads. OUCH! They aren't talking — until they get home later tonight. That won't be pretty.

The next day I pulled out the manual that came with the vehicle. The index says to turn to pages 175-178 for *"Convenient Folding of Second and Third Row Seats."* However, there is another problem: the itty-bitty font is impossible to read for anyone Living Retired!



In loving memory of

GWEN O'ROURKE

November 15, 2019



'You are the most beautiful memory we keep locked inside our hearts.'

- Narin Grewal

Seven years have passed, and how we wish you could have been here for the moments we've shared this year. From our family adventures in Asia to the joy of having your granddaughter Claire back on this side of the world, there has been so much we've missed sharing with you.

Love You More

Pat, Erin, Randal, Claire, Atticus, Spencer, Keriann, Kelso and Meghan

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South Huron Hospital Auxiliary donates $25,000 to hospital foundation



(DAN ROLPH PHOTO)

The 13th annual South Huron Hospital Foundation Radiothon returned Oct. 30 for a day that blew past fundraising goals in support of the hospital in Exeter. A large part of the day's success was thanks to the South Huron Hospital Auxiliary, which donated $25,000 to the foundation. This year's radiothon had a fundraising goal of $58,200 to purchase two new patient beds. By the end of the event, $71,442 had been raised by the community. Above are members of the South Huron Hospital Auxiliary as they present a cheque to Huron Health System president and CEO Jimmy Trieu and South Huron Hospital Foundation executive director Krista McCann.



Riddles

I'm full of keys but can't open a single door. What am I?

A piano

I fly without wings. I cry without eyes. Wherever I go, darkness flies. What am I?

A cloud

What has a neck but no head, and often wears a cap?

A bottle

I get wetter the more I dry. What am I?

A towel

I'm tall when I'm young and short when I'm old. What am I?

A candle

I have a tail and a head, but no body. What am I?

A coin

What has many teeth but never bites?

A comb

You can catch me but not throw me. What am I?

A cold

I'm not alive, but I grow. I don't have lungs, but I need air. I don't have a mouth, but water kills me. What am I?

Fire

What building has the most stories?

A library

Sudoku

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

Solutions on pg. 38

Pet of the Week

Don't let cooler weather fool you!

Fleas and ticks are still active in November! These pests can spread disease and cause discomfort for your pet. Keep your pet protected with year-round flea and tick prevention. Ask your veterinary team which product is right for your pet.

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CHASE

Chase is an 8 year old Presa Canario.
He loves laying in the sun, collecting sticks, and stealing peoples blankets.
His favourite snack is banana.
He's a Mama's boy and can often be found laying under Claire's desk while she works.



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

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

RECURRING NOVEMBER PROGRAM EVENTS 2026

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

MON & THURS 10 – 10:45 PM High low impact aerobic exercise with Joy that includes cardio, strength, and flexibility. Community Room GBACHCcmaxfield@gbchc.com

MON. & THURS. 11:15 AM Gentle Exercise Seated and standing exercises for Seniors. Community Room GBACHC. You must contact cmaxfield@gbchc.com to see if there is space.

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

TUES & THUR. FRI. 9.00AM Exercise Port Franks Community Centre Line Dancing 8:30-9 am Medium Low impact aerobic exercises from 9-10 cmaxfield@gbchc.com

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

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

THURSDAYS 9:30-12 Early On program - Free program for adults with children birth to 6 years. Adult Day Wing, Contact earlyonchildcare.ca or 519-786-6161 x 9226.

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

MONDAYS - 1PM - SOLO Card Game. Good Neighbours of Bluewater. 28 Goshen St. N. Zuirch. 519-236-7081

WEDNES.- 9:30-3:30 ROOM2GROW Drop In - Moms, babies and little kids. Good Neighbours of Bluewater. 28 Goshen St. N, Zurich ON

THURS. 1PM - Euchure & Games- Good neighbours of Bluewater. 28 Goshen St. N. Zurich - 519-236-7081

FRI. 10 AM - Senior Fitness. 28 Goshen Street N, Zuirch. 1 hour exercise class with a focus on cardio, strength, flexibility & balance.

