

Tillsonburg POST

SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

VOLUME 1 • ISSUE 33

FREE



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Council turns down motion for new town hall build

JEFF HELSDON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A motion to build the town's new hall on vacant town-owned property at the corner of Brock and Harvey Streets was defeated by a narrow 4-3 margin.

Coun. Pete Luciani presented a motion at Monday night's council meeting calling on council to select what is known as the greyfield site, at the northeast corner of Brock and Harvey Streets, as the location for a new town hall. The motion also directed staff to proceed with the necessary steps to advance the project, including site remediation, hydro relocation, and detailed design and construction.

The issue has been dogging council the last year since a decision was made to proceed with tearing down the existing customer service centre at 10 Lisgar Ave and build a new structure there. Council then changed that decision, with a mandate construction wouldn't proceed until funds were accumulated from land sales to fund the building, while not having a firm direction on the location of the building. The availability of the former PeaveyMart building on Concession Street East was a possibility that was being investigated. Council discussed this in closed session the past two meetings, as is the custom on possible real estate transactions, with the latest report presented at Monday's meeting.

Speaking to his motion, Luciani started with an outline of the history of a new town hall, which has crossed multiple terms of council. It began with the council of the day appointing a town hall steering committee on April 13, 2015. Recommendations were presented to the next council, at which time the committee membership changed and a new mandate was given to choose the best option of staying in the mall, building at 10 Lisgar Ave, or on the greyfield site.

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BRIDGE REMOVAL

(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

More than half of the former Kinsmen Bridge from Wilson Ave to Rolph Street was removed last week as part of the reconstruction project, with cranes arriving on site at the beginning of the week. The new bridge will be an updated steel girder construction, and the existing cement supports will be incorporated into the design. It's expected the reconstruction will take until the end of the year.

Tillsonburg's The Beer Store property is listed for sale

JEFF HELSDON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Will Tillsonburg continue to have a The Beer Store location?

The answer to that question is pointing to the affirmative in the foreseeable future, but what has changed is the building at 114 Concession St. E. is for sale. With a price of \$1.45 million, the one-acre property includes the 6,500 square-foot building.

The ad states there is a lease until 2030, but "Good rent upside potential if/when the current tenant vacates. This site offers strong development potential down the road as there has been a few new multi-family apartment buildings constructed in the vicinity showing good demand. Good opportunity for a developer to have a cash-flowing property in their pipeline for future development."

Adam Dearborn, the listing agent with Re/Max Garden City Realty in St. Catharines, said it was listed in July.

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The future of Tillsonburg Beer Store isn't clear

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

"Just regular buying and selling properties," he said in a phone interview last week. "The lease is good until 2030 so there is no mention of that location closing. No one from the Beer Store has mentioned this one. There's been no conversation. Hopefully it stays open until 2030."

The property is currently owned by a numbered company, and has been since 1921. Previously, it was owned by McGowan and Associates, a wealth management company.

The sale is set against a backdrop of numerous locations of The Beer Store being closed across the province, including Norwich.

Representatives of The Beer Store weren't as clear when asked about the property sale.

"The Tillsonburg Beer Store retail location is a leased location. As The Beer Store is not the owner of the building, it would be inappropriate for us to comment on potential private real estate transaction," said Bradley Hammond, manager of corporate

communications for The Beer Store when asked about the future of the Tillsonburg location. "We do not comment or speculate about future changes to our retail network. If a decision to close a store is made, out of respect, the first people to know are our employees."

Ozzie Ahmed, vice-president of retail for The Beer Store, was also cautionary.

"Where we buy beer and return empties in Ontario is changing. The Beer Store is modernizing operations to meet evolving consumer expectations. Unfortunately, this includes making the difficult decision to close some stores. This is not a decision we make lightly, and we only make such a decision after careful consideration. Out of respect for customers and our staff, it would be inappropriate to comment or speculate on future business decisions. During this time of change, two things will remain the same: The Beer Store will be the best destination in Ontario for ice-cold beer and home to a best-in-class recycling system."



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Community Living history highlighted in museum display

JEFF HELSDON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A walk through the display on the 70th anniversary of Community Living Tillsonburg at Annandale National Historic Site is like a walk back in time for Tillsonburg residents.

The milestones, and people, of the organization will be familiar to anyone living in Tillsonburg.

Ask anyone who grew up in Tillsonburg, or surrounding area, and they likely have seasonal memories of ARC Industries famous ceramic Christmas trees. This is part of the display on the history of the industry, and of course, includes a tree. There are also ceramic tobacco leaf ashtrays, mugs and a Tillsonburg ash tray.

The list of presidents of Community Living Tillsonburg and its predecessors is sure to pique the memory of community leaders. Many students will remember principals Matt Alabastine and Steve Kyle. Father JJ McCormick and Rev. Ross McCann were well-known religious leaders in town. Some other well-known figures include Julien Versnick, Eugene Heath, David Streefkerk, Richard Epple, George Jenkins and Jill Bossy. Of course, many people are familiar with long-time president Doug Cooper.

Another portion of the display highlights the timelines of the organization. It starts with the formation of the Tillsonburg and District Association for Retarded Children in 1955, highlights the open-



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

A portion of the display on the 70th anniversary of Tillsonburg Community Living highlights the ceramics that were created by Arcwood Acres, including the Christmas trees.

ing of Rotary Westmount School in 1959, ARC Industries in 1965 and Arcwood Acres in 1976. The name changed to Community Living Tillsonburg in 2000.

The display runs until Oct. 31.

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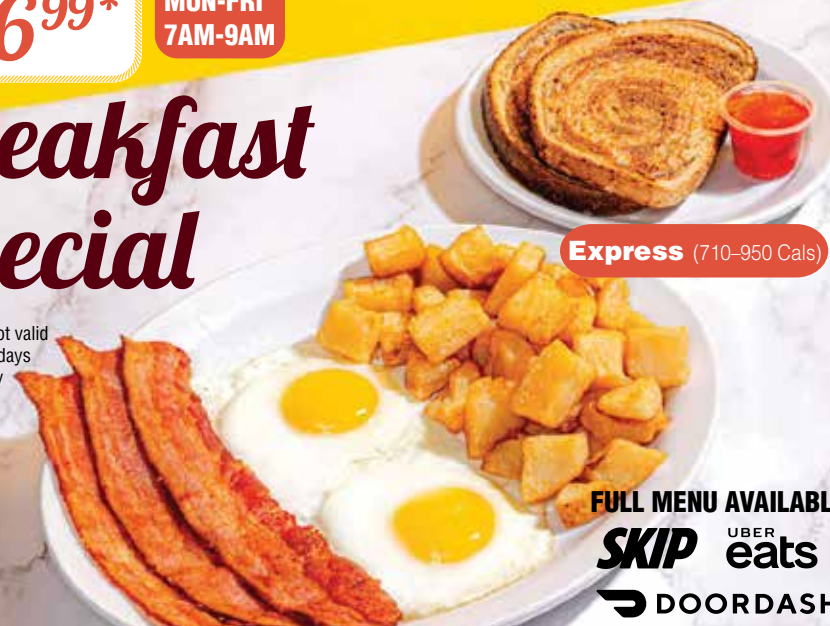
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Council votes down motion for new town hall build

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

That committee, which Luciani was a member of, chose the greyfield site. He pointed out this council opted to go with Lisgar.

