

Tillsonburg POST

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Bolton gears up for the World Para Athletics

CHRIS ABBOTT

Post Correspondent

Charlotte Bolton will be seeking shot put and discus personal bests at the end of the month in New Delhi, India.

The Tillsonburg-raised athlete will be throwing at the World Para Athletics Championships, Sept. 27 to Oct. 5 in Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, a 60,000-capacity venue.

It's been a busy competition summer for Bolton - her social media pages (Instagram & Facebook) include photos from competi-

tions in Montreal, Vancouver, Edmonton, France and Switzerland.

She recently returned from the Canadian Track and Field Championships in Ottawa with first in the para division shot put, just two centimeters from her 'PB,' and second in disc under the Raza point system with a season best (lifetime third best), edged by a three-time Paralympian.

"I was so close to my shot put PB... irritatingly close," said Bolton, "but overall pretty pleased with that. I really can't complain. It was more consistency in those higher numbers, which is always good."

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Terry Fox Run: Join the fight against cancer

CHRIS ABBOTT

Post Correspondent

Finish it.

The Terry Fox Foundation says 'Terry Fox started a marathon against cancer' in 1980.

'Together we can finish it.'

In Tillsonburg, the annual Terry Fox Run is Sunday, Sept. 14. It starts and finishes at the Tillsonburg Soccer Park near the pavilion. Opening ceremonies are at 10 a.m., with Denise Haley singing O

Canada, followed by the walking, running, cycling or rolling one of three routes - 3 km, 5 km, or the new 10 km trip.

"It's going to be a really good year," said Tillsonburg Terry Fox coordinator Shelley Imbeault.

Before Tillsonburg's 37th annual run, volunteers will offer a warm-up workout. There will be facepainting for the children by Girl Guides and Pathfinders. And there are new photo backdrops for photo/selfie opportunities, donated by the Tillsonburg Soccer Club.

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(SUBMITTED PHOTO)

Charlotte Bolton threw her best discus of the season at nationals in Ottawa, winning a silver medal.

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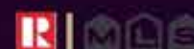


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Terry Fox Run: Join the fight against cancer

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

“We will have Stunt, a Bare Naked Ladies cover band performing this year before and after the Run,” said Imbeault. “They are so great.”

People can pre-register online, or register on-site on the 14th.

“We do not take Visa or MasterCard on-site because we don’t have a strong enough internet/cell signal connection there,” Imbeault noted. “So if people would like to make a donation via Visa or MasterCard (<https://run.terryfox.ca/92790>), we encourage people to please do it online.”

Cash donations will be accepted on-site.

For more information, email tillsonburgterryfoxrun@gmail.com or visit terryfox.org.

Last year 165 Terry Fox participants in the main Tillsonburg run raising a total of \$38,000 for the Terry Fox Foundation, a new record. School children also participated in their own Terry Fox Runs.

“I think a huge part of it, we had way more teams than we ever had in the past. So we’re actually kind of focusing on that a little bit, using our natural competitiveness that’s within all of us. We have fun competitive little kind of things.”

Individuals and small groups are also welcome to join.

Contributing to the success, said Im-

beault, is how much fun people have at the Terry Fox Run.

“It’s a great day out... and it’s absolutely free to participate. Obviously, we love it if people fundraise, but if you can’t, you can’t... but still come out because we have a lot of fun out there. I think that, more than anything, we’re making a mark that way. People are understanding it’s a fun day.”

It’s a good time, she said, and “It’s good to remember what we are fighting for. It’s good to remember that we’re fighting for life. That’s what this is all about.”

The Terry Fox Run raises much needed funds for cancer research.

This year’s fundraising Terry Fox T-shirts are black, with a prominent ‘Finish It’ on the front. There is a photo of Terry Fox on the back.

“It’s been a big seller this year, supplies are low,” Imbeault noted.

Celebrating its 45th year nationally, Darrell Fox, Terry’s younger brother, participated in a small cross-country cycling fundraiser from Vancouver to Newfoundland. Darrell led the 7,000 km, 32-days of ride that finished July 10, raising more than \$1.1 million for the Terry Fox Foundation.

Terry, with one leg amputated due to

cancer, had attempted a cross-Canada run in 1980, starting in Newfoundland. Averaging a marathon a day, it ended 143 days later. In September that year near Thunder Bay – his cancer had returned and spread

to his lungs. He had raised \$1.7 million, but donations continued to come in. He died in 1981 and soon after the first Terry Fox Run was organized.

chris@granthaven.com



(FILE PHOTO)

Tillsonburg 2024 Terry Fox Run's organizing committee included from left Bo Healey, Sue Healey, Shelley Weiler and Jason Weiler



(FILE PHOTO)

Ready to run in the 2024 Terry Fox Run in Tillsonburg are from left Melanie, Dylan and Derek Miners.



(FILE PHOTO)

Enjoying the craft and colouring station at the 2024 Terry Fox Run in Tillsonburg are from left Addie Fick, Meredith Ringland and Hannah Fick.

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g) Pocket watch

h) Needle and thread

i) Pen and ink

j) Bible

k) Candles

l) Extra clothing

m) Kitchen gadgets

n) Rope

o) Knife

p) Flint and steel

q) Extra blanket

r) Checkerboard

s) Wooden bowls

t) Gun and bullet moulds

u) Pots, pans, utensils

v) Fishing pole

w) Flour

x) Slate

y) Livestock

z) Furniture

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TILLSONBURG 1825 EXHIBIT
(Left) You can test your pioneer survival knowledge at Annapdale National Historic Site's 'Tillsonburg 1825' exhibit until Sept. 28. 'You are a settler heading to your new home and you can only take items to help you survive the first months. Choose 10 essential items...' then check your results. (Above) These surveying chains belonged to a member of the Tillson Family – you can see them exhibited at ANHS until Sept. 28. (Right) Useful items for early pioneer settlers.



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George Tillson founded Dereham Forge 200 years ago



**THE
STAGE
IS THE
WORLD**

LAUREL A. BEECHEY

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

Exciting and fun times are coming up, mostly at Annandale National Historic Site, aka the museum!

Time to let loose your inner pioneer DNA and experience pioneer times! From today until Christmas there are a multitude of events you will enjoy! Big small, indoors and outdoors. Calendars at the ready!

In today's column you will get September and October events:

Saturday, Sept. 6 & 13: **Maker's Workshop: Wood Working**, 1-4 p.m. Week 1 is a hands-on course by Brett Schultz with the basics of shaping wood for first-timers. Choose from designs such as apple, block, boot or dog. Week 2 is refining and paint-

ing. PRE-registration required. \$70 tax included at Annandale NHS.

Friday, Sept. 19: **Oscar's Puzzles**, 4-9 p.m. Collect a team of up to six. Appropriate for age 8 and up with parent guardian (geared towards teens and adults). Oscar the Otter's puzzles and clues will help you escape from the 'Aesthetic' museum. Hint: Clues are the town's past! PRE-registration required. \$20 tax included at Annandale NHS.

Wednesday, Sept. 24: **Maker's Workshop: Soap Making**, 6-8 p.m. The science and historical perspectives how soap is made. You will make two bars of soap to take home. All you need is supplied! PRE-registration required. \$50. tax incl. at Annandale NHS. Soap is made from fire-place ash and fat.

Thursday, Sept. 25 & Saturday, Sept. 27: **Tillsonburg Pioneer Graveyard Tour**, 13 Cedar Street: 1-2 p.m. (and maybe a half hour more?), by donation. Laurel Beechey will guide you around the graveyard, reading letters which some of its 'permanent' pioneer residents sent though a 'secret conduit' to tell their stories. The grassy ground is uneven, bring your walker or a light stool to sit on during the tour, if you tire easily.

Tuesday, Sept. 29: **Home Schools**. On the last Tuesday of the month from September to November, Annandale NHS is devoted to hosting programs local Home School groups. Sept. 29, Oct. 27, Nov. 24, 10 a.m.-12 noon. Call Kathleen at 519-842-2294 to sign up.

FOUNDER'S FESTIVAL

Saturday, Oct. 18: 10:30 a.m. is a **Commemorative Tree Planting** at Annandale NHS, home of E.D. Tillson, born the same year as the founding.

Oct. 18: **The Scout's Breakfast** at the Community Centre is 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Oct. 18: 12-5 p.m. at Memorial Park. 12 p.m. is the **Opening Ceremony**.

Featured activities and demonstrations include The Canadian Lumberjack Show, live blacksmith demonstrations, petting zoo, classic wagon rides, food trucks with tasty local eats, and handcrafted goods and demos.

Let us not forget the Kinette Club Barn Dance in the evening and the fireworks. A good time will be had by all!

The Founder's Festival is a day for the whole community to come and celebrate 200 years ago when all George Tillson and family wanted was to own their own land.

Basically, all they had were muscled, trees, and water, from which Dereham Forge was created. It was a dirty, noisy, smoky beginning here, but the forge created the necessary tools, hammers and nails, hinges, plows, hoes, scythes, cooking cauldrons, pans, ladles, and so much more.

A few Tillson descendants are also coming home to check out how Tillsonburg is doing.

Wednesday, Oct. 22: **Maker's Workshop: Candle Making**, 6-8:30 p.m. Join Sue Griffiths from Stone Home Creatives and learn to make your own tapers and votives candles. All you need is supplied. PRE-registration required. \$40 tax incl. at Annandale NHS.

Saturday, Oct. 25: **Maker's Workshop: Indigenous Cooking**, 2 p.m. Learn about indigenous foraging and cooking techniques from acclaimed Chef Tawnya Brant. Learn to braid corn and how to cook cornbread in a squash. All supplies provided. PRE-registration. By donation.

Friday, Oct. 31st: **Trick-or-Treating** at Annandale NHS. 4-7 p.m. By donation. Wear your favourite costumes and trick-or-treat in each of the first-floor rooms. While supplies last.

Escape from Oscar's Puzzles at the ANHS museum

CHRIS ABBOTT

Post Correspondent

You can step back in time to escape Tillsonburg's 'aesthetic' museum on Friday, Sept. 19.

Solve puzzles and follow the clues that will set you free during Annandale National Historic Site's first Oscar's Puzzles event, 4-9 p.m. at 30 Tillson Ave. Clues are based on Tillsonburg's past.

Participants accepting the museum's one-day challenge, which will be geared toward teens and adults, will be timed. You can register individually or as a team (up to six people) at \$20/team – groups are preferred – through the Town's Connect2Rec site. Call 519-842-2294 for more information.

"Annandale (NHS) has a history that's connected with Oscar Wilde," said Kate Bakos, Culture and Heritage Manager/Curator. "The house (Annandale House) is what you will be escaping from. Clues will be left behind for you from Oscar Wilde."

"There's some trivia with it as well," said Larissa McCabe, a summer student at ANHS who came up with the

museum's trivia escape room concept. "You will have to solve a puzzle to enter the next room... and you keep doing that until you get out."

"Edutainment – you're learning something while doing it," Bakos smiled. "And you get to see the house in a different way. It will be more in the evening, as well, so it will be a little darker."

"It's multiple choice, so it's for anyone," noted McCabe, who had created an Ancient Greece escape room last summer for children at summer camp. "They really enjoyed that – a lot!"

Pre-registration is required.
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EDITORIAL

Letter to the Editor

New in Tillsonburg... it feels like “we are finally home”

My wife and I are new in Tillsonburg, having moved here from Waterloo Region a few months ago.

We left our two sons behind in K-W, and of course that was not easy. But they are smart young men, unafraid and confident, each making his way now on his own. We see them both often – they drive down the highway to visit; just a hundred kilometres or so, not that far away.

It's been an extraordinary change for us, coming from that loud and tightly-packed environment of 600,000 neighbors to this quaint, historic town. Just a hundred kilometres or so, but it seems very far away.

We are still absorbing it all, acclimatising to our new world. So many things to like here.