THURS. NOVEMBER 5TH 2:30PM Coping with Grief - Adult Day wing GBACHC. Join this monthly group for support and strategies to work through your grief. Contact Mickey Gurbin mgurbin@gbchc.com for more information.519-2382362 x 223

WED. NOV. 4TH 1:30 PM - COPD Support Group. Contact pmorrissey@gbchc.com or 519-238-2362 x 284 for more information

WED. NOV. 4TH .18 & 25TH Pulmonary Rehab Program. Community Room GBACHC Contact pmorrissey@gbchc.com 519-238-2362 284 for details

FRI. NOV. 13TH & 27TH Vinyasa Yoga and Chair Yoga GBACHC in Community room. Vinyasa at 8:30am, Chair at 9:45 am. Contact cmaxfield@gbchc.com .

THURS. NOV. 19TH 1:30 -3:30PM - Alzheimer's caregiver support group. Support group program with Randy Chapman. 1-800-561-5012. Adult Day wing at GBACHC.

FRIDAY NOV. 20TH - Healthy Holidays Grand Bend . Join us in the Community Room GBACHC for tips and strategies to get through the holiday eating season. Contact Elaine at 519-238-2362 x 242 to register

SUN NOVEMBER 22ND -4-5 PM - Tribute Tree Memorial. An event filled with music and honouring loved ones. Sun., Nov. 22 – 4-5pm. Jessica's House Hospice Backyard. 70776 London Rd., Exeter. Words of Remembrance and Lighting of the Holidays Lights at 4:30 pm

MON. NOV. 23, 30TH 1 PM - Alzheimer's Society Fall Education Series. Nov. 23rd Dementia Overview Mild Cognitive Impairment . 1 Pm. Adult Day. Contact Kate Mason at 519-238-2362 x 241

THURS. NOV. 26TH 9:30 AM - Healthy Holidays Hensall. - Hensall Arena . Join us for tips and strategies to get through the holiday eating season. Contact Elaine at 519-238-2362 242 to register.

THURS. NOV. 26TH 1:30 PM - Minds, Memory & Men's Health. GBACHC Adult Day . Contact Grace at 519-238-2362 x 202 or gbonnett@gbchc.com

MON. NOVEMBER 30TH 2 PM Parkinsons Support Program - . Adult Day Wing. Contact Kate Mason 519-238-2362 x 241 for details or kmason@gbchc.com

SATURDAYS 8:30-11:30 AM Walk In Medical Clinic Gbachc . Open to anyone in the community who needs medical attention (Not an Urgent Care or Emergency Centre)

NOVEMBER - Our Winter Coat Drive is Back! As the colder weather approaches, we're collecting winter coats for the youth in our Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron programs! Going through your closet or your kids' closets and have a coat, or snow pants you no longer need? Consider donating them to BBBSSH to help keep a local child warm this winter. Every donation makes a difference, and we appreciate your support in keeping our community warm! Drop off your donations at The Little Shop! **Deadline December 1.**

SAT., NOVEMBER 21, 2026, 2.00 PM - London Sweet Adeline Chorus Present Their Annual Christmas Show Titled 'The Secret Of Christmas'. Join us for an afternoon of A Cappella Harmony featuring two quartets, "Imagine That" and "Soundwave" and a Children's Story time; 'Silent Auction' that includes three art pieces beautifully painted by our own Greg Backwell and Mary Lynn Smith; Door prizes and sale of Mint Smoothies. Church of the Ascension, 2060 Dundas St. E. London Tickets, Adults $20, 12 and under free. Contact any chorus member, call Sharon 519-642-1860 or email londonchorussa@gmail.com

NOVEMBER 26 - 7PM - Bakery Bingo - 28 GOSHEN ST. N. ZURICH - 519-536-7081 / gnob@hay.net - Admission, food, and card purchase by donation - register by November 19.