"I supported 10 Lisgar Ave, but also supported a complete tear down and complete rebuild after it was found to save over \$1 million going in that direction," he said. "Saying that, I still don't believe 10 Lisgar is a better choice than a new build at Brock and Harvey."

Luciani then referred to the last report from CAO Kyle Pratt showing a new build would provide the best price, meet current standards, and have the best on-going efficiencies. He also mentioned the Concession Street option, saying, "which I think at this time is no longer viable."

"Time is money," he said. "The cost to build would have been less at any past point but a future build is only going to get higher the longer we wait. Keep in mind, this has been going on for 10 years now."

As part of the last discussion, another report is being worked on to try to bring town stuff under one roof. Staff who were formerly in the Tillsonburg Town Centre are now spread between multiple locations, including two separate rented offices on Brock Street.

"After 10 years settling for anything less than the best long term solution makes sense, I don't think we need another report," Luciani said.

Coun. Chris Parker said he wouldn't support the motion, referring to past reports about contaminants at the greyfield site.

"While I appreciate the work going into this and the comments made by Coun. Luciani, I have major concerns about the site remediation needed in that area and not knowing the cost of that I can't support that," he said, adding it could cost millions.

His preference was for 10 Lisgar and to wait for the report in November.

Coun. Kelly Spencer said one building is needed for staff, the process has been lengthy and either location would be on town-owned land. She mentioned how much it cost for the reports by staff and outside professionals.

"This has cost the taxpayer - like I can't even imagine how much hundreds of thousands, a million, I'm not sure - for nothing. We haven't gotten any farther, it's been 10 years," she said.

Pointing to the last estimate that a building on the greyfield site would be \$5.1 to \$9 million, she said, "This is the lowest number we've seen."

Spencer said there were advantages to a newer building, but she did share concerns about the possible cost of environmental remediation at the greyfield site. Spencer suggested a friendly amendment to address the possible remediation costs, which were later clarified to likely be \$244,000.

Deputy Mayor Dave Beres' concern was the town's debt capacity, with the

costs of developing industrial lands and expanding recreation facilities in the near future on the town's plate.

"I believe right now, temporarily, until we know what's going on with industrial lands and with our debt capacity, that we don't take off that big chunk and we should support the 10 Lisgar Ave with a moderate fee to reconstruct it to suit the needs of the community for the next year or two and then see what happens after that time," he said.

Coun. Bob Parsons said he supported Luciani's motion. His concern was refitting 10 Lisgar, as it would not be substantive enough for the town's needs in 10 or 30 years.

"We need to build a town hall that's going to take us 50, 75 or more years down the road," he said.

Coun. Chris Rosehart was confident that the customer service centre could be made to work.

"The greyfield site I am worried about because of the contamination we really don't know what's in the ground," she said. "Will that building hold all the people, or are we going to have a lot of people work from home? I would rather see people all come to work and all be in one location."

She also threw out a different concept. "If we can't resolve it maybe we should open it up to the taxpayer on the next ballot and let them make the decision. It's not my tax dollars, it's their tax dollars; they're the ones who are going to pay for it."

There was some discussion from several councillors if the report coming to council in November would deal with a permanent solution, but Pratt explained it was being done to suggest the quickest way to put all staff under one roof. With some feeling there was a desire to wait for that report, Luciani was given the option to withdraw his motion or vote on it that night.

"We waited 10 years," Luciani said. "To take anything less than the best possible approach moving forward makes no sense at this stage. If we move people temporarily into 10 Lisgar, we're going to be moving people temporarily out of 10 Lisgar when we start doing construction. We're going to be putting good money after bad in that location. I don't think that's the right road to go I would like to see a vote on this tonight."

Mayor Deb Gilvesy supported renovating 10 Lisgar, saying land sale revenue should pay for it.

"It's not up to this council to build for 50 years out," she said. "The people of today shouldn't be paying for 50 years down the road. The phased approach at Lisgar would soften the blow to the taxpayer, both in the short term and the long term. There is land around there where it could be expanded in the future."

The final vote, which was recorded, was Luciani, Parsons, and Spencer for the motion, and Parker, Rosehart, Beres, and Gilvesy against it.

New pedestrian crossovers installed in Tillsonburg



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

A new pedestrian crossover was installed on Tillson Ave in front of Annandale School prior to the start of the school year.

Oxford County has installed a new pedestrian crossovers to enhance road safety near local schools.

The new crossover is located on Oxford Road 53 (Tillson Avenue) near Annandale Public School.

The pedestrian crossover features side-mounted and overhead pedestrian crossing signs, yellow rapid flashing beacons, and pavement markings indicating where motorists must stop when pedestrians are present.

Pedestrian crossovers are designated road crossings where pedestrians always have the right of way. At these locations, motorists and cyclists must come to a complete stop behind the pavement mark-

ings and remain stopped until the pedestrian has fully crossed the road.

Pedestrians also play an important role in ensuring safety at these crossings. Pedestrians must stop before entering, activate the flashing beacons, signal their intention to cross, and not step off the curb or enter the roadway if an approaching vehicle is so close that it would be impossible or unsafe for the driver to stop. Cyclists using the crossovers must dismount and walk their bicycles across.

The new pedestrian crossovers support Oxford County's ongoing commitment to improving pedestrian safety, particularly in school zones and other high-traffic areas.

Firefighters steak barbecue on Sept. 13

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

A few tickets are still available for the Tillsonburg firefighters annual steak barbecue this Saturday.

Tickets are \$30, and there will be a limited number available at the door of the Tillsonburg Community Centre's Lions Auditorium.

Proceeds from the event will go to local charities, including the food bank, Christmas hampers, to help local victims of fires with no insurance and firefighters' national charity Muscular Dystrophy Canada.

Attendees will receive a steak, potato, mushrooms, baked beans and coleslaw. It has a barbecue-your-own steak format, but there are firefighters who will assist with this. Youth under 12 eat free and will

receive a hot dog and drink box.

The event starts at 4 p.m.

The event was started more than a decade ago, originally being organized to help firefighter John Kovacs, who was diagnosed with cancer.

"We got some money together for hospital and travel expenses related to his cancer," said organizer Tony Hietkamp. "Unfortunately, he succumbed to it."

Since then, the tradition continued with the beneficiary switching from a single person to a number of thins in the community.

The event also features a silent auction with donations from local businesses.

"We're very grateful for that support," Hietkamp said. "That's where the majority of our profit comes from is from those items."