...Getting a warm “Welcome to town!” from just about everyone I've met. It sounds corny I suppose, but it does happen and we do like it.

...How about having a Walmart and a Canadian Tire right on the main street? I'm not a city planner, but it does seem to me that if a downtown is going to keep itself relevant, it needs to feature stores people actually want to shop at. I don't know if that was good planning or good luck or what, but I like it.

...Shaw's Ice Cream. Like, seriously.

...Alleys with names: that is the kind of thing that gives a town character. In Vancouver they have named some alleys after famous citizens, which may be lovely for the honorees, but really, what a bore. Here, we have alleys with fun names such as Cat Alley, Alley Alley and others – that is impressive stuff. I would encourage more of this. Every alley in town should be named – we could make it a contest, with nominations and voting by citizens.

...Walking from my house, across the Veterans' Memori-

al Walkway bridge to downtown. Well, I can't do that right now, as they have closed the bridge for reconstruction. But the new bridge will open soon enough (though not as soon as the builder claims, I'll wager), and then I can enjoy that walk again, once spring comes around.

...Turtlefest. It's way better than the name suggests. I've seen a bit of the world, been to lots of places in this big, beautiful country of ours, but not until I came to Tillsonburg had I seen a ten foot tall inflated turtle. When the town you live in closes off four blocks of the main drag for a street party celebrating the reincarnation of a founder as a turtle, you've got a good thing going.

...Discovering Dereham Line as the alternate to Plank Road (Hwy 19) coming into town from the 401. It's not actually quicker, but it is somehow just a bit better. Don't tell anyone.

...Four Tim's and a Starbucks. Not much drives civic pride like easy access to abundant caffeine.

...The little farmers market on Saturdays by the Station Arts Centre. Fresh fruits and vegetables; home-made goods baked, canned and smoked; freshly-cut flowers that were grown somewhere nearby, maybe by people you know. It's like stepping back in time. There is no parking lot; there is no stupid music. Only the peaceful quiet of a neighborhood market where regular people pursue commerce at its most humble levels. It is intimate, personal, beautiful.

... Bre's Fresh Market, and Red Dragon Dairy, and Courtland Bakery. I know, they aren't actually in Tillsonburg, but still.

...And the fifteen, or fifty, or two hundred other places I have yet to discover.

In our first months here, we have purchased a car from a local dealer and hired local contractors to help with some upgrades to our house. I bought that book from the muse-

um, the Q&A book celebrating the 200th birthday of the Town, and we've started soaking in some of the history of the Tillson family and the many others who brought this town to life. We are settling in.

I imagine young people who have grown up here, many of them, anyway, can't wait to leave, can't wait to scratch the big city itch. That's not a bad thing, that's natural and parents should be happy to see that yearning in their children. But for my wife and me, Tillsonburg is the first small town we've ever lived in. It feels as though, instead of just having arrived, we are finally home.

D.D.R. Staines,

Tillsonburg



Welcome to Tillsonburg!

(CHRIS ABBOTT PHOTO)

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**EVERYONE
HAS A
STORY
TO TELL**

ROBIN KRAFFT

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

Growing up in Tillsonburg, Trudy Kueppers remembers a tight-knit community: "Everybody knew everybody, and I had friends on every street. It was a small little town. We biked all over, went sledding every winter at the golf course and got hot chocolate at my grandparent's house afterwards."

She became a certified scuba diver at the age of 12, joining her father on dives in Innerkip.

Trudy described various treasures they would find in the quarry: jewelry, sunglasses, coins, and even bicycles.

"There was also an old, submerged school bus," she said, "and we'd swim through it. It was cool because I rode the bus to school everyday!"

Every summer, her parents planned a big family adventure. A favorite destination was Tobermory. Trudy still has ties there and visits every year. She recalls seeing wrecked tugboats on her first dive in Tobermory, but her deepest dive was 70 ft and there were plenty of other

shipwrecks, including old wooden schooners.

She attended Annandale High School and had always been athletic. She was a cross-country runner, played soccer and enjoyed rollerblading. She still runs every night with one of her three pure bred Rottweilers, "the one that likes it and doesn't stop and sniff everything," Kueppers explained, laughing. "They're a lot of work," she said, "but I had to learn how to train them and to understand pack mentality." Trudy has been training dogs for four years now, focusing primarily on obedience.

She grew up with dogs. Her parents bred poodles, but kept working dogs as well. Her beloved Rottweilers are an important part of her life. Trudy is also a Canine Health Canada instructor. She'll be launching a new course this fall/winter and describes how it prepares you to be a first responder for dogs, able to render first aid and canine CPR.

Similar to a human first aid program, the comprehensive course will familiarize participants with various elements of dog health and physiology, including common ailments and how to respond when accidents or injuries happen. The course covers what to do if a dog swallows a ball, how to wrap an injured leg, how to approach breathing difficulties, signs of dehydration, differentiating ticks, teeth, mouth and gums, eye injuries and more. Most importantly, you'll learn when it's necessary to call a vet and how to stabilize your dog in an emergency situation.

For people considering getting a dog, Kueppers has some great advice: "Always deal with reputable breeders. Ask for pedigree and health information, meet the dogs, see how they act around people and research the breeder. Temperament issues and genetic and health is-

suess are less likely in purebred dogs with good healthy solid bloodlines." She's not knocking adoption of shelter dogs and feels strongly that "every dog deserves a good home," while acknowledging that crossbreeding over time has caused a lot of problems. She added: "Make sure you learn about the breeds you're considering and make sure it's what you want." Historically, dogs were bred to work or behave in certain ways.

Some dogs, for example, are natural protectors and are great with children. While her dogs have grown up around kids, including her three daughters, Trudy keeps her dogs separate from the early learning environment she has established in her home. For more than 20 years she has been providing a full day program with a play-to-learn philosophy.

A trained Early Childhood Educator, she follows the children's interests in an inquiry-based format that "makes learning so much fun." She worked in most of the schools in Tillsonburg, before and after school programs and at childcare centres in Woodstock and London, before starting her own program. She collaborates with the families and finds the work incredibly gratifying: "I'm making a difference every day and the kids are thriving," she said.

"My daughters, my dogs and early learning are my life," Trudy said, but she also described herself as a sky watcher. "I chase the sunset every night," she said, and loves taking photographs. She watches for the northern lights, comets, and observes the moon and planets on a regular basis. "I love the outdoors, it's so peaceful," she explained, reminding everyone of the bounty that surrounds us.

Tributes posted for Margaret Braun at new daycare

CHRIS ABBOTT

Post Correspondent

Friday, August 29 was an emotional day for 360 Developments Group, their friends, their families and the community as the 360 West daycare facility was dedicated in Margaret Braun's name.

Some brought pre-printed stories and photos to post on the interior walls of the not-yet-finished daycare, some came with

their memories and wrote directly on the walls to honour Braun, who passed away on July 26.

'Forever in our hearts.'

'Always loved, never forgotten.'

'Love you forever!! My bestie.'

'You've gone too soon. The world is not the same without you. We love you.'

Candles were lit, music played, and people gathered to share memories.

"We just wanted every-

one to feel welcome, feel safe, having discussions, sharing memories and stories," said Cedric Tomico, from 360 Developments Group, who organized the 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. dedication.

"We had a bit of a private time, just with family and really close friends before the public arrived. Then it was just open to anybody.

Braun was an owner, one of six 360 Develop-

ments Group shareholders in Tillsonburg, along with her husband Peter, Cedric and Trish Tomico, and Frank and Margaret Voth.

"She was just an absolutely beautiful, selfless, kind soul," said Tomico. "I think probably one of her most unique gifts was

that she could make any child, at any time, just feel extremely loved and precious. Like they were the most important in the room. I know her own four children were pretty much her whole life, but she had the ability to do this with any child. I saw

it with my own kids, and many other kids."

When 360 Developments Group first announced the daycare, Tomico said it was a special moment for the group, especially Braun.

"She was extremely excited by it," said Tomico.

CONTINUED TO PAGE 7



(CHRIS ABBOTT PHOTO)



(CHRIS ABBOTT PHOTO)

360 Developments Group, friends, and families honoured Margaret Braun Friday, dedicating the 360 West daycare in her name.

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Daycare could be open by year-end

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

"Just very, very proud of that vision we had come up with to do this. This has been a vision since we broke ground on the development (2021), it's always been a thought that we put a daycare facility here."

It might have been a place she hoped to work at in some capacity, said Tomico.

On the walls were messages not just from family and friends, but also the commu-

nity, including trades people working with 360 Developments who knew the family and who's lives were touched by Margaret.

"Everybody," said Tomico. "Just everybody."

They included Bible verses, stories, memories, and tributes which will continue to live on at the daycare, said Tomico, allowing that gift she had "that was truly a Gift from God" to permeate

the walls, and although not seen, inspire and encourage children through generations.

The daycare building potentially could be completed by the end of the year, although it's official opening is still unknown.

"It's moving along pretty good," said Tomico. "We're doing what we can."

chris@granthaven.com



(CHRIS ABBOTT PHOTO)

Frank and Margaret Voth organized a barbecue for those attending the 360 Developments Group daycare dedication in honour of Margaret Braun.

Join the 2025 Norfolk-Oxford Kidney Walk

CHRIS ABBOTT

Post Correspondent

Every year, people unite at a Kidney Walk to celebrate the strength of the Canadian kidney and transplant community.

In Oxford and Norfolk counties, you can join this year's annual Norfolk-Oxford Kidney Walk on Sept. 21. It begins at 74 Front Road, Port Rowan, at 11 a.m. Registration is 10:30 a.m.

A looping route of approximately 4 km gives participants an opportunity to see the Port Rowan Wetlands up close before heading back for a free barbecue and prizes for

participants.

Last year's Norfolk-Oxford Kidney Walk raised more than \$7,000, adding to the amount raised since 2001 (now more than \$70,000), when the Walk was held in Tillsonburg.

Donations can also be made to the Kidney Foundation online at kidneywalk.ca.

When you join the Kidney Walk, you are joining a passionate community with a shared belief in doing all they can to provide hope and support to loved ones living with kidney disease.

Every dollar raised fuels programs and services for those affected by kidney disease. All participants are en-

couraged to fundraise, as each contribution supports lifesaving resources for about one in 10 Canadians (more than four million people) who have kidney disease.

Participants who raise \$150 or more will receive a commemorative T-shirt.

"The Kidney Walks really are the highlight of the year," said Pat Shaw, President of the Kidney Foundation's Ontario Branch in a media release. "They are places where people living with kidney disease feel loved and supported. They also see the strength of our community and learn that they aren't alone in their experience."

"Having had a child that had two kidney transplants, one for which I was a live donor, has kept me volunteering for The Kidney Foundation and the chair of the Norfolk-Kidney Walk for 24 years," said Greg D'Hulster of Port Rowan. "We are still actively involved as we find this of such importance to make people aware and to help raise money for this very worthy cause."

There is no cure for kidney failure. When kidneys fail, people need dialysis several times a week, or a kidney transplant to survive. Not everyone is eligible for a transplant. The wait list in Ontario for a deceased donor kidney



(FILE PHOTO)

Finn, Jana, Cam and Jeff Stuyt enjoyed the 2024 Norfolk-Oxford Kidney Walk to the Port Rowan Wetlands. This year's Kidney Walk is Sunday, Sept. 21.

continues to be four years on average.

Date: Sunday, September 21

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Route Length: 4 km

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New program to promote digital literacy amongst seniors

JEFF HELSDON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

An Ontario government grant is bringing a new seniors' digital literacy class to the Tillsonburg Multi-Service Centre.

The Seniors Community Grant, through the Ontario Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility, funded a program that the Multi-Service Centre will be launching this fall to increase digital literacy.

The 90-minute sessions will cover topics such as using Facebook, Zoom, Google Maps, Microsoft Suite, and how to use the Tillsonburg app. The Multi-Service literacy team has been working on the course content.

"What they have is basic, which is great for seniors," said Randi-Lee Durham, Director of Employment & Literacy Programs.