SAT. NOVEMBER 28 8:30 AM - 2:30PM - St. John's By-the-Lake Anglican Church Annual Indoor Bazaar & Bake Sale. Sat., Nov. 28 – 8:30am-2:30pm. 70641 Bluewater Hwy., Grand Bend

SAT. NOVEMBER 28 10AM-2PM - SHDHS Students present their 3rd annual Community Market. Sat., Nov. 28. at SHDHS. Free admission

SAT., NOVEMBER 28 - 5:30 PM - Come Walk with Us: A Nighttime Owl - Prowl at Sawyer Preservation Woodlot - On November 28, visitors are invited to join one of two 45-minute nighttime owl prowls. The first walk, a family-friendly outing that begins before dark, starts at 5:30 p.m., followed by a second walk at 6:30 p.m. Discover the fascinating world of owls on November 28 during a free guided walk led by naturalist and educator Denise Iszczuk of C.O.R.E. Nature Experiences. Since 2023, C.O.R.E. Nature Experiences and the Sawyer Preservation Woodlot Association have partnered to offer free guided walks throughout the year, helping visitors deepen their connection with nature and explore the woodlot's rich natural environment. This is the last of the free "Walks in the Woodlot" for 2026.

NOVEMBER 27 & 28 - Fri., Nov. 27 – 7:30pm; Sat., Nov. 28 – 2pm and 7:30pm - South Huron Community Theatre presents Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer The Musical. South Huron District High School, 92 Gidley Street East, Exeter. Doors open 30 minutes before performance.

DECEMBER

DECEMBER 4 AND 6 - South Huron Community Choirs present Christmas Traditions. Dec. 4 at 7 pm Exeter United Church; Dec. 6 at 3:30 pm Kingsfield-Zurich Mennonite Church.

DECEMBER 5TH, 12TH AND 19TH FROM 1:30PM-2:20PM. - Cookies & Carols St. John's By-the-Lake Anglican Church in Grand Bend will be holding their annual three-part event. It's a fun sing-along followed, of course, by cookies!

DECEMBER 5 - 6PM -Lucan Biddulph Santa Claus Parade.

DECEMBER 4, 5 & 6 - The Starlight Inn – A Christmas Production – Where every traveller finds a room. Centralia Faith Tabernacle, 140 Victoria Dr., Centralia. Fri., Dec. 4 at 7pm/ Sat., Dec. 5 at 2pm and 6pm.

SAT. DECEMBER 12 4 - 7PM - Grantton Firefighters Association's Annual Hay Ride. Sat., Dec. 12 -4-7pm. Enjoy free hot dogs and hot chocolate. Accepting food donations for the Ailsa Craig & Area Foodbank & Thrift Store.

DECEMBER 12 - 10am-1pm. - Kids Shopping Event. December 12. Noah's Ark, Exeter, ON

UNTIL DECEMBER 10 - Together with Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron 'Adopt A Child' 2026. Drop into the Little Shop PLUS several other locations. Pick up your wish list ornament. Gifts are due by: Thurs., Dec. 10

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1. The Adventures of Pinocchio
2. Damascus
3. Paper Products
4. Lamination
5. Freddy Krueger
6. Montreal
7. Penguin
8. Michigan's Upper Peninsula
9. Pineapple
10. Caw'

SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

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Overheard At McCafé

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"I blinked and woke up to Christmas everywhere."

"It was another great Santa Claus Parade this year!"