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SHRINER BARBECUE



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Oxford MP Arpan Khanna dropped by the Shriner's Barbecue to present a certificate honouring the Tillsonburg Shrine Club for hosting the event for 65 years. Left to right are: John Danbrook, sauce master; Ron Rohrer, president; Khanna; and Jim Brotz, past-president.



(JOHN DANBROOK PHOTO)

A stag event at one time, the Shriner's Barbecue has a more open format now with many couples and ladies attending. By the numbers, it is the largest dinner event in Tillsonburg held every year.



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

The annual Shriner's Barbecue was another success, drawing approximately 500 people. It features pork, corn on the cob, cucumbers, salad and all the fixings.



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Husking and cooking corn can be a task, but when cooking for 500 people and the volume of ears of corn reaching nearly twice that, it is a feat of extraordinary proportions that involves an old-fashioned cast-iron cattle and open fire to boil the water. Tom Sage, pictured, was assisted by Mark Elliott and Russell Godby on cooking duties.



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Saucemaster John Danbrook is protective of the ingredients that go in the barbecue sauce served to complement the pork. Making, mixing and cooking the sauce is a task that takes all day.

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Publisher

Stewart Grant • stew@granthaven.com

Editor

Jeff Helsdon • jeff@granthaven.com

Graphic Design / Sales Inquiries

Stacie Eden • info@tillsonburgpost.com

Business Development

Heather Dunbar • heather@granthaven.com

Administration

Jen Gaetan • jen@granthaven.com

Contributors

Jeff Tribe, Laurel Beechey, Debbie Kasman,
Paul Knowles

36 Water St. St. Marys, ON, PO Box 2310 N4X 1A2
info@tillsonburgpost.com | 519.655.2341 | granthaven.com



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Tillsonburg POST

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EDITORIAL

Letter to the Editor

Paddles up, Tillsonburg! — A love letter to pickleball and the power of community

Tillsonburg, we need to talk.

Not about taxes or town council or the state of downtown side-walks. No, this is about something much more pressing: pickleball.

Yes, pickleball. That funny-sounding sport that some folks once mistook for a sandwich order or a backyard game with grandma. But make no mistake — it's not just a game. In this town, it's become a lifeline. A community. A movement with a paddle problem.

And frankly? We need your help.

The unlikely hero with the wiffle ball

For many of us, life has thrown some curveballs — illness, loss, loneliness, retirement blues, or just the confusing experience of trying to meet new people when you're over the age of 25 and not holding a juice box.

But then, someone hands you a paddle. You whack that little plastic ball — wildly, aimlessly at first — and suddenly something clicks.

You laugh.

You meet someone.

You come back the next day.

And before long, you're showing up to the courts not just to play... but to belong.

One member put it best: "After losing my husband, I had no idea what I was getting into... I just needed to move my body, clear my mind, and feel alive again. At first, I was awful. But no one cared. Everyone was kind, encouraging, and quick to laugh with me — not at me."

Another member who immigrated to Canada 25 years ago shared:

"After so many years of feeling on the outside, I finally found a place where I feel at home. This club welcomed me with open arms. No one judged me. No one looked past me."

This isn't just about bouncing balls. This is about bouncing back. From loss. From loneliness. From the isolation that sneaks up on us in quiet houses and long winters.

It's cheaper than therapy and way more fun

One member says: "Who knew that hitting a little wiffle ball could have so many benefits! Oh, the laughs we've shared togeth-

er. So good for mental health and relieving stress!"

Another chimed in: "What other sport lets you yell an obscene shoutout, laugh about it, and then still get invited to a barbecue?"

From 20-year-olds to 70-somethings, from chronic illness warriors to retirees, from couples trying to out-dink each other (spoiler: the wives usually win), pickleball is the sport that unites us all.

One member wrote: "It's very cool and interesting that a community group aged from their 20s to 70s can all play a game together and have a tremendous amount of fun while exercising and enjoying the health benefits."

We've got laughter echoing across the courts, friendships forming between generations, and even theatre actors being cheered on by 30+ pickleball friends in the audience. (Yes, that really happened!)

"I was welcomed like a lost cousin," one member said. "Then invited to pool parties, barbecues — and when I did a play with Theatre Tillsonburg, over 30 pickleballers came out to support me!"

Pickleball is not just a sport — it's become a town within a town.

Even the next generation is feeling it. One of our members shared: "Nana, when can I come out and play with your pickleball club again? I loved it — and such nice people!"

And now, a plea: We need more courts

Our club is growing. Exploding, really. We're a wildly diverse group — young and young-at-heart, long-time locals and new arrivals, athletes and enthusiastic beginners — all bound together by one thing: we love this game.

But right now? We're running out of space.

We're grateful for the three beautiful courts the Town of Tillsonburg built. Truly. Thank you. But with the current momentum, they're not enough.

We now have crowds showing up to play. People waiting around instead of getting active. Dreams of hosting tournaments that can't happen unless we have six courts in one location. That's the magic number.

As one member said: "Pickleball has enhanced my life. It mixes young and old, friends new and old. Let's keep the momentum going so more people can discover this great pastime."

And another: "We're so grateful the town built the courts. But now, they can't meet the demand. Hopefully, the town is able to address this issue."

And another (somewhat cheekily): "Great sport, great peo-

ple, who could ask for anything else? Well... maybe a few more courts."

Tillsonburg, this is your serve

Dr. Eric Topol, a world-renowned longevity expert, said there are three keys to living longer:

- Exercise
- Social connection
- A love of life

Well, guess what? Pickleball checks all three. And it does it in running shoes and with laughter.

It helps people living with chronic illness. It gives retirees something to look forward to. It welcomes newcomers with open arms. It creates stronger citizens, better neighbors, and happier humans.

"Pickleball has given me a way to stay active, connect socially, and experience joy in movement again."

"I never thought retirement would be this good."

"We couldn't have wished for a better introduction to Tillsonburg."

So now, we're asking the Town of Tillsonburg to help us take this incredible, heart-filling, community-building sport to the next level.

We don't just want to play. We want to host. To grow. To welcome even more people. To keep the laughter and joy echoing across more courts.

Six courts together. That's what we need. That's the dream. That's what turns this from a pastime into a legacy.

Final rally cry

Tillsonburg, we have something truly special here.

Pickleball isn't a passing trend — it's a permanent part of our town's heart.

And if you don't believe us, just stop by the courts any morning. You'll hear the laughter before you see the paddles.

"See you on the courts!"

"Paddles up, everyone!"

"Let's keep building this amazing community."

So come on, Town of Tillsonburg. Help us keep the good times rolling (and dinking).

We've served our hearts out.

Now it's your turn.

Carolijn Verbakel

Vice-President Tillsonburg Pickleball Club

There can be a darker side to researching history



LAUREL A. BEECHEY

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

The problem with researching history, is it doesn't always turn out to be pretty. You discover things about your own family or others that they tried to hide.