The free classes will be available both in the Multi-Service Centre and in three off-site locations in the town. The offsite locations will be the Tillsonburg Seniors Centre, Tillsonburg Legion, and Tillsonburg Retirement Centre. Participants have the option to use smartphones provided by the Multi-Service Centre for class use only or bring their own.

Free transportation will be available to the classes at the Multi-Service Centre.

"The objective of this technology project is to equip seniors with the skills necessary to foster social connections, enhance their mental health, and build confidence in using digital applications, all while maintaining their independence," Durham explained.

Dates confirmed are Wednesday, Sept. 17 at the Tillsonburg Legion and Wednesday, Sept. 24, both 10 a.m. to noon. Call 519-842-9000, ext. 266 to register. Contact the Multi-Service Centre at 519-842-9008 for exact times and locations of future presentations.

Time changes in existing programs

Changes will be coming to time slots for some existing programs offered at the Multi-Service Centre.

Currently, programs such as math, English, and digital skills (the full course, not the new short ones) are offered at specific times throughout the week. These will be changed to flexible programming times, which will run from Mon-



(SUBMITTED PHOTO)

Randi-Lee Durham, Director of Employment & Literacy Programs, reviews some of the seniors' digital programming with Bill Cannon, a senior digital client. The Multi-Service Centre will offer new micro classes in digital literacy this fall, in addition to existing longer classes.

day to Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Tuesday until 8 p.m.

"This shift allows individuals to drop in at times that suit learners and receive individualized support," Durham said. She said the new model promotes inclusivity and respon-

siveness, enabling learning to focus on specific goals at their own pace.

"We are confident this client-centric approach will lead to improved learner engagement, greater accessibility and stronger outcomes for our community," Durham said.

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On August 24, at approximately 1:30 a.m., members of Oxford OPP detected an impaired driver while on general patrol and initiated a traffic stop on Concession Street in the Town

of Tillsonburg.

As a result of the investigation, a 24-year-old resident of Tillsonburg has been charged with: Operation While Impaired; Operation While Impaired - Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) 80 plus; and Dangerous Operation.

The accused has been released from custody and is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Woodstock on Oct. 7, 2025.


Tillsonburg resident charged with impaired

Ontario Provincial Police, Oxford Detachment, arrested an impaired all-terrain vehicle (ATV) operator while on general patrol in Tillsonburg.

On August 25, at approximately 9:45 p.m., members of Oxford OPP initiated a traffic stop on Lisgar Avenue. As a result of the investigation, a 23-year-old resident of Tillsonburg has been charged with: Operation While Impaired; and Operation While Impaired - Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) 80 plus.


The accused has been released from custody and is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Woodstock on Oct. 14.

Impaired driving means operating any vehicle while your ability to do so has been compromised by consuming alcohol, drugs or a combination. Impaired driving laws also apply to those operating boats, snowmobiles, off-road vehicles, aircraft and railway equipment.


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'Little Fair with Big Tradition' set for Sept. 17

CHRIS ABBOTT

Post Correspondent

This year's 135th Langton Fair, the 'Little Fair with Big Tradition,' is set for Wednesday, Sept. 17.

The traditional parade begins at 11 a.m. followed by opening ceremonies at the Langton Lions Community Sports Complex, near the pavilion.

The baby show starts at 12:30 p.m. inside the arena, nail-driving competition – with children and adult divisions – starts at 12:45 p.m. and the tobacco hand tying at 1:15 p.m., both near the stage. The junior talent contest is 1:30 p.m. inside the arena – all great traditions going back many decades.

"It's the same kind of format," said Carol Overbaugh, president of the North Walsingham Agricultural Society.

"I still remember Lucas Wilson (holder of four Guinness World Records) in the talent show," said Overbaugh. "Back then, we had so many we had to have preliminaries at the school. The eight finalists went on to the fair day. I think he made it to the finals – he had a little school desk, that's what he kept his props on. He was really young, maybe Grade 2 or 3 – his dad taught at Langton Public and would help him set up. He did a really good job. He would talk all the way through it – it was so cute – and he must have won at one point because, boy, he got really good."

"Another one was Daniel Main – he went to Langton Public and he had a little magic show going. He was young, too, about Grade 2 when he started, and he got quite good. I

remember he did a little show for the daycare kids – that was his first audience.

"You never know what can happen at the talent show," Overbaugh laughed. "It's fun to watch how well they've all done."

Both Wilson and Main returned in 2012 to do free shows.

"Everybody loved it – it was so kind of them," said Overbaugh. "And it's nice to know they remember where they started from. That's awesome."

Last year's fair had more exhibits, more food vendors with long lineups, more participation in the tobacco tying, nail driving, the baby show and junior talent show, and the most cars and tractors they've ever had in the parade – so many that the front end of the parade, three trucks from Norfolk County Fire Station, had to wait on George Street allowing the rest of the parade to go by before looping back to the arena on Albert Street.

The crowd also increased quite a bit last year, said Overbaugh, "which is good because it shows more interest from the schools and the community."

This year's parade route will be one block shorter, first heading to the main street (Queen), then turning to Grey Street, then George Street.

"We just tell people, whoever wants to be in the parade just go to the parking lot. The cars usually start at the track behind the arena and the students join the parade from their schools. It all kind of starts together, going in order."

Plaques are awarded for best tractor and car in the parade. Parade participants, as well



(FILE PHOTO)

Hand-tying tobacco is one of the oldest traditions at the Langton Fair. The competition, which starts at 1:15 p.m. on Sept. 17, is open to the public and you do not have to pre-register.

as the public, can vote for their favourites.

"Whoever wins gets their picture on the plaque for the next year. We have quite a few tractors now – people like to see that – so Frank DeDobbelaer, who runs the car show, suggested we do the same thing for the tractors."

Art and craft exhibits are displayed inside the arena – always a highlight for students

– along with vegetable and fruit entries, and vendors.

Lunch will be served by the CWL in the community centre.

"We are going with the bouncy castles again," Overbaugh said, "and food trucks. And we're going to have a little petting zoo this year for the kids."

chris@granthaven.com

2025

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Weekend Quiz

by Jake Grant

1. What is the highest possible score the can be achieved on the SATs?
2. What is the birthstone for September?
3. How much is a carat in grams?
4. What is a male turkey called?
5. In what city does Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade take place?
6. Manhattan is not a city. It is a what?
7. What does the acronym GPA stand for?
8. Where does The Boots and Hearts Music Festival take place?
9. The mandible and the maxilla make up what bone?
10. Which has the thickest fur of any mammal?

This week's answers are found on Page 27

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Paul's Shoes thrives on service, selection *The local shoe store has a 52-year history in the area*

Paul's Shoes is a familiar name in both Tillsonburg and Delhi.

The local shoe store has a 52-year history. Brad Kreller's parents started with a store in Delhi in 1973, and Kreller, now the owner, started working for them at the age of 14. He later returned after leaving for post-secondary school, privileged to work beside his parents.

The Delhi store is still operating at 205 Main Street, along with a Tillsonburg location at 156 Broadway, which opened in 2009.

Both stores have been busy, says Kreller, with ideal main street locations.

"We're very fortunate, where we are and the loyal customers that keep us going. That's the root of it."

The selection at Paul's Shoes in Tillsonburg is vast, both in quantity and brands of children's, women's and men's shoes, sandals and boots.

Popular brands include Rieker, Birkenstock, Blundstone, Skechers, and Nike.

"We do everything from infant shoes to Size 16 in stock," said Kreller, who listens to customers to learn what brands and styles they are interested in, and talks with sales reps to find trends.



Brad Kreller, owner of Paul's Shoes, has stores in Tillsonburg and Delhi.

In addition to the footwear, they have laces, shoe polish, insoles and arch supports, and related items.

"If we don't have it – and it's an option – we can try to get it."

The staff at Paul's Shoe Store provides top notch service, helping customers find just the right style, size and colour.

"We have wonderful people serving our customers," Kreller nodded.

"Amazing staff - they are the heart of the company."

And there is no sales pressure from staff, he says. They are focused on getting customers the exact footwear they want – without any pressure.

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1 Source: review.nps.today/r/HearingLife-Canada.

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Back to school safety tips from the OPP

With the start of the school year, the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Oxford Detachment wants to remind everyone of some safety tips.

Parents, students, school staff and commuters all have a shared responsibility to ensure everyone gets to and from school safely.

The OPP encourages parents and guardians to review with children safety guidelines 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 increases with the start of school, and bus routes may affect their commutes. Driv-

ers 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.

School pictures make great memories but the OPP asks families to safeguard their children by ensuring security settings on social media platforms are set to only people you know. Make sure not to mention the school the children attend or their full names. Be mindful of photo backgrounds to ensure your house number or street name are 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.

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(FILE PHOTO)

Join more than 200 soldiers and settlers as they set up camp for the annual War of 1812 Re-enactment at the Backhouse Historic Site (Backus Heritage Conservation Area) near Port Rowan, Sept. 6 & 7. Battle demonstrations take place on Saturday 2 p.m. and Sunday 1:30 p.m. Artillery demonstration Saturday 11:30 a.m. and Sunday 12:30. Sutler Row and encampments open at 10 a.m. both days. Tour the Backhouse grist mill. Visit prca.on.ca for the full schedule. Admission: conservation area day passes are \$16/car (up to 7 people).

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Bolton prepares for World Para Athletics Championships

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Soon after she received a 'congratulations' call, announcing she was one of 26 Canadian para athletes named to compete in F41 Para shot put and discus at the 2025 World Para Athletics Championships.

"That was really exciting. So now we're in the middle of preparing for that in New Delhi, India. Probably the most extensive planning I've done for an athletics trip."

Her first event is early, her second event late, with many days between filled with training, and some good distractions like playing cards and art.

"It's going to be very different. It's going to be really hot, really humid. The estimated temperature is to be 'feels like 40 to 55 C' and the only place with air conditioning is the hotel."

Team Canada athletes will be heading to UAE before the World Para Athletics Championships, giving them about a week to acclimatize, training in a similarly hot environment.

"Hopefully all the prep that we do will mean that it doesn't have a significant impact, and that we won't feel more uncomfortable in the heat than people who live there. We try to do everything we can to mitigate that."

There are other factors involved.

"It's going to be loud," she said. "A lot of people. You can't drink (or brush your teeth) with the tap water. And the food is different. The last thing you want on a sports trip is a stomach problem, so we're going to be eating at the hotel – the team can be assured of the quality of the food pro-



(SUBMITTED PHOTO)

Charlotte Bolton, who competed in The Jerome Classic, will be competing in F41 shot put and discus at the World Para Athletics Championships, Sept. 27 to Oct. 5, in New Delhi, India.

duction. We're discouraged from trying street foods. They want everyone to be careful and not trying new things.

"We're athletes and we want to be at peak performance. Even mildly ill is unacceptable. We have to control all the controllables so you don't look back and say, 'Oh, maybe I should have been more careful or I should have gone the extra mile.' Maybe it does feel a little excessive – all the probiotics, the electrolytes, the ice vests, and just a bunch of

stuff to bring with us - but you don't want to get there and say, 'I could have prevented something.'"

Training at a facility at York University involves 'blocks' which change as the competition approaches.

"We do a tapering – we don't really train less, we train lighter. Right now I'm in a heavy phase, we'll do lots of reps with a heavy weight. You increase the weight over a certain period, then you decrease the weight and reps so

you built up your strength, but now you're working on your speed and explosiveness.

"You want to be doing certain things at certain times, so that you are at your best at the correct time. Athletics is an interesting sport because there are so many different disciplines – sprinters do completely different styles of tapering and exercise than the throwers do because we're working toward a different thing, a different sort of power.

"My coach (Richard Parkin-

son) likes to quote physics at us. Acceleration and mass and force and distance. I won't pretend to remember what the actual formula is, but we work a lot on speed because your speed increases how far it's going to go."