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

SCAN TO READ THE ONLINE PAPER



Herd Dispersal Live Auction Sale

of 135 Bred Cows/Heifers

Saturday November 21, 11:00am

to be held at 554447 Mono-Amaranth TLine, Mono, ON

Preview on day of sale, or by appointment

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

Cattle: (79)Heifers: (18) Char, (17) Blk Simm, (33) Angus, (11) Red -1st time calvers, bred Angus & Limo, vacc. **(18) X-bred Heifers** - bred Black Angus, vacc. **(17) Angus Heifers** - bred Black Angus. **(10) Blk Angus cows** - all bred Black Angus, vacc. **(8) Charolais Cows** - bred Charolais, vacc. **(3) Mixed Cows** - with calf at side, vacc.

All Cows will be preg checked prior to sale.

Lunch Booth

Washroom Available

Terms & Conditions: Cash or cheque with proper I.D. on day of sale. Owner & Auctioneer will not be responsible for any accidents or loss on day of sale. All announcements on day of sale will take precedence over printed ads.

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South Huron Hub

November 19, 2026



South Huron Firefighter Appreciation

Our volunteer firefighters are more than just neighbors lending a hand. They are trained professionals who adhere to the same standards as full-time crews.

Looking beyond the uniform, we acknowledge the people behind it. To the firefighters who balance careers, families, and the sudden calls of a pager: we recognize the dedication required to serve our community. Thank you for your unwavering commitment.

REMEMBER: If you see flashing green lights, please pull over and allow our firefighters to reach the station safely.

Honorary Veteran Street Sign Project

The Municipality is proud to honour local veterans through the launch of our new commemorative mapping project. In recent years, several streets throughout the Municipality have been named in honour of local war veterans. This project features an interactive map and specially designed street signs marked with a poppy symbol and the veteran's name and rank; the initiative recognizes the individuals whose service and sacrifice have left a lasting impact on our community and country.

We encourage residents to explore the interactive map, and learn more about the stories behind the names at our *Honorary Veteran Street Signs* webpage at SouthHuron.ca

The new commemorative street signs are being installed on an on-going basis. Greene Street and Triebner Street in the Buckingham Estates subdivision have recently been installed. As you travel throughout the Municipality, keep an eye out for these new honorary signs and learn more about the local veterans whose legacy lives on in our community.

Important Dates

Monday, December 7th
Regular Council Meeting
6:00 PM (EST)*

Monday, December 21st
Regular Council Meeting
6:00 PM (EST)*

*South Huron Council meetings are open for in-person attendance and continue to be livestreamed. See our website Agendas and Minutes page or the Municipal Youtube Channel at meeting time to access the livestream video link. A recording of the meeting will be available on the Municipal Youtube Channel following the meeting.

On-street Parking Reminder

As winter approaches residents are reminded that overnight parking on municipal streets is not permitted between the hours of 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. as per the Municipality's Parking By-Law to allow for snow removal to occur. Further, on-street parking during a snow event is not permitted. If a vehicle is left parked on the street during a snow event, the owner may be ticketed, and the vehicle may be towed at the owner's expense. Residents are also reminded that parking in a way that blocks a fire hydrant is prohibited. Let's keep each other safe by enabling quick access to hydrants by our fire fighters!

Community Improvement Plan (CIP) Grant Program

Congratulations to South Huron Window and Door Centre, the first recipient of funding through the Municipality of South Huron's Community Improvement Plan (CIP) Grant Program!

Through the Energy Efficiency and Retrofit/Building Climate Change Adaptation Grant, the business receives a $7,245 matching grant to upgrade its air conditioning and furnace systems to high-efficiency models. These improvements will help reduce energy consumption, lower operating costs, and support a more sustainable future for the community.

South Huron staff had the opportunity to meet with Melissa at South Huron Window and Door Centre to discuss the project and present the grant funding.

The Community Improvement Plan Grant Program is still accepting applications for eligible improvement projects. Whether you're planning energy efficiency upgrades, building improvements, façade and signage enhancements, or other qualifying enhancements, funding may be available to help bring your project to life.

For more information, visit the Community Improvement Plan page at SouthHuron.ca

If you're considering a project this year, contact cip@southhuron.ca to discuss your project's eligibility for funding.

Hub E-Newsletter

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

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

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