There were many reason people came to Canada. Here are two Tillsonburg stories.

How many young women arrived in Canada single and pregnant? Too many! Servants from large estates, who were raped by the master, or master's son or stable hand were quickly married if they were lucky. Most, however, were removed from their job and quickly shipped to faraway

places like Canada. They were fallen women and outcast to society for immorality.

There were groups that arranged for orphaned street children to be sent here to work for and live with a family. A young healthy pregnant woman was a good wife for a man getting started on his own land. She arrives to literally a whole new world she could never even imagined out in the middle of nowhere, with few to no neighbours expecting a child.

Husbands could be away a few days going to town for supplies, or a few weeks to get a paying job or doing his duty training with militia and gone for a month or two. She must tend the animals, bring in wood to cook, and haul water from the well. She will have the baby by herself or not.

Everyone had extensive food and herb gardens in which many women grew "female preparations," with special herbs in the garden, such as savin and pennyroyal, which would cause a miscarriage. This was something men knew nothing about. He may have returned home to find a tiny little grave. Later they did have a passel of children.

An abortion that should have never been? You may never want to research pioneer contracep-

tives, although I thought wearing an amulet made of mule's earwax, weasel's testicles, and a bone from black cat, was interesting.

Back in the mid-1800s, there was a type of murder which was more prevalent than I had ever imagined and that was infanticide or the 'infant homicide'. Two local death registrations noted that the babies were 'killed' by their mothers. One was by neglect in 1879, the other not specified. Neither noted the babies or mother's names were listed.

They were not charged. Why? Most often no one knew it had happened; neighbours were far away. The baby died and was buried at home. Some of the girls were raped. Others had too many babies to feed already and there was no one near to take the baby and there was postpartum depression. Two in 1,000 new mothers had postpartum psychosis, which was psychotic depression, mania, hallucinations delusions, extreme confusion and suicidal thoughts. How many more were in the middle of nowhere with no one. There were no names for this or treatment, but everyone did understand that the women did not know what they were doing.

Having a child out of wedlock was kept quiet and hidden. If the parents discovered the condi-

tion, they would often send the young woman to visit a relative for a few months, the baby went to an orphanage or someone who wanted a child. The daughter comes home, no one ever knows.

Not so with Fanny in Tillsonburg. She was able to hide her condition for months, but the women folk noticed in the spring. But in early August 1863, Fanny was no longer pregnant! Where was the baby? Fanny had the baby by Clear Creek and claimed it was still born and buried it. However, the case was investigated, and she was arrested for infanticide.

Dr. Ault, the corner, had to determine if the child was born alive or not. In front of a full courtroom, the baby's lungs were put in water. They floated buoyantly. To do so, the baby had to have lived long enough to breathe freely. She was given a lesser charge of concealment of birth.

Archeological digs on medieval sites in Europe and old pioneer lands in Canada today have found assorted animal bones, compostable items, and wee human bones, deep in kitchen trash pits or the outhouse. Life was almost unimaginable then compared to now.

But to understand their lives, you need to understand the good and the ugly.

Play sealed with a kiss changes actor's life



WRITER'S CORNER

NORMA COLLIS

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

I attended Annandale secondary School in Tillsonburg during my high school years. Although we always put on yearly musicals and a variety show with skits etc., I don't remember that drama was ever offered as an actual credit course.

We know a man who lived in a town closer to Toronto and his high school did offer theatre arts as a year-long subject course. In Grade 11 he decided to try his hand at acting and signed up for the theatre arts course being offered that year. One of his classmates in that class was a young woman known for her superior acting skills. Her father was involved in television show productions and as a young child she had been on the sets of various CBC tv shows including the once-very-popular show

called "The Wayne and Shuster Show."

She had been given a very theatrical first name and for some reason she seemed to go out of her way to present herself as a very unattractive teenage girl. Her hair style was severe, and she didn't wear makeup. She also wore very eccentric clothing that managed to hide any "girl-ish" figure that she might have had. To a sixteen-year-old boy, this was a very big "no no", when it came to choosing female companionship.

Every time the students were asked to perform a scene from a play, the teacher would always pair up our friend with the afore mentioned young woman. He finally asked for a quiet word with the drama teacher and he asked her to please pair him up with someone else for a change. The teacher explained that because both he and the girl were tall and mature looking, she purposely paired them up together and would continue to do so.

Towards the end of the school year, the drama classes were expected to put on a full day of scenes from eight different well-known plays. The performances were held on a big stage in the school auditorium and the productions were open to any students in the school who might wish to attend a performance during a spare period or during their lunch hour.

Oue friend and his ever-constant partner were assigned a scene from the "Glass Menagerie" by Tennessee Williams.

The girl was playing Laura Wingfield, a very plain looking girl who was supposed to be extremely shy. Our friend said that the girl fit the part to perfection.

The scene ended with a kiss. The boy was horrified at this prospect, but his final mark would be based on how well the scene was presented. He had no choice but to co-operate.

They managed to get through the numerous rehearsals without an actual kiss as the "Grande finale." Finally, the teacher said, "Okay, you are acting this for real in a few days time. You must practice the kiss."

The girl gave our friend a very chaste kiss as the scene ended and he thought "Okay, that wasn't too bad. I can do this."

On the day of the performance, his acting partner arrived "dressed for the scene." If anyone remembers Ruth Buzzy from that old show "Laugh in" you might remember Ruth's severe hairstyle. It had a part down the middle, the hair was pulled back into a severe-looking bun and the whole coif was covered with an extremely unflattering hair net. Well, that was the hairstyle his acting partner was sporting.

As the time neared for their big perfor-

mance, our friend peeked out through the stage curtains and was horrified to see that the entire auditorium was full of viewers. Even the upper balcony was standing room only.

It looked as if at least half the school had decided to skip class. The high school grapevine had spread the news of the impending "kiss" far and wide.

The two performers managed to get through the scene and our friend was about to draw a big sigh of relief when it was time for "the kiss."

Forget that earlier shy peck on the lips. The girl grabbed her partner and locked lips and wouldn't let go.

The theatre erupted into thunderous applause along with wolf whistles and other "unhelpful" comments from the audience.

"Well, this is it. I'll have to transfer to the other secondary school across town." the unfortunate male lead decided. Then he realized that even if he moved to a nearby town, his notoriety would likely follow him.

The experience now makes a somewhat humorous tale to tell but such an event was devastating to a young man, barely into his teenage years.

Norma Collis is a Tillsonburg author of several books, including "Tales from Holly Cottage".

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D&B Construction provides quality service

Business has been picking up for D&B Construction brothers Dylan and Ben Taylor, who started their local company in the summer of 2023.

Mainly focused on building, maintaining and repairing wooden fences and decks, business picked up in 2024, and Ben said this year “it’s definitely been busy.”