Some people rely more on mass than speed, she said, knowing she is built more on the leaner side.

"So we work a lot on that speed and explosiveness to get that ratio of mass to velocity. I probably have more velocity than mass.

"I just really follow what my coach puts on the program," she laughed.

Bolton made her Paralympic debut at the Tokyo 2020 Games (in 2021), sixth in both shot put and discus. She finished Top 10 at the 2023 World Para Athletics Championships in France, in discus and shot put, then won a bronze medal at the Santiago 2023 Para Pan American Games in Chile.

At her second Paralympics in Paris, France in 2024, she placed 10th in the women's shot put F41 finals at Stade de France, and she was sixth in discus.

"I wouldn't say I have expectations in how I want to rank (in India), I would say what I want is to feel prepared and to have those throws that I have been doing. Because it's really a steep learning curve to go from 'not as high in the rankings' to being possibly considered 'someone to watch out for.' If I'm thinking about it too much, I find that I end up thinking more about how I'm going to do instead of how I'm going to do it."

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Red Sox play best ball of season at OBA tourney

Improbable comebacks, walk-off heroics as Red Sox reach quarter-finals

GRAHAM NICKERSON

Post Contributor

Opening act slugfest

Game 1

The Tillsonburg Red Sox journeyed to Port Hope August 22 to play for the 2025 OBA C Championship.

The double elimination tournament kicked off with a game against the Port Lambton Pirates in which the Red Sox were out slugged 17-7.

The game was back and forth in the early innings with the teams changing leads. Tillsonburg scored two runs in the first then doubled their efforts with a four-run, seven-hit bat-around in the second. The 'Burg bats went silent after the big frame, only scraping together one run in the fourth when Fish Verschueren scored from third on a wild pitch after a leadoff double.

Skip King started the game for the Red Sox and pitched well at times but had considerable issues locating his slider, plunking four batters in four innings of eight-hit ball.

Port Lambton's power was on display when their right fielder crushed a two-run home run in the second, then their first baseman blasted a grand slam in the third, part of a six-run frame. Kid Appleford and Lefty Laur mopped up what was left of the lopsided loss allowing six additional runs.

Warnings were issued to both benches after a Pirate runner was thrown out by shortstop Iron Ring Rachar at home trying to score on a fielder's choice that ended the top half of the seventh. Rachar pointed to the scoreboard reminding the runner of the 10-run Pirate lead and that there was no need to be trying for an extra run with that advantage late in the game. The Port Lambton dugout barked comments of their own to Rachar, which prompted the umpire's stern response.

Nail biting win

Game 2

With their backs to the wall, the Red Sox rose early Saturday morning to play Port Hope in Game 2. Player/Manager Alex Fishback tapped ace left-hander Fish Verschueren to start the must win game. Verschueren gave up a leadoff walk, then a base hit to start the game, but got the third batter to nub a tapper to the mound that was turned for a double play. Port Hope singled the next at-bat to drive in one run before the frame was over.

Like in Game 1, Tillsonburg's offence answered in the bottom half of the inning. Skip King singled to left then swiped second. Verschueren and Kevin Listar hit back-to-back base hits to bring King around to score. While stealing second, Verschueren came up limping as a result of a pulled leg muscle. The unfortunate injury spelled the end of Fish's day on the hill and he was replaced by Jeff Prouse.

Prouse iced Port Hope's bats by pitching the remaining five innings allowing three scattered hits resulting in one run while striking out two and not giving up a walk.

Tillsonburg took the lead in the second on a two-out triple by Zippin' Zack Kreller. The speedy outfielder was knocked in by a fielder's choice by King two batters later. The Red Sox added one more tally in the third after loading the bases with no outs. A wild throw by the pitcher on a tapper back to the mound allowed Listar to trot in for Tillsonburg's third run of the ball game.

Tillsonburg's lead was under threat when Port Hope went to bat in the seventh after the leadoff hitter singled then stole second. Prouse got a strikeout, then



(SUBMITTED PHOTO)

The 2025 Tillsonburg Red Sox: front row from left, Paxton Bale, Kylen Miners, Kid Appleford, Mitch McMullen, Jeff Prouse, Alex Fishback, Kevin Listar; back row, Graham Nickerson, Iron Ring Rachar, Neil Polfliet, Lefty Laur, Fish Verschueren, Skip King, Zack Kreller, and Josh Verschueren. Not in the photo, Jordan Vitias and Rob Verhoeve.

an infield fly. On the next play, a hot shot to third ricocheted off Listar and rolled into foul territory, and with nobody covering third, the runner tried to advance on the miscue. Prouse quickly bounced off the mound and was at the bag in time for Listar's throw from foul ground that nipped the runner and secured Tillsonburg's spot in the winner's column.

Thrilling walk-off heroics

Game 3

Throughout the course of the Red Sox season there was talk around the diamond that the year-end OBA tournament brings out the best in Tillsonburg's boys of summer. By all accounts, the Saturday afternoon elimination game versus the St. Catharines Cobras exceeded even the highest of thrilling expectations.

Tillsonburg took an early lead when Skip King and Fish Verschueren reached on back-to-back singles then were knocked in by Jeff Prouse's wrap to centre field. The Cobras countered by stringing together a batting rally to tally one in the third. A series of errors and wild pitching loaded the bases for St. Catharines with no outs, but Tillsonburg's sharp defence was able to get out of the squeeze after three runs crossed the plate.

In the bottom of the seventh with one out, King walloped a triple to deep centre and scored when Verschueren slapped a hit through the left side of the infield to tie the game. It would take extra innings to decide who would live to play Saturday night.

Starting with the Manfred Man (ghost runner) on second, St. Catharines singled then grounded out. An intentional walk loaded the bases with one out. Jeff Prouse induced a grounder to first that was thrown home for the second out. Tillsonburg looked to get out of the jam but Prouse's payoff pitch got away from him and he plunked the batter to bring in one run. Staying composed, he got the last batter to pop out to Rachar to end the inning.

Josh Verschueren started the bottom of the eighth on second. Prouse drew a walk then Alex Fishback struck out. Zack Kreller dribbled a hit to third and Josh Verschueren did a head fake to dodge the third

baseman's tag and slid into the bag safely. With the bases now loaded and the infield in, Kylen Miners hit one to the second baseman. The throw home dragged the catcher's foot off the plate and Verschueren was called safe. The St. Catharines bench was in an uproar over the call and arguments and jeers rained down from the third base line. The umpire had heard enough protest and ejected the Cobras' manager. The game was held up for a few minutes as he made the slow walk to the parking lot.

CONTINUED TO PAGE 16

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Tillsonburg Red Sox reach OBA C quarter-finals

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

The delay of game gave Rachar time to think over his plate approach with the bases still loaded. On a 2-2 pitch, Rachar rocketed the offering to the gap in right centre for the walk-off 6-5 win.

Pandemonium broke out on the diamond as the Red Sox players surrounded their hero with showers of praise and delight.

Improbable comeback

Game 4

The Red Sox followed up their dramatic walk-off win with what may very well be the greatest come-from-behind rally in the long and storied history of Tillsonburg baseball.

Again facing elimination, the Red Sox travelled to Kendal to play a twilight fixture with the York Diamonds.

Tillsonburg started young Paxton Bale on the bump, a recent call up to help bol-

ster the rotation. The right-hander got into trouble in the first when Tillsonburg committed three errors resulting in three York runs. The GTA squad plated three more in the second on a five-hit rally then notched the score at 9-1 with three hits in the third.

Facing an eight-run deficit in the fourth, Tillsonburg rattled off eight hits along with three walks while sending 14 men to the plate for an incredible eight runs to tie the game.

Jeff Prouse took over pitching in the fifth, making his third appearance in as many games. Allowing just two runs, Prouse had hurled 12 innings of eight-run ball on the day.

With the monkey off their backs, Tillsonburg broke out for seven runs in a bat-around fifth. For good measure they tacked on one more in the sixth on Kid Appleford's fourth hit of the day.

In total, Tillsonburg had 30 baserun-

ners - 16 hits, 12 walks, one fielder's choice and a hit by pitch. Eight 'Burg hitters had an RBI with Fish Verschuereen topping all hitters with four. Final score, 17-9 in a lengthy three hours.

Aggressive plays, eventual defeat

Game 5

The Sunday morning church bells were ringing across Cobourg when Alex Fishback took to the hill versus River Canard in the quarter-finals. The teams met once before this season at the Red Sox tournament in June.

Fishback hurled a fine game but the Mallards smacked hit after hit off the right-hander to take an early lead that Tillsonburg could not surmount.

The Red Sox manufactured baserunners in every inning but their momentum would be dashed in one way or another.

In the first it was an inning-ending ground ball double play. In the fifth, speedy Zack Kreller was thrown out trying to swipe second. Another double play ended all hopes of a rally in the sixth.

Rob Verhoeve and Kylen Miners patched together what was left of the game, giving up a combined five runs on four hits. Another improbable comeback wasn't in the cards for Tillsonburg as they dropped the ballgame 12-2.

In the championship game, Midland Mariners beat River Canard 11-10 in nine innings to win the 2025 OBA Senior C title.

The Red Sox played excellent ball this season and have greatly improved as a team with some young talent added to their roster. The fond expectancy of springtime has now given way to the hard facts of a coming autumn. See you next year boys!

Improvements at the Tillsonburg Curling Club



ON
THE
BROOM

NORA PETERS

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

Hey Curlers and all those interested in curling - though the heat of summer is still with us it is time to remind you that the curling season is only six weeks away! Even though it's summer, the club has been a beehive of activity!

The usual Board planning meetings, bonspiel and league planning have been going on, but more importantly more than 635 volunteer hours have been logged making improvements to the club.

Wade Jones, who coordinated the 26

workdays being done by the 29 different volunteers, explained that some jobs took a large amount of time and the results may not be as obvious to members, but will certainly affect the ice and their curling games this season.

Locker rooms, bathrooms, and storage areas have been spruced up, painted, decluttered and made brighter by the improvements. On the ice you will notice that the ramp is gone, and there are new boards and carpeting on both ends of the rink. but more importantly is what went on under the ice that will allow the ice plant to operate properly and deliver good ice - along with our new ice technician Dennis McCarroll who has had an intense learning curve this summer to help him deliver the best ice he can this season.

The club will host open houses on September 24 and 25 from 6:30-8:30 to come out, ask questions, renew memberships, check out the club and see what the season has to offer. If all things go according to schedule intro week will start on October 14 with members able to access the ice and

get ready for the season ahead.

Another update that I need to make currently is to look at what is happening with Team King this season. As many of you know who follow the King team - Jayden King, the skip, has his curling origins in the Tillsonburg Curling Club where he learned his basics, but graduated to the more competitive atmosphere of the London Curling Club.

Over the summer in a change of status, Team King was asked to compete in the Road to the Rings Olympic Pre-Trials to be held in Wolfville, Nova Scotia. If they could win this event they would move on to the Olympic Trials - you never know, could be like a Team Gushue that surprises everyone! As I write this Team King has travelled with new lead Victor Pietrangelo to Edmonton, Alberta to compete in Curling Canada's U25 NextGen Classic. Following this event all of the team members are also competing with their partners in the Mixed Doubles Competition in Edmonton.

Also coming this fall, right away in September, Team King has been invited to

participate as a local team in Tier 2 of the Grand Slam of Curling Masters to be held in London, Ontario, September 23-28. The Tier 2 event will be played in St. Thomas, and the team would love to have your support. I will update info when I have it.

One further note, Jayden has been planning a Curling Tour event to be held in the club in November that is attracting interest from out of province and international teams.

The Broken Broom Tobacco Belt Cash Spiel will be held November 7-9, stay tuned to see how you can watch games or help out during the event.

The year ahead in the club has lots to offer from bonspiels to euchre nights, special nights and lots of plans for the different leagues. Stay tuned, I will make sure I keep you up to date! The initial bonspiel of the season is the Mixed Classic happening on Saturday, November 22 with two great sponsors, prizes, food and entertainment - register on-line at tillsonburgcurlingclub.com and mark the date on your calendar!