Newer builds need new fences – and there’s a lot of opportunity for that in Tillsonburg – but much of their service time has also been directed toward restoring wooden decks – decks that might be three years or sometimes 8-12 years old.

“Essentially, what we’re doing with restoring decks is we’re pressure washing them and using cleaning products,” said Ben. “After that dries, we sand the wood grain to help open it up. Then we apply a stain and sealer. That helps to protect it from rain, snow, sunlight. It helps to make it look better and definitely extends the life of the deck.”

“It’s nice to see old decks look new. We find there’s a lot of people looking for that.”

If you take care of it, he said, you could be expecting it to safely last twice as much.

“It also looks better, too.

And it’s safer. If you have a second-storey deck, and you don’t take care of it, it can be dangerous if it fell apart.”

Most of their work is done in Tillsonburg, and they do parts of Oxford, Norfolk and Elgin Counties. D&B Construction can be reached by emailing or email contactbox@use.startmail.com or calling 519-550-5207.

“I’d say the majority, probably 60-65 per cent of our work, is in town. We like it that way because we’re local, it’s close by.”

“I think there is a market for guys that are skilled in labouring and being able to pass that along to the customer,” said Ben, noting they have nearly 10 years combined experience in construction. “With our own company, we can see what customers want, then move towards that more.”

Over the past two years, D&B has been establishing customer relations, building its customer base with the long-term goal of continuing to service those customers.

“We’re hoping to really have those relationships with customers year after year. They might want to maintain some of the projects we’re working on – we’re doing a lot of deck restorations and



D&B Construction’s Dylan and Ben Taylor.

deck staining – so we can help people maintain their decks.”

Integrity is important, said Ben, while assuring quality. They keep every-

thing ‘above board,’ he said, knowing that their license, insurance and the proper permits provide peace of mind for home owners.

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Courtland resident defrauded of \$8,500 in online scam

Police are investigating after a local resident was deceived by an online employment scam.

On Monday, Sept. 1, at approximately 10:12 a.m., the Norfolk County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to a report of fraud at an address in Courtland.

The investigation revealed that the victim had responded to an online advertisement suggesting easy online work for pay. During communication with individuals claiming to be company employees, the victim was instructed to download an application that would allegedly allow them to receive cryptocurrency as payment. As part of the supposed work, the victim was also required to make payments from their personal account.

Further interaction with the suspects led the victim to provide personal and financial information. The victim was also unable to access funds they had previously transferred. After realizing they had been defrauded, the victim contacted

police.

The OPP is reminding community members to take the following steps to protect themselves from similar scams:

- Be cautious of unsolicited job offers that promise easy money with little effort.
- Do not download unfamiliar applications at the direction of unknown individuals.
- Never provide personal or financial information unless you are certain of who you are dealing with.
- Be wary of requests for upfront payments as part of any "job opportunity."
- Verify legitimacy by researching the company independently and contacting them directly through official channels.

To learn more about fraud and cyber-crime prevention and how to safeguard yourself, contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501 or visit www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca.

RIDE program results in impaired charges

Members of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), Oxford Detachment arrested a driver for impaired driving as the result of a R.I.D.E. check in Norwich Township.

On Aug. 31, at approximately 2:30 a.m., Oxford OPP set up a Reduced Impaired Driving Everywhere (R.I.D.E.) check on Highway 59 in Norwich Township.

As a result, Alicia Bryan a 37-year-old resident of Norfolk County, has been

charged with:

- Dangerous Operation of a Motor Vehicle
- Operation While Impaired
- Operation While Impaired - Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) 80 plus

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

OPP investigating a mischief in Tillsonburg

The Oxford Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is investigating a mischief in the Town of Tillsonburg and is looking for public assistance in identifying those responsible.

On Sept. 3, at approximately 2:55 a.m., officers responded to a report of two individuals throwing items through the window of a residence on Trailview Drive.

The suspects are being described as two males dressed in all black, wearing hoodies and masks.

If you know anything about this incident, or have video surveillance in the area, please contact the Oxford OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Should you wish to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

Weekend Quiz

by Jake Grant

1. Who is known as the father of ethics?
2. What tower was the first to be struck by terrorists on 9/11?
3. How many Super Bowl wins do the Buffalo Bills have?
4. Klondike Gold Rush national historical park is found in what US city?
5. Mick Jagger is the lead singer of what band?
6. GO Transit was founded in what year?
7. What river did George Washington cross to attack the Hessian mercenaries?
8. Ultrasonic waves have frequencies that are above how many Hz?
9. What is the farthest planet from the sun in our solar system?
10. What red creature starred in Sesame Street?

This week's answers are found on Page 22

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Tillsonburg FC U14 boys capture EMDSL Tier II league cup

JEFF TRIBE

Post Correspondent

The Tillsonburg FC U14 boys locked up the 2025 Elgin-Middlesex District Soccer League Tier II title with a satisfying 2-0 shutout victory over the London Wolves Monday, Aug. 25 in London.

"It was a great cap off to a very strong season," said coach Ken Van Dyk.

His squad finished the year with an 11-2-2- won-lost-tied record, scoring 57 goals while allowing only 22, a plus-35 differential equalling its 35 regular season points.

Tillsonburg headed into the contest tied in the standings with the Oakridge Gladiators, who had prevailed in the division cup final a couple of weeks previous.

"It was nice to tip them for the league," said Van Dyk.

Tillsonburg was down four regular players for its final game, rescheduled from earlier in the season.

"But the boys who were there played well, played strong," said Van Dyk.

The Wolves came out fast he credited, but Tillsonburg was able to absorb their early pressure and gradually assert its game. Call-up Adam Van Wychen opened scoring late in the first half, connecting from around the top of the 18-yard box.

"He was able to put it over the keeper," said Van Dyk of a welcome opening mark. "Definitely settled some nerves."

The goal seemed to deflate London a little he added.

"And allowed us to take control possession-wise for the rest of the game."

Logan Thompson upped the advantage to 2-0 midway through the second half off a free kick. Tillsonburg keeper Luke McKee recorded his league-leading fifth shutout to secure the title-clinching victory.

"That came down to both his strong



(HELSDON PHOTOGRAPHY PHOTO)

Elgin-Middlesex District Soccer League U14 Tier II league champion Tillsonburg FC: (front row, left to right) Ethan Rocco, Raheel Qureshi, Carter Curley, Luke McKee, Avery Draper, Ethan Brown and Colby Van Dyk. In the back row, are: Manager Carrie Kowalski, Max Suderman, Jakub Tremblay, Jaxon Crann, Oliver Weger, Connor McDermott, Logan Thompson, Marek Tremblay, Myles Marlor and Coach Ken Van Dyk. Alex Tremblay is absent from the photo.

goalending and the defence we were able to put in front of him," said Van Dyk.

Offensively, FC was powered by four of the division's top five goal scorers, a quartet led by Colby Van Dyk with 17 markers, Alex Tremblay in second place

with an even dozen, and Max Suderman and Ethan Rocco in fourth and fifth place, with 10 and eight goals respectively.

"They played as a team, moved the ball really well," credited coach Van Dyk.

A number of players upgraded their

game last winter by playing indoor soccer out of London he continued, part of a 'good, dedicated core group of boys' who put the time and work into this season's success.

"Really a joy to coach them, to be honest," he concluded.



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Play-Slo-Pitch Provincial Championships



DAVE WEAVER

Post Columnist

EYE ON SLO- PITCH

There were many local teams and players participating in the Play-Slo-Pitch Provincial Championships this past weekend in Niagara Falls.

The Mill team member Logan Kloetwere played with the Easton Canucks team that won the Men's A title. Maddi Obar of the Jays was a member of the Smash it Sports Lynx squad that lost by one in the Ladies' A Final. The B Division's Bayham Construction Lumberjacks, plus some extras, finished a respectable tenth out of 52 teams in the Men's E Division.

Ladies' A Division

The A Final opened on Wednesday night and it was Foldens Machine Works who escaped with a one run decision over the Jays. The game featured several lead changes with Jays rallying with a six-run sixth taking a one-run lead into the seventh. Foldens scored two to take control and blanked the Jays in their half.

Foldens Machine Works-15, Jays-14

Foldens-Trisha McKenzie 4-4; Mandi Vickers 4-4.

Jays-Mary Froese 4-4, HR; Brandi Cook 3-4.

Game Synopsis-In the first game of the finals, three and four in the order, Mandi Vickers and Mackenzie Brackenbury, each reached and scored all four times to lead Foldens. Left-fielder Trisha McKenzie robbed Jays Jessica Dyck of extra bases with a fantastic catch in the fifth inning.

Ladies' B Division

Kyle Nesbitt Trucking continued their dominance over B teams, mercy-ing Wildcats in their series opener. Nesbitt put runs on the board in every inning but the second against a Wildcats squad playing without three key players.

Kyle Nesbitt Trucking-17, Wildcats-15

Nesbitt-Tammy Griswold 4-4; Nicole Morgan 4-4; Carrie MacDonald HR.

Wildcats-Christine Phillips 2-3; Shirley Simmons 3-3.

Game Synopsis-Nesbitt's Tammy Griswold and Nicole Morgan each reached and scored in all four plate appearances in the first finals game.

Men's A Division

After three years of being the title holder Leeswood Construction Dirty Mitts bowed out to Legend Rubber Cobra Chickens in Game#4 of their series on Friday night. Legend combined to score 44 runs over their two wins. The Mill went up two games on 1,2 Seal Insulation Hawks with an eight-run victory on Tuesday night on the strength of a seven-run fifth. The Hawks staved off elimination on the Thursday, winning by eight as well in a game that featured 17 combined round trippers.

The Mill-29, 1,2 Seal Insulation Hawks-21

The Mill-Jeremy Roy 5-5, HR; Steve Byron 5-5; Darren Pace 2HR; Bryan Deblaire HR.

Hawks-Johnny Epp 5-6; Cam Bueckert 4-5, HR; Martin Klassen 3HR; Johnny Klassen HR; Peter Epp HR; Jake Klassen HR.

Game Synopsis-Nine of The Mill's ten batters scored at least two runs against their nine men counterpart in the second game of the semi-final. Darren Pace drove in seven runs and Jeremy Roy knocked in six.

1,2 Seal Insulation Hawks-28, The Mill-20

Hawks-Peter Epp 5-5; Martin Klassen 5-5, 2 HR; Jake Klassen HR; Ben Bueckert 2 HR; Cam Bueckert 2 HR; Daniel Klassen HR.

The Mill-Bryan Deblaire 4-4, 3HR; Ryan Black 4-4, 2 HR; Ethan Morgan HR; Jeremy Roy HR; Steve Derks HR; Billy Wilson HR.

Game Synopsis-In game three of the semis, the ball was flying in this one as each team had hit their limit of seven and were helped out by the plus-two rule allowing Hawks to hit one more and The Mill had an additional two. Martin Klassen hit two while driving in seven for the winners while Ben Bueckert contributed a pair of three-run shots.

Legend Rubber Cobra Chickens-24, Leeswood Construction Dirty Mitts-16

Legend-Jesse Froese 4-4, 2HR; Brian Dyck 4-5; Fred Froese HR; Marcus Peters HR; Caleb Reimer HR; Wyatt Blatz 2 HR.

Leeswood-Greg Onaitis 3-3; Alex Penders 4-4; Tim Townsend HR; Thom Pühr HR; Kent Collings 2 HR.

Game Synopsis-A nine-run seventh won this for the Chickens. Wyatt Blatz had a three-run homer in the rally, and also had hit another homer and double earlier in the game.

Legend Rubber Cobra Chickens-20, Leeswood Construction Dirty Mitts-15

Legend-Jared Froese 4-4; Wyatt Blatz 4-4, 2HR; Nathan Froese HR; Caleb Reimer GrSlam HR; Brian Dyck HR.

Leeswood-Sean Miller 3-3; Travis Nikin 3-3; Cory Smith HR.

Game Synopsis-Leeswood were without some of their power bats but hung around most of the game. Legend belted out six homers which accounted for 15 of their runs. Wyatt

Blatz hit a pair of two-run shots and scored four runs, and Caleb Reimer had a grand slam and a three-run blast.

Men's B Division

The Pelicans just continue to hit as their playoff roll continued this week taking a commanding 2-0 series lead over an Underhill Farm Supply squad that possesses a lot of fire power.

Pelicans took the lid lifter in an extra inning after Underhill had scored one in the top of the extra frame. The second game played on a windy evening was a back and forth affair with Pelicans coming out on top with a four run seventh.

Two of the younger teams are competing in the other semi-final with At My Playground/IQT Logistics leading the Bayham Construction Lumberjacks by one game. Bayham evened the series with a mercy win on the Tuesday, A.M.P. took the series lead rallying late scoring seven over the final two at bats to pull out the win.

Bayham Construction Lumberjacks-24, At My Playground/IQT Logistics-8

Bayham-Pete Klassen 4-4; Nathan Peters 4-5, 2 HR;

A.M.P.-Riley Balazs 2-3; Landon Partlo 2-3; Remi Dejaegher HR.

Game Synopsis-Everyone in the winner's order had at least two hits in the second game of the semi-finals. Nathan hit consecutive two-run homers and also hit a two-run triple.

At My Playground/IQT Logistics-13, Bayham Construction Lumberjacks-10

A.M.P.-Travis Lamb 3-4; Brandon Balazs 2-3.

Bayham-Nathan Peters 4-4, 3 HR; Jake Sawatsky 4-5, HR.

Game Synopsis-In the semis' game three, A.M.P. fought back from a four-run deficit, scoring seven late to steal the win away. Logan Savoy reached and scored both in the sixth and seventh innings.