Curling Rocks!!

Registration for Club Oxford is open

Tillsonburg's Club Oxford Hockey League will be starting up soon as it enters its 43rd year of operation.

The league is for players 19 years-old and up. The "Rookie Skate" for new players will be held on Sunday, Sept. 28, and teams will

be drafted on Wednesday, Oct. 1st. Regular-season play begins on Sunday, Oct. 5th.

Application forms are available at Tillsonburg's Source for Sports. More information can be found on the Club Oxford website <https://www.cluboxfordhockey.ca>

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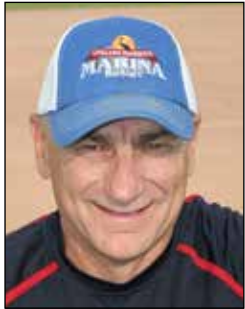
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Foldens Machine Works reaches first 'A' final



EYE ON SLO- PITCH

DAVE WEAVER

Post Columnist

It's a great time of year as we are heavily into the playoffs in both Tillsonburg Slo-Pitch Leagues and the NFL and OHL seasons are just around the corner!

Rain on Thursday put a damper on a portion of the Men's playoff schedule.

LADIES A PLAYOFFS

Foldens Machine Works reached the A Division Final for the first time in their history! They came back from a 2-1 series deficit against Simmonds Mortgages edging them out by one in the fifth and deciding game on Wednesday night.

They will face the first-place Jays who were pushed to a fifth and deciding by an upstart Trillium Court squad.

Foldens Machine Works 12, Simmonds Mortgages 9

Semifinal - Game 4

Foldens: Mel Redecop 3-3 HR, Mandi Vickers 3-4

Simmonds: Tracey Carruthers 4-4, Amanda Stubbs 3-4

Game Synopsis: The first two innings were played in a driving rain. The teams were tied at nine in the sixth - a one-out double by Sandy Dekeyser started a Foldens rally, then Kim Gillis hit a double in the gap followed by a Mel Redecop homer.

Mandi Vickers made back-to-back catches to end the game in the seventh.

Foldens Machine Works 18, Simmonds Mortgages 17

Semifinal - Game 5

Foldens: Mackenzie Brackenbury 4-4, Andrea Deblaire 4-5

Simmonds: Rachel Boyd 4-4, Tracey Carruthers 5-5

Game Synopsis: This game went back and forth. All the excitement took place in the seventh when Foldens scored four in the top of the inning, then Simmonds

(down six) put five across coming up one run shy.

Andrea Deblaire led the winners with a triple and double and Jenn Dahl drove in the eventual game-winning run. Kim Gillis and Sandy Dekeyser had solid games defensively for the winners.

Rachel Boyd had a pair of doubles, a triple and a single for Simmonds.

Trillium Court 12, Jays 4

Semifinal - Game 4

Trillium: Ashley Gee 4-4, Michaela Wilford 4-4

Jays: Mayra Baelde 2-3, Sara Dyck 2-3

Game Synopsis: Trillium got off to quick start plating five. They scored three in consecutive innings to earn the lopsided victory. Michaela Wilford scored three runs for the winners.

Jays 15, Trillium Court 3

Semifinal - Game 5

Jays: Mayra Baelde 3-3, Heidi Teichroeb 3-3, Maddi Obar HR

Trillium: Forrestt Ashley 2-2, Katy Wilkinson 2-3

Game Synopsis: The game was close for the first three. Jays scored 10 over two consecutive innings to put the series away. Sara Dyck and Mayra Baelde each scored three runs for the winners.

LADIES B PLAYOFFS

The Wildcats eliminated George's Auto on the Monday night with a convincing nine-run victory. They will now face Kyle Nesbitt Trucking in the best-of-five final.

Wildcats 17, George's Auto 8

Semifinal - Game 4

Wildcats: Bridgette Homenuik 4-4, Kyla Long 3-4

George's: Kristen McDowell 4-4, Leigh-Anne Mauthe 4-4

Game Synopsis: Wildcats scored nine runs late to break up a close game. Ashley Anderson and Christine Phillips each scored three runs for the winners.

MEN'S A PLAYOFFS

The A series got underway with Leeswood Construction Dirty Mitts and Legend Rubber Cobra Chickens splitting the first two.

The Mill upset first place 1, 2 Seal Insulation Hawks in their opener with the savvy, veteran Mill squad winning in a high scoring affair.

The Mill 31, 1,2 Seal Insulation Hawks 23

Semifinal - Game 1

The Mill: Ryan Black 5-5 HR, Darren Pace 3-4, Jeremy Roy HR, Josh Stubbs HR, Bryan Deblaire HR

Hawks: Peter Epp 4-5 2HR, Evan Bueckert 3-5, Jesse Hiebert HR, Cam Bueckert HR, Johnny Klassen HR, Daniel Klassen 2HR

Game Synopsis: Lots of hard hits in this one. Hawks out-homered The Mill, but The Mill put 14 runs on the board in their seventh. Ryan Black led their attack with three doubles, a homer, and four runs scored on the night.

Legend Rubber Cobra Chickens 22, Leeswood Construction Dirty Mitts 8

Semifinal - Game 1

Legend: Jared Froese 5-5 HR, Ethan Froese 5-5 HR, Jesse Froese HR, Matthew Reimer HR, Marcus Enns HR, Marcus Peters HR, Caleb Reimer HR

Leeswood: Alex Penders 3-4 HR, Tim Townsend 3-4

Game Synopsis: Cobra Chickens won this one with the long ball hitting seven to Leeswood's one. Ethan Froese was a double shy of hitting for the cycle.

Leeswood Construction Dirty Mitts 18, Legend Rubber Cobra Chickens 3

Semifinal - Game 2

Leeswood: Jarrett Anderson 4-4, Trevor Stuyt 4-4 2HR, Tim Townsend HR

Legend: Wyatt Blatz 2-3, Marcus Peters 2-3

Game Synopsis: Leeswood scored runs in every inning but the fourth. Trevor Stuyt homered twice and scored in all four plate appearances.

MEN'S B PLAYOFFS

The only semifinal underway last week was first-place Bayham Construction Lumberjacks taking on fourth-place At My Playground/IQT Logistics.

A.M.P. put the first win on the board winning by four.

The start of the second-place Pelicans versus the third-place Underhill Farm Supply series was rained out Thursday night.

At My Playground/IQT Logistics 23, Bayham Construction Lumberjacks 19

Semifinal - Game 1

AMP: Riley Balazs 5-5, Keenan Coderre 5-6, Brandon Balazs HR, Duncan McLean HR, Travis Lamb HR

Bayham: Jake Sawatsky 5-5 HR, Adam Klassen 4-5

Game Synopsis: A.M.P. trailed until the sixth when they scored five. Travis Lamb hit a two-run homer in the rally. They added three more insurance runs in their final at-bat. Duncan McLean was a double shy of hitting for the cycle.

MEN'S C PLAYOFFS

The Tailgators and Sticky Bandits got underway with a double-header on Thursday night. The Bandits swept the night putting Tailgators on the ropes.

The other semifinal between first-place and seventh-place J/E Bearing will begin next week.

Sticky Bandits 23, Tailgators 10

Semifinal - Game 1

Bandits: Ivan Enns 5-5, Conner Friesen 5-5

Tailgators: Prabhjot Singh 3-3, Kevin Hmeil 3-3

Game Synopsis: Bandits scored nine in a bat-around seventh to put the game away. Leadoff batter Bowen Thiessen reached and scored five times.

Sticky Bandits 18, Tailgators 3

Semifinal - Game 2

Bandits: Ivan Enns 4-4, Nicky Knelsen 3-3

Tailgators: Ethan Diechert 2-2, Jarryd Roest 2-2

Game Synopsis: Everyone in the Bandits' order scored at least one run. The top two in the order - Bowen Thiessen and Austin Redecop - each scored three runs.

MEN'S CONSOLATION

C.R. Custom Engraving Smokin Bases won two straight in their best-of-three series with R.L.P. Melanie Luksys to take the title.

CR Custom Engraving Smokin Bases 15, RLP Melanie Luksys 11

Final - Game 3

CR Custom Engraving: Ryan Scott 3-4 Matty Galan 3-4

RLP Luksys: Trent Lamb 4-4, Braeden Redling 4-4

Game Synopsis: A four-run fifth keyed C.R.'s win.

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St. Charles church shuts its doors

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

The oldest church in the Tillsonburg area closed its doors earlier this year.

St. Charles Anglican Church, a place of worship on Ostrander Road between Ostrander and Springford, was built in 1844. Although renovations have taken place and it has been bricked, the building is original to the time pre-Confederation and dates before any places of worship were built in Tillsonburg.

Rev. Thomas Green was the first Anglican minister to visit the area in February 1837. St. Charles was established after the Hon. Rt. Rev. Charles Stewart established the base for his travelling mission in Simcoe. He covered the counties of Norfolk, Oxford, and Elgin, establishing 14 missions. Congregations in Burford and Dereham wanted their own ministers in their own churches. In 1837, before returning to England, Stewart sent plans for building a church in Dereham to John Burn.

Burn held services in his home, and later he and neighbour John Wardle both donated two acres of land for the site of the new church and cemetery.

When Bishop John Strachan of Toronto held a consecration service for the church a year after its opening, it was dedicated to the memory of Stewart, who became the Bishop of Quebec before returning to England, where he died.

Originally a frame structure, one of the renovations saw the change to the current brick on the exterior of the building. Other renovations saw the church enlarged and the original boxed-in pews removed.

Fast-forward to 1989, and St. Charles was deemed a “chapel of ease.” This meant there were no regular services, but services were held on Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Then, with only five families remaining – the Monks, Eckers, Milmines, Pettmans, and Fletchers – the difficult decision was made to deconsecrate the church earlier this year.

“Technically, we can’t call it a church as far as the Diocese of Huron (of the Anglican Church of Canada) is concerned,” said

Jeff Monk, the last warden of the church and a distant relative of John Burn. “If you go back far enough, my ancestors donated the land half of it was built on.”

Jeff explained, “It got to a point where basically we didn’t have the attendance to maintain it any more as an ongoing church.”

“We were all getting older and running out of energy to keep it up,” his wife Diane added.

Today, the building is in good shape for its age, but upkeep meant cutting the grass around the church and cemetery. There is no indoor plumbing in the church, and propane heating is an update from the oil stove in the front of the church when Jeff was young, and the wood stove in the back that predated that. The stained-glass windows aren’t the inlaid ones like in many churches in town, but are just coloured glass on the top with shaded panes on the bottom.

“Very little has changed in the last 100 years,” Jeff said.

In addition, a huge jump in the cost of insurance – from \$300 to \$3,000 – put maintaining the church beyond the offerings of the remaining families.

“If you saw some new people coming in, it would be different,” Diane remarked.

The Monks now attend St. John’s Anglican in Tillsonburg, which St. Charles was affiliated with. They say members there were supportive of St. Charles and sad about the closure.

Amongst the memorabilia still in the church was the original letter written by Stewart in the 1830s. Diane noted it was rare, if not unique, for a church to be named after someone who wasn’t actually a saint.

“He wasn’t a saint, but they decided to call it St. Charles after him,” she said.

As far as they know, this is the only church named St. Charles in existence. The letter from Stewart has been removed from the church for safekeeping.

The building will now be offered for sale by the Anglican Church of Canada. A Spanish church has been renting it, and although not involved in the discussions, the Monks said this might be one of two groups interested in purchasing it.



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

St. Charles Anglican Church on Ostrander Road is the oldest church in Tillsonburg and area. The church was closed earlier this year due to declining enrolment and increasing insurance costs.

“We are in the process of finding out what’s involved in that from the diocese,” Jeff said.