Pelicans-19, Underhill Farm Supply-18

Pelicans-Chris Parker 5-5; Rob Down 4-4; T.J.Neville HR; Steve Leacock HR.

Underhill-Chris Dyck 4-4, 2 HR; Dave Phipps 3-4; Curtis Chambers 2 HR; Aaron Dyck HR.

Game Synopsis-In the semi opener, Rob Down led off the bottom of the eighth with a triple. Chris Parker cashed and T.J. Neville delivered the walk-off hit, winning it for the Pelicans.

Pelicans-25, Underhill Farm Supply-21

Pelicans-Adam Jensen 5-5; 4 HR; Brandon Travers 5-5; Steve Leacock 2 HR; T.J.Neville HR.

Underhill-Stephen Schaefer 4-4, 2 HR; Bruce Hietkamp 4-4; Aaron Dyck HR; Joel

Dyck HR; Cole Williamson HR; Chris Dyck HR; Curtis Chambers HR.

Game Synopsis-The second game of the semis in this series saw Adam Jensen celebrating his birthday week in style, hitting four consecutive homers in a game where both teams hit their maximum seven. Rob Down made the defensive play of the game snaring a hard-liner at short.

Men's C Division

The first year Sticky Bandits have reached their first final after they swept the Tailgators on Thursday night after a double header sweep the week before. They ended the series with a 17-run victory. Townline Eqt Inc Smokin Aces have a chance to be the second first-year team to join the Bandits in the final. They split a double header with J/E Bearing walking it off in the first game. J/E tied the series with a six run win in the night cap. Townline took the series lead on Friday night winning by 11.

Sticky Bandits-29, Tailgators-12

Bandits-Morgan Siemens 5-5; Michael Wiebe 5-5.

Tailgators-Kevin Hmeil 3-3; Jarryd Roest 3-3.

Game Synopsis-Bandits led the third game of the semi-finals from start to finish, ending this one after five. Morgan Siemens scored five runs for the winners.

Townline Eqt Inc Smokin Aces -15, J/E Bearing-14

Townline-Jakob Froese 3-3, HR; Peter Klassen 2-4; Jakie Froese HR.

J/E-Devon Outerbridge 3-4; Craig Boucher 2-3, HR; Darren Swick HR.

Game Synopsis-Smokin Aces stole the semi series opener away with a four-run walk-off seventh. Daniel Unger drove in both the tying and winning run.

Game#2-Semi-Final

J/E Bearing-27, Townline Eqt Inc Smokin Aces-21

J/E-Devon Outerbridge 4-4; Jeff McKay 4-5; Darren Swick HR.

Townline-Jakie Froese 4-5, HR; Benny Bueckert 4-5; David Klassen HR; Daniel Unger HR.

Game Synopsis-Game two of this semi series saw J/E plating 13 runs over their final two at-bats, Darren Swick hit a three-run homer in their seven-run fifth.

Townline Eqt Inc Smokin Aces-25, J/E Bearing-14

Townline-Peter Klassen 4-4; Daniel Unger 5-5.

J/E-Devon Outerbridge 3-4; Craig Boucher 3-4; Dillon Outerbridge 3 HR.

Game Synopsis-In the third game, Isaak Froese drove in five for the winners and George Bueckert had a pair of triples.

Torpedoes readying for new season

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

The Tillsonburg Torpedoes are back for another season, bigger and better than ever.

The swim team relaunched last year after the pool reopened under the guidance of head coach Paul Armstrong. A coach with the former Tillsonburg Aquatic Torpedoes, which morphed into Southwest Aquatics before the team folded more than eight years ago, Armstrong wanted to get the team back in the water with growing enthusiasm from swimmers, including from his own family.

This will be the club's first full season.

"We're looking forward to having some fun and bringing swimming back to the town," Armstrong said.

Ongoing tryouts will be held for the team throughout September on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturday mornings. See the town's leisure guide online for exact times, or phone the community centre.

"We'll have them come out, see if they enjoy it, and that will allow us to make a recommendation on what group they should be in," Armstrong said of the tryouts.

Since the group started, they have now been sanctioned by Swim Ontario.

"We will be a full-fledged affiliated swim team," Armstrong said, explaining that this will allow team members to compete.

He is already looking forward to the prospects for the team. His two sons are ready to race and five swimmers will be moving to the Tillsonburg club from Aylmer.

"We're pretty excited to continue our program. It's a great fit for kids who want to swim competitively," he said.

The club also offers more than just competitive swimming. There is a beginner group that Armstrong described would appeal to those "looking for something that's swimming lessons for their kids but something that's a little more of a challenge."

The development program takes swimming to the next level, preparing swimmers for competition. As the level increases, the number of practices and coaching also in-



(FILE PHOTO)

The Torpedoes are back in the water again, offering a variety of programs from beginners to competitive. The team is holding tryouts throughout September to let potential swimmers experience the program.

creases.

Tillsonburg has a strong history with its competitive swimming team. Members of the former teams excelled at the provincial and national levels, and Evan van Mo-

erkerke was a member of the Canadian Olympic team in 2016.

Anyone with questions can contact Armstrong at swimmingtorpedoes@gmail.com

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MUSIC CORNER

Coty Robinson back in Tillsonburg with a new single in hand



BEN ADDRESS

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

Dorchester's own Coty Robinson is set to bring his brand of heartfelt country

music to Tillsonburg on Friday, Sept. 19 when he returns to take the stage at The Copper Mug.

Robinson's story is one firmly established in both resilience and passion. Growing up in Dorchester, he first found his voice not with a guitar, but behind a microphone as one of the in-house announcers for the Dorchester Dolphins hockey team. That early taste of performing for a crowd gave him the confidence to later step into the world of country music.

Music soon became more than just a pastime when it morphed and be-

came a lifeline. After losing his mother at a young age, Robinson turned to songwriting and performing as a way to work through heartbreak and honour her memory.

His big break came in 2019 with a chance encounter over social media. After challenging Canadian country star Brett Kissel to a game of backstage beer pong, Robinson was coaxed into singing a Luke Combs cover for Kissel and his band. An impressed Kissel invited Robinson to perform at the London stop of his 2020 Drive-In Tour. That

moment set Robinson firmly on the path to pursuing music full-time.

Over the past few years Robinson has been working hard to hone his craft both on stage and in the studio. His latest single Quite Like You was penned by a team of respected songwriters.

"Anthony Fiddler, Jesse Slack, Daryl Scott and Jade Eagleson were all writers on my latest single 'Quite Like You,'" Robinson says. "They did an amazing job and I cannot thank them enough for trusting me with this song."

For Robinson playing The Copper Mug feels like home.

"I've played at the Mug a couple times now," he explains with a smile. "With the smaller acoustic shows I can really get a chance to talk with everyone in the building."

That connection with fans is what fuels Coty.