The cemetery contains stones dating back to the 1830s, with some of the original families such as Kellett, Burn, Ostrander, and Fewster. Jeff wasn’t sure of the future of the cemetery, hoping it would go with the church if it’s sold.

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Who says that Canadian politics are boring?



JEFF HELSDON

Editor

It amazes me how many Canadians have a fascination with American politics, but totally ignore the domestic situation.

Not too many conversations take place today that don't somehow include the current American president. While there is no doubt the present situation south of the border is unprecedented, the fact more Canadians talk about the president than the prime minister is nothing new.

Did anyone see the news recently about former Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and pop star Katy Perry? It didn't surprise me – let me explain.

I met Trudeau years ago when I worked for the Tillsonburg News, he was a MP and made an appearance for an Elgin County Liberal candidate. I remember phoning a friend who was into politics and telling her that one day he would be prime minister, and to be

clear that's not because I was impressed but just a gut feeling. My prediction was ballyhooed. This was the start of my insight into Trudeau.

Next was during the Covid-19 pandemic. After the start of this event, Trudeau discussed invoking the Emergencies Act with the premiers during a meeting. This legislation allows the federal government to declare a national emergency and to take temporary measures to address a situation. The premiers shot down the suggestion and things moved on. Then, as we all know, the Emergencies Act was invoked to clear truckers out of downtown Ottawa.

An interesting fact that will tie this all together: since the Second World War, only two prime ministers have invoked the War Measures Act or the succeeding Emergencies Act – and both had the last name Trudeau. This is not to debate the circumstances of the FLQ Crisis or the trucker situation, but 10 prime ministers, both Liberal and Conservative, have guided the country through the Korean War, Afghanistan, 9/11, the Cold War, the Suez Crisis and the financial crisis of 2008 without implementing the act.

After Trudeau was defeated, he was out of mind until the headlines broke about Katy Perry. I was a little thrown back, but

then started to think about it and it really wasn't surprising.

I don't have some special powers to foresee the future, but Trudeau's actions are very much tied to the past. Justin is following in his father's footsteps each time – being prime minister, declaring the Emergencies Act and dating celebrities. Pierre dated Barbara Streisand, Kim Cattrall and Liona Boyd, amongst others.

The whole point of writing this is as much to share not what I saw, but what so many didn't see. I am not talking about Justin's love life, but the numerous scandals Canadian voters didn't hold him to account for.

The WE Charity scandal comes first to mind. The Liberals didn't escape totally from the scandal, but Justin did. Former Liberal Finance Minister Bill Morneau fell on the sword and resigned. The WE Charity paid the price and ceased to operate in Canada. Yet Trudeau, whose mother, brother and wife received payments from WE, continued in office unscathed.

Were Canadians paying more attention to Donald Trump's first term than to what was happening at home? It looked like it.

I'll leave this with a reminder that Pierre made a political comeback after he was initially defeated in the 1979.

More than 24 odour complaints spur action



(CHRIS ABBOTT PHOTO)

The Tillsonburg Wastewater Treatment Plant provides wastewater treatment for residential, commercial, industrial and institutional users in the Town of Tillsonburg.

BRIAN WILLIAMS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Oxford County is taking action to address odours from a wastewater treatment plant in Tillsonburg after receiving more than two dozen complaints.

Don Ford, Oxford County's manager of water and wastewater services, said staff are working to minimize the foul smells from the plant.

Staff have "looked at ways to optimize" how the plant works to reduce odours, such as increasing the frequency of screenings – a process that separates larger objects and debris from wastewater flow – from bi-weekly to weekly, he said.

The wastewater treatment facility is located in a low-lying area in Tillsonburg's south end. Ford said he's heard from county staff of at least 26 complaints from residents since May about the smell from the plant, among

nine such facilities in Oxford County.

"These odours are nuisances, and we don't want to impact the enjoyment of our neighbours' property, so that, too, is important to us, as well as the fact that the plant is working effectively," he said.

The odours from the plant have been made worse by warmer temperatures, Ford said, adding the smells have been released through exhaust from a new rooftop HVAC system. The plant, however, was operating reliably and there were no safety issues.

A statement posted to Oxford County's Facebook page indicated it was refreshing the facility's biofilter and reviewing its treatment process. Staff were also seeking funding approval from Oxford County politicians to "add new odour abatement equipment to eliminate odours," the statement said.

Ford said he believes the

odours from the plant would be eliminated once new equipment is installed, which could be "very early in the new year." He noted that operational efforts and cooler temperatures would ease the problem in the meantime.

The first phase of a \$12-million upgrade at the facility was completed at the end of 2024 and into the beginning of 2025. It will help prepare the facility for additional capacity and prepare the expanding municipality for future growth, Ford said. He didn't indicate when the second phase was taking place.

Wastewater treatment facilities are critical in supporting the growth of municipalities.

Tillsonburg was cited in January as one of the fastest-growing populations among smaller urban centres in Southwestern Ontario.

The Local Journalism Initiative is funded by the Government of Canada.

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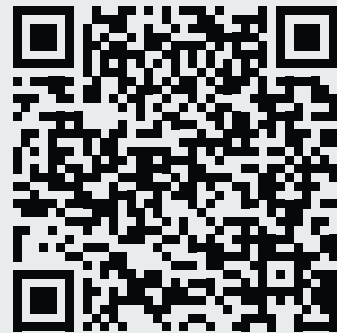
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CEDARVIEW

MUSIC CORNER

Unforgettable behind-the-scenes music tales Alan Cross brings the 'Ongoing History of New Music' to Tillsonburg



BEN ADDRESS

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

For more than 40 years Alan Cross has been one of Canada's most trusted voices in music.

As the long-time host of The Ongoing History of New Music, Cross has introduced generations of listeners to the rise and fall of genres, the backstories of rock icons and the different ways music culture continues to evolve.

Alan's radio career began in 1980 at the University of Winnipeg's campus station CKUW-FM, and over the years he has grown into an internationally recognized journalist, podcaster and author establishing himself as a fixture in Canadian music history.

On Saturday, Sept. 6, Cross will step away from the airwaves and into Paddy's Underground in Tillsonburg for an intimate speaking event. Local fans will get the chance to hear firsthand stories of his encounters with rock legends, along with insights into where the music industry may be heading next.

Cross, who grew up in small-town Stonewall, Manitoba, has always understood how deeply music connects with local culture whether in big cities or communities like Tillsonburg.

"Wherever you go, someone is making music,

whether it's as a hobby, a full or part-time vocation, or a way of finding your way into the wider world. I've never visited a town or city that doesn't have some kind of music scene, even if it's just some kids making noise in a basement," says Cross. "Small towns - and I'm from one in Manitoba - all have people making music with enthusiasm. It's the essential part of local culture. If there's live music happening, it's proof that the culture is alive. As for specific towns, my attitude is 'Whatcha got?' Lemme know."

That passion for local music traces back to his own discovery of radio as a child, which was an experience he calls transformative.

"I grew up listening to the radio from age six. Until I got my own transistor radio, I had no knowledge of music other than what my parents played on the kitchen radio

or in the car," Cross reminisces. "When I got that little radio, I suddenly realized that there was a whole universe of music, information, and entertainment out there. It was completely transformative. Had it not been for that birthday present so many years ago, I wouldn't be typing this to you."

Today, in a world dominated by streaming and algorithms, Cross sees smaller towns playing a surprisingly important role in preserving the authenticity of music culture.

"People loved streaming in the beginning because it offered unlimited access to an unlimited number of songs for a price approaching free. That cheapened the musical experience because no one needed to make a financial stake in their music library," Cross explains.

"Now, though, I sense a growing weariness with algorithms. People want

authenticity above all and there are plenty of small-town musicians who embody that. And because it's so easy to distribute your music globally today, small-town acts have a chance at being heard around the world."

Fans attending his Tillsonburg appearance can also expect to hear some unforgettable behind-the-scenes tales from his time interviewing music's biggest names as well as his thoughts on the current state and future of the music industry.

"I've been lucky to have many wonderful and strange encounters with rock stars. Paul and Ringo, Ozzy, Springsteen, U2, Bowie, Metallica - the list goes on. I also have some new insights on what the future may hold for music."

With a career spent exploring the stories that shape rock and roll Alan

Cross has a knack for making music history feel personal, relevant and alive. His Tillsonburg event promises to be no exception with educational insight, exciting stories and the opportunity to ask questions during an audience Q&A session.

Alan Cross speaks live at Paddy's Underground on Saturday, Sept. 6th. Doors open at 8 p.m. for this all-ages/licensed event. Tickets are available for \$25 in advance on Eventbrite.ca and night of the event for \$30 at the door. You can also tune in locally to London's FM96 at 95.9 MHz on the radio dial or stream online at www.fm96.com every Sunday at 9 p.m. to hear The Ongoing History of New Music with Alan Cross. You can also follow Alan Cross at his official website www.ajournalofmusicalthings.com for upcoming tour dates, blog posts and podcast archives.

UPCOMING SHOWS

SEPT. 4 - JEREMY PORTER & TREVOR KOSTYRIA
Paddy's Underground
\$10 - 8 p.m. - All ages/licensed

SEPT. 6 - FM96 PRESENTS ALAN CROSS
Paddy's Underground
\$25 - 8 p.m. - All Ages/Licensed

SEPT. 10 - SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER FOR AMY & ERIC
The Copper Mug - 4:30 p.m.

SEPT. 13 - THE MCBAINS, THE SLIMETONES & WHINE PROBLEM
Paddy's Underground
\$15 - 8 p.m. - All Ages/Licensed

SEPT. 13 - KARAOKE NIGHT
The Copper Mug
No Cover - 8:30 p.m.

SEPT. 17 - EUCHRE NIGHT
The Copper Mug - 6 p.m.

SEPT. 20 - COMEDY NIGHT W/ JIMMY ENGLAND, DAN BRENNAN, KAITLIN SHUVERA & KEVIN ELLIOT
Tillsonburg Legion #153
\$10 - 8 p.m.



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'Dance for a Difference' at ZumbaThon for Hope

ALEX HUNT

Post Correspondent

Every step, clap and dance move at ZumbaThon for Hope 2.0 will go toward helping children in Tanzania.

The Tumaini Children's Foundation's second ZumbaThon fundraiser on Sept. 7 will run from 1-3:30 p.m. at Final Touch Women's Fitness, 10 Park Road, Simcoe.

The ZumbaThon is \$25 per person, and there will be a market table and refreshments that people can additionally purchase, with all proceeds donated to raise funds for children that are supported in Tanzania.

Leslie Butler, executive director at Tumaini Children's Foundation, says attendees can expect to have an afternoon of fun, and meaningful exercise under the leadership of Claudine Grant of Tillsonburg and a Zumba instructor team. Also, the feeling that they have helped a child in need with their donations by giving them hope.

"We want the event to be outside and hope that more people will attend," said Butler. "Through the donations we receive, people support a home for the children who are in need of housing. We make sure they have education and healthy food as well as access to healthcare.

"We are targeting our food budget for support. Our team on the ground in Tanzania are the only paid Tumaini staff as the organization in Canada is run by volunteerism, and

right now, they are harvesting our first ever crop of corn," said Butler. "We are working towards sustainability; the money will go to our food budget for the next month. It costs about \$5 a day to feed a child and when people bring their \$25 for the event, they will be feeding a child for five days."

Founded in 2009 by the late Cherie Tiffin-Szucs, Tumaini Children's Foundation is a not-for-profit charity supporting orphaned and vulnerable children in and around Usa River in Tanzania.

The organization provides a home, education, food and health care for children and youth in its care. Volunteers also support many others in their own homes, helping cover school costs, meals and medical needs so they can remain with their families.

Butler hopes people support the ZumbaThon and have a great time.

"I hope that by supporting others they can feel hope for the future of our world and as well as for the children, especially those we serve in Tanzania."

Some generous donors have provided fantastic prizes for attendees to win at the fundraiser, said Butler. There will also be a penny table raffle, along with some early bird draw prizes.

Tickets can be purchased by e-transfer to donate@tumainimeanshope.org or at the door. For more information, visit tumainimeanshope.org or contact info@tumainimeanshope.org.

Renaming the Oxford-Broadway Parkette



(CHRIS ABBOTT PHOTO)

The Town is seeking feedback on a proposal to rename the Oxford-Broadway Parkette to the Tillson Family Parkette in celebration of the Town's founding.

The Town of Tillsonburg is seeking public feedback on a proposal to rename the Oxford-Broadway Parkette to the Tillson Family Parkette in celebration of the Town's founding.

Comments will be accepted during a

30-day consultation period ending Sept. 29. Feedback can be submitted by email to clerks@tillsonburg.ca.

All comments received will be summarized in a report to Council before a final decision is made.

tillsonburgpost.com

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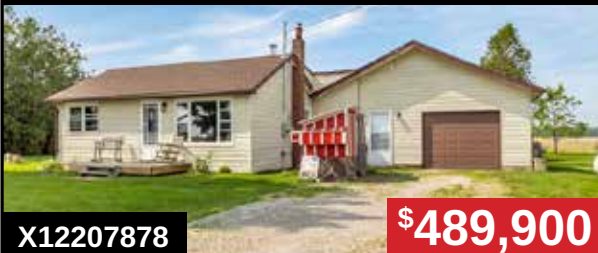
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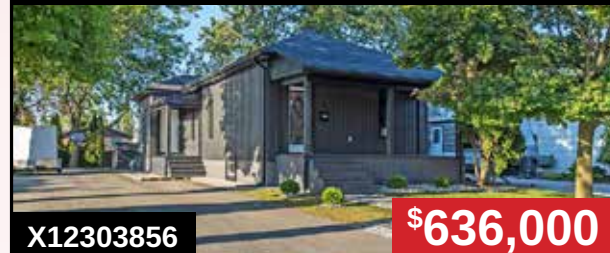
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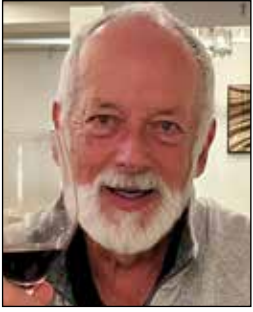
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Malaga celebrates Picasso, its native son



**OH,
THE
PLACES
WE'LL
GO!**

PAUL KNOWLES

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

There are plenty of reasons to visit the historic Spanish city of Malaga: a beautiful cathedral, extensive Roman ruins, a glorious view of the Mediterranean among them.

But the truth is, everywhere you go, there is an overriding presence... this was the birthplace of iconoclast painter Pablo Picasso. And although he only lived here for the first 10 years of his life, Malaga has claimed Picasso as its own.

The truth is, almost no one is blasé about Picasso's work. Either people admire it greatly, or they think it is ridiculous. This is not a man who painted lovely pastoral scenes or photographically correct still lifes. Picasso is credited as a co-founder of the Cubist movement. Cubist art involves the deconstruction and re-assembling of the subject of the painting, to dramatic and often unrecognizable effect.

It can probably be argued that all of "modern art" owns much of its origins to Pablo Picasso. On a recent visit to the Gardiner Museum in Toronto, which features ceramic art, I was intrigued to spot a wildly painted plate amidst much more conventional designs – and yes, it was an original creation of Pablo Picasso.

But back to Malaga. And please don't misunderstand me – there really is much more to this ancient city than a ground-breaking

painter. Malaga is, in fact, one of the oldest continually inhabited cities in western Europe, first founded by the Phoenicians around 770 BC. The Roman amphitheatre here is amazing – with its intact steps, tiers of stone seats, and flag-stone stage, it seems more like a contemporary performance space than a ruin that dates back almost two millennia. On the hillside above the Roman theatre is the Alcazaba, a citadel from the time of the Moors, in the 11th century.

And then there is the lavish Cathedral of Malaga, one of several important historic churches in the city. It took about 250 years to complete the cathedral, a project that started in 1528!

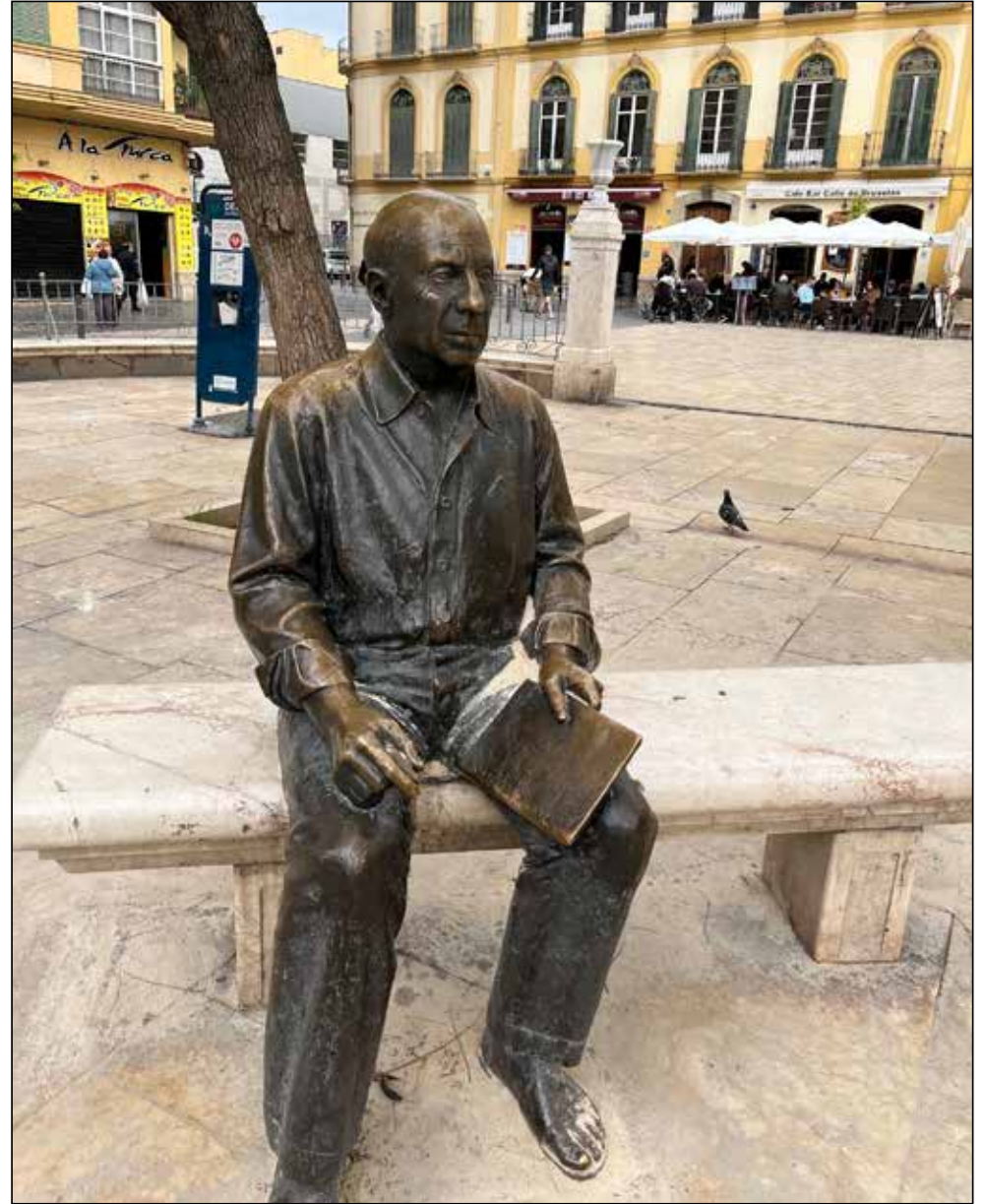
So yes, history goes very deep here.

But inescapable in the heart of all of this is the reality that one of the most renowned, revered, disliked, adored, controversial artists of the modern period spent the first decade of his life here.

The historic sites throughout Malaga certainly gain their share of attention from avid photographers, but I suspect the most photographed scene in the city – and certainly the busiest selfie spot – is the life-sized bronze sculpture of Pablo Picasso, seated on a marble bench that is clearly intended to invite visitors to join the artist on the bench. And in the background, is his birthplace.

Malaga is also home to the Picasso Museum. Well, one of many Picasso museums – there are certainly similarly named galleries in Paris, in Barcelona, in Antibes, and any art gallery worth its salt has a collection of Picassos. Fortunately, he was a prolific producer of pieces of art.

But while his work has spread far and wide, the Malaga museum has managed to garner a good collection, and the guided tours offer a lot of insight into Picasso's work, and the philosophies behind his complicated images.



A bronze Pablo Picasso, with his birthplace in the background.

(DAVID HOU PHOTO)

Our guide there was genuinely honest, explaining that while there are lots of theories about the development of Picasso's styles – including the fact that he was dyslexic – there is much that is merely conjecture.

One example I enjoyed involves a painting labelled "Seated Woman". Before she revealed the name of the piece, she asked us our opinion about the subject of the work. I boldly suggested it was a self-portrait by Picasso, basing my uneducated guess on the sweater and beret the subject appeared to be wearing, similar to clothing I had seen on photos of Picasso.

The guide then told us the title – which seemed to discount my guess. But she admitted that Picasso's paintings typically don't have titles given by the artist – "Seated Woman" was the opinion of an expert, but the guide admitted she actually agreed with my very non-expert guess.

As we toured the museum with a small group, I was interested to see that about half of the visitors rushed through, barely glancing at paintings they clearly did not appreciate. The other half (maybe a smaller percentage?) soaked up every bit of infor-

mation they could get, and lingered over individual paintings.

And it was intriguing. Our guide pointed out that in some paintings, Picasso had intended the normally impossible task of presenting his subject from all sides at once; thus, the Cubist reconstruction.

She also noted the overt sexualization in some of his work – his women tend to have large circles portraying oversized breasts, for example.

Enough art studies for today: I simply found that Malaga's obvious pride in their native son was very appealing, and I was glad to benefit from their work to celebrate Picasso.

And then, as we took in the harbour view from atop the hills, I noticed two young girls below us, attempting to create their own art – purse-lipped selfies on smart phones. The results won't be Cubist – but they won't truly reflect reality, either.

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.



(DAVID HOU PHOTO)

Malaga's first-century Roman amphitheatre.



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LET'S FALL INTO COUNTRY MUSIC WITH THE INGERSOLL COUNTRY MUSIC JAMBOREE

at the Masonic Hall, 190 Thames St., Ingersoll, 1-4 p.m. every other Friday. September 5 & 19, October 3, 17 & 31, November 14 & 28, and December 5.

Join us. Walk ins welcome. Qualifications, love 50-70's country music, perform, listen, dance, and enjoy.

MESSY CHURCH

September 6: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
St.Pauls United Church

88 Bidwell St.Tillsonburg

We're off to a good start.(help celebrate our 8th year with a birthday party.) Snacks crafts,games & music.Lunch to follow. Children accompanied by an adult please.

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.

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 - 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, Sept 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. Hope to see you on Sept 8th at the Ingersoll Pipe Band Hall!

DELHI & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Meeting Monday September 8: 7:30 p.m. at the Delhi Friendship Centre, 418 Queen St. Delhi.

GUEST SPEAKER - Dave Rusnak
TOPIC: Delhi Photos & Historic Trip

All welcome to join us. Enter at the parking lot off William Street.

TILLSONBURG LEGION LUNCH

Wednesday, September 10: Serving noon to 1 p.m.

Includes homemade soups and sandwiches, dessert, tea, and coffee. \$15 per person tax included. All welcome! For more information call 519-842-5281.

KEN LIGHTHEART AND THE NORTSHORE RAMBLERS JAM at the Tillsonburg Legion

Friday, September 12: 1-4 p.m.

\$7 admission at the door. All Welcome!

CANADIAN HARVARD AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION OPEN HOUSE & FLY DAYS

September 13 – Wings & Wheels

9-4 p.m.

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.

TILLSONBURG LEGION GOLF TOURNAMENT

on Saturday September 13

at Tillsonview Golf Course.

Meal and 18 holes of golf for \$70.00 per person. Tee times available at the Legion. For more info call 519-842-5281.

TILLSONBURG FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION IS HOSTING ANNUAL STEAK BBQ FUNDRAISER

Saturday September 13

Meal is served from 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

45 Hardy Ave, Tillsonburg

Lions Auditorium

\$30.00 per person
Children under 12- Free Hotdogs
Tickets Available through one of the local Firefighters or email dvan.occ@gmail.com

TILLSONBURG TERRY FOX RUN

Sunday, September 14

Tillsonburg Soccer Club,

275 Quarterline Rd. Tillsonburg

Registration: 9:30 a.m. Opening

Ceremonies: 10 a.m.

Everyone welcome

CELEBRATION OF ST. JOHN'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

Sunday, September 14

Please join us for our Sunday Morning

Service at 10:30 a.m.

St. John's Anglican Church,

46 Ridout Street West, Tillsonburg, Ontario

Celebrated by The Bishop of Huron: The Right Rev'd. Robert Todd Townshend, Th.D. There will also be soloists and other instrumentalists during the service. Followed by the dedication of our new church outdoor sign, blessed by the Bishop Todd. Followed by an authentic Ukrainian Lunch, a fundraiser for Alongside Hope's project in the Ukraine (Free will offering). This is an experience you won't want to miss, with our Chef Rudy working his magic with food again.

TILLSONBURG SENIOR CENTRE IS HOSTING A FOOD TASTING EVENT

Monday, September 15: 1 p.m.

In the main auditorium at the senior centre (45 Hardy Avenue)

Featuring samples of unique and delicious dishes from more than 10 local eateries and restaurants. For info and to sign up call 519-688-2520.

FREE SENIOR DIGITAL LITERACY CLASSES

Encompassing Facebook, Zoom, Google Maps, YouTube, and Microsoft Suite.

Classes are:

Wed, Sept. 17 @ Tillsonburg Legion 10

a.m. – Noon

Wed, Sept. 24 @ Multi-Service Centre 10

a.m. – Noon.

Call 519-842-9000 x.266 to register.

TILLSONBURG LEGION COMEDY NIGHT

Saturday, September 20: 8 p.m.

Featuring Jimmy England. Advance Tickets \$20 or tillcomeventbrite.ca. All Welcome!

ANNUAL CANADIAN DECOY & OUTDOOR COLLECTIBLE ASSOCIATION SHOW & SALE

September 20: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Backus Heritage Conservation Area –

Indoors at the Education Centre.

1267 2nd Con. Rd. RR#1 Port Rowan

Admission: \$5.00

Available to Purchase: Antique & decorative

decoys; fishing tackle; wildlife art; paddles;

trapping items; carvings, etc.

MT ELGIN UNITED CHURCH IS HOSTING A REBA MCINTYRE, SHANIA TWAIN, GARTH BROOKS - TRIBUTE SHOW

at Mount Elgin Community Centre

Sunday, September 21: 2-4 p.m..

Come out relax and enjoy some great music. Tickets are \$30.00 and may be purchased by

calling Dawne 519-421-6836 or Joanne 519-485-1988.

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 DO-OVERS BAND FROM LONDON IS AT THE TILLSONBURG LEGION

on Saturday October 4: 8 p.m. -12 a.m.

Come dance to all your favourite country and rock hits. Check them out at www.doovers.ca. Advance Tickets \$15. All Welcome!

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY CIRCUIT BOOK FAIR

October 25: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Church of the Epiphany, 560 Dundas Street, Woodstock Ontario N4S 1C7

Free Admission & Parking

Stop in and buy some stamps and meet fellow stamp collectors. About 8 participating stamp clubs.

Contact: Don Eaton dhfe@silomail.com

Website: http://www.rpsc.org/chapters/oxford

CHRISTMAS WITH COMMUNITY LIVING

Friday, December 5 – Free will donation.

St. John's Anglican Church, 46 Ridout Street West, Tillsonburg, Ontario
Join us, with our friends from Community Living, to start the Christmas season off with Christmas music and a good old Carol Sing. Christmas treats for all.

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.

TILLSONBURG LIONS

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

COMING EVENTS

OXFORD GRIEF CARE:

FREE Monthly Grief Support Group

Register at: 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: 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

INGERSOLL

WHEN: 4th Tuesday of every month

WHERE: Ingersoll Public Library 130 Oxford St., Ingersoll

TIME: 10:30 a.m. - 12 Noon

WOODSTOCK

WHEN: 3rd Saturday of every month

WHERE: Sakura House Hospice 715180 Oxford Rd.4, Woodstock

TIME: 10:30 a.m. - 12 Noon

MEMBERS GENERAL MEETING

1st Wednesday of every month

Starting at 7 pm

Not a member contact us to join

The Wagner Memorial Teeterville Legion Branch 526. 3890 Teeterville Road, Teeterville, Ontario. For More Information Call, the Legion 519-443-5588

<https://www.teetervillelegionbranch526.ca>

WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT ONE OF OUR EVENTS? WE WELCOME YOU!

The Wagner Memorial, Teeterville Legion Branch 526 3890 Teeterville Road, Teeterville, Ontario

You do not need to be a member to Volunteer, Just contact the legion and leave your name and number and purpose of your call. Someone will get back to you as to where you might be needed. Students and Adults welcome. Open hours. Wed.-Fri. 3 pm-10 pm, Sat.1 pm-10 pm, Sun.1 pm-6 pm. For More Information call, the Legion at 519-443-5588 or teetervillelegionbranch526.ca

WEEKLY CRUISE NIGHTS

Hosted by the Tillsonburg Cruisers at the Tim Hortons/Wendys

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy vehicles of all makes and years.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday (2-4 p.m.) and 4th Tuesday (7-9 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>

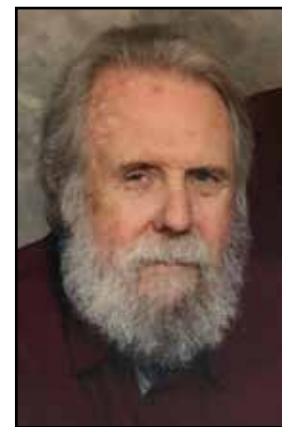
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OBITUARY

RICHARD "RICK" WALKER SAXBY (APRIL 15, 1942 - AUGUST 28, 2025)



Born in Hamilton, Ontario.

Rick passed peacefully in Bradford after a brief battle with cancer at the Bradford Valley Care Community. Rick is survived by his wife Cory who he first met when he was 16 years old. After 17 years apart they reconnected and married 101 days later. They were happily married for 45 years. He is also survived by his son Reid (Terri Lynn), daughter Kristen (Bruce), and son Michael and

grandchildren Amanda, Cameron, Cooper, Griffin, and Nick. along with many nieces, nephews and cousins. Also survived by his siblings David (Julie) and Suzanne. Rick was predeceased by his parents Roy (96) and Lil (91) Saxby.

Rick first worked in banking and then in the retail of fine men's clothing. He was honoured to retire in Tillsonburg early to care for his parents. He also volunteered in the St. Paul's United Church kitchen for 10 years. Rick was also an avid contract bridge player for many years.

Rick was family centered and was there to support family members whenever needed. Rick will be missed by all, particularly Cory.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Verhoeve Funeral Homes. Cremation has taken place as per Rick's wishes. A Celebration of Life for Rick will be held on Saturday, September 6th, 2025, in the Verhoeve Funeral Homes Chapel, 262 Broadway St., Tillsonburg, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. There will be no formal service - this will be an opportunity for family and friends to share memories. Friends, neighbours and relatives are invited to share personal condolences, favourite memories and photos, contribute memorial donations to "Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital" or send flowers, via Rick's online tribute page at www.verhoevefuneralhomes.com or by contacting the Maurice J. Verhoeve Funeral Homes-Burial and Cremation Services Inc. (519)842-4238.

The family extends their warmest appreciation to the PSW's who cared for Rick in Tillsonburg prior to his move to the Bradford Valley Care Community as well as the nurses and PSW's in that location.

tillsonburgpost.com

Missed an issue? View all past issues online anytime:
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ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Community Living Tillsonburg continued its 70th anniversary celebrations, hosting the Tillsonburg District Chamber of Commerce's Business After 5 for August. The evening gave local chamber members a chance to tour Community Living's facilities and learn about its programs. It was also an opportunity for recognition. (Top photo) Rose Couture, vice-president of Community Living's board of directors, left, and Cheryl Conick, Community Living CEO, accepted recognition scrolls from Oxford MPP Ernie Hardeman on behalf of Premier Doug Ford and himself. (Bottom photo) Tillsonburg Deputy Mayor Dave Beres presented a certificate of recognition on behalf of the mayor and council to Conick, left, and Couture.



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTOS)

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



Consider This: Many people choose to preplan their funeral at Verhoeve Funeral Homes.

Thinking about final wishes doesn't mean that a person's sad, depressed, or looking forward to death. Individuals preplan because they want to give their family and friends as much comfort as possible on that difficult, yet inevitable day. Whatever their reason may be, preplanning is a logical decision that a rapidly growing number of people make each day.

4 Key Benefits To Prearranging Your Final Wishes:

- Your wishes are known to your family
- Urgent Decisions Are Completed Now
- Your Peace of Mind
- Addressing Funeral Costs

Benefit 1 - Your family and friends are the most important parts of your life, but without your clearly expressed final wishes, it will be up to them to come together to try to reach a consensus during a difficult time. Flowers, music, readings, and other simple decisions now can create feelings of animosity and disunity. **Preplanning eliminates the guesswork** and lets your loved ones have peace as they focus on their own healing and remembrance.

Benefit 2 - Prearranging aims to take care of urgent decisions now and protect your family from unnecessary pain and expense. When that inevitable day arrives, **you want your loved ones to be focused on the truly important things – remembrance, family support, and healing** – not making arrangements and decisions about your funeral. Preplanning prevents them from having to make considerable financial and logistical choices while under emotional duress.

Benefit 3 - There is peace of mind that comes with knowing that you will say goodbye in a way that uniquely reflects you and your life. By prearranging your specific final wishes you ensure that your family will be guaranteed to have the service you would have wanted on that important day. **Your decisions can shape how your family and friends remember you** and can help their healing process with a personalized service that truly reflects your individuality and unique personality.

Benefit 4 - Preplanning and prefunding your funeral addresses funeral costs today and lessen the financial burden for your family down the road. Many people assume savings or life insurance will cover their final expenses. By funding your funeral in advance, **you lock in the price of your specific wishes at current prices**, avoiding rising costs caused by inflation. You can then enjoy the rest of your life confident in the financial relief you'll give to your loved ones. Furthermore, there is no risk to prefunding your funeral; all prefunded trust monies remain in trust for the purchaser until services are rendered. **These funds are also fully transferrable** to another funeral home, such as in the case your wishes change or you relocate.

In short, prearranging your funeral allows you to show your love in a way your family will never forget. By taking care of all the details yourself – and well in advance – your preplanned funeral will exemplify the selfless love and generosity you have shown your loved ones throughout your life. Nobody is eager to reach the day of their funeral, but taking control of that inevitable step and organizing your final wishes is simply the right thing to do for yourself and for your family. Completing the preplanning process will create a great sense of clarity, joy, and pride.

Getting started is easy. Turn to your local professional funeral directors at the Maurice J. Verhoeve Funeral Homes - Burial and Cremation Services Inc., Maurice or Robert would be pleased to talk or meet with you, without obligation, to answer any questions that you may have. The Verhoeve family has been serving the Langton and Tillsonburg communities since 1958, we are 100% family owned and operated with the goal of putting your family first.



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