"I just see myself enjoying being on a stage and making music that fans enjoy listening to. Being on stage means a lot to me. I love doing it and I work hard on my live show trying to make it better."

As he looks toward the

future, Robinson keeps his focus simple: "Just keep working hard and putting out music."

Fans can expect an evening of songs, storytelling and the perfect dose of authenticity that has defined Robinson's career so far.

Coty Robinson performs Friday, Sept. 19th at The Copper Mug located at 79 Broadway Street in Tillsonburg. The show starts at 8:30 p.m. and is free of charge. For more information, music and tour dates you can follow Coty on his official website at www.cotyrobinson.com

UPCOMING SHOWS

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. 18 - FELICIA MCMINN

The Copper Mug

No Cover - 8 p.m.

SEPT. 19 - COTY ROBINSON

The Copper Mug

No Cover - 8:30 p.m.

SEPT. 20 - COMEDY NIGHT W/ JIMMY ENGLAND, DAN BRENNAN, KAITLIN SHUVERA & KEVIN ELLIOT

Tillsonburg Legion #153

\$10 - 8 p.m.

SEPT. 20 - GHOST TOWN CITIZEN W/ CHASE BERES

The Copper Mug

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Take Back the Night will be on Sept. 17

JEFF HELSDON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Take Back the Night aims to raise awareness about sexual assault.

Planned for Wednesday, Sept. 17 at the Tillsonburg clock tower, starting at 6:30 p.m., the event includes information speakers and a march through downtown Tillsonburg.

"It's a women's led march and it's been happening since the '70s," said Sophie Foster, public education and fundraising coordinator for Ingamo and DASO.

The evening will start with speakers. This year's line-up includes Ashley Brown, executive director of Ingamo Homes and DASO; Laura McCreary, who runs a sexual assault services clinic; a land acknowledgement from Patricia Marshall from Indigenous Solidarity and Awareness Network, and Erin Todd will read a poem. This will be followed by a march through downtown Tillsonburg.

"The idea of the march is for women to feel safe walking around at night," Foster said.

The Oxford event rotates between Woodstock, Ingersoll and Tillsonburg annually.

Although there is more awareness of the problem, one in three women worldwide experience sexual assault or some form of intimate partner violence. Men are not immune either, with one in six experiencing sexual violence.

"Unfortunately, we just keep seeing the number going up," Foster said.

Asked why, she answered, "Stress, a lot of stress, with the rising cost of living, the housing crisis and general lack of understanding around emotional regulation - we're not taught that in school - we're left with a lack of prevention in our society."

DASO is the emergency shelter for women and children in crisis in Oxford County. Those in crisis can stay a night, or up to eight to 12 weeks. Ingamo Homes is a sister organization that provides transitional housing for women and children for a year or two with geared-to-income rent.

Despite an increased need, the two organizations haven't received a funding increase since the 1990s.

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Shoppers Drug Mart provides additional health care option

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

A revamping of the clinic area at Shopper's Drug Mart aims to enhance health care delivery in Tillsonburg.

Like other pharmacies, Shopper's Drug Mart can assist the public with a variety of minor illnesses without going to a doctor. These include the ability to write prescriptions for urinary tract infections, skin rashes, tick bites, pink eye, allergies, thrush, acid reflux and muscle aches and pains. This list was recently expanded to include yeast infections, morning sickness, diaper rash, acne, canker sores and threadworms and pinworms.

"It's not that we are providing different services, but can better do those services," said Megan Kelly, pharmacy manager.

"A lot of customers don't know we can do these things," said Tillsonburg pharmacist/owner Christin John, who is proud she is continuing a local tradition of ownership that started with Jack Whitmore Pharmacy in 1962, transitioned through Big V and eventually to Shopper's Drug Mart.

A grand opening of the new pharmacy care clinic will be held on Sept. 12 at 10 a.m. It features three dedicated clinical rooms, plus some new equipment to deliver services. It's hoped the rooms will help highlight that these services are available.

For instance, the clinic can screen for diabetes by scanning for A1c, a blood test that tracks the average blood sugar levels over the past three months.

"It's as accurate as a lab result," John said, adding a doctor's requisition isn't required for the test and the tests can be performed at more convenient hours.

"There's a lot of our patients who don't have a doctor," Kelly added. "They can come in here and we can help them."

Lipid cholesterol can be also tracked.

"With cholesterol and A1c, we can screen people for their risk of stroke or heart attack," Kelly explained. "We can calculate their heart health."

If a serious condition is discovered, the patient is sent to the hospital immediately.

A wide variety of injections are available, including flu



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO))

Shopper's Drug Mart pharmacist/owner Christin John, left, and pharmacy manager Megan Kelly, right, take Rebecca Moore's blood pressure in one of the new pharmacy care clinic rooms at the Tillsonburg location. A wide variety of services are offered in the clinic to help avoid visits to the doctor's office or emergency department.

and Covid vaccines, as well as prevention for conditions when travelling. Annually, thousands of people are given these vaccines in the store.

"This will help to do more and do it better," John said of the clinic rooms.

She said the combination of services offered helps to alleviate pressure in the emergency room at the hospital.

"We identified the need of the community and that a lot of people don't have a doctor and that's why we expanded

the pharmacy care clinic," Kelly said.

She is hopeful the number of services pharmacists can deliver will increase in the next few years. Smoking cessation programs was recently added to the list, a program delivered in partnership with SouthWest Public Health.

With the clinical rooms looking similar to those in a doctor's office, when asked if this was a precursor to a future nurse practitioner clinic, John said she doesn't have a nurse practitioner lined up but the facility would be ideal.

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Tillsonburg Farmers Market thrives on fresh, local



(CHRIS ABBOTT PHOTO)

Lloyd Collver from Rattlesnake Produce sells vegetables to Virginia Mabey at the Tillsonburg Farmers Market. Collver has 40 years of experience selling produce at local markets.

CHRIS ABBOTT

Post Correspondent

Fresh and local continue to be calling cards for the Tillsonburg Farmers Market.

"This is a true farmers market, that's what sets us apart from a lot of farmers markets," said Tim Norris from Orange Door Acres Farm, chair of the not-for-profit Tillsonburg Farmers Market board.

"We don't have vendors that run to the food terminal, buy the vegetables, and pretend to be the farmers," said Norris. "Here, you're talking to people, you're talking to the farmer. Vendors are all local vendors."

The Tillsonburg Farmers Market runs weekly, Saturday mornings -8-12 from Mother's Day weekend in May until the last Saturday in October on Bridge Street West.

"Another thing that I find very different – and I've been to a lot of farmers markets – is our customers. Our customers are some of the most loyal customers you're going to get anywhere. Nine times out of 10, even when it's pouring rain... they're still coming, they're still supporting the market."

Products change throughout the market season.

"Sweet corn's here now because sweet corn's 'on,'" said Norris on August 23, noting the sweet corn season is typically mid-July to end of August. "The apple vendor isn't here yet, but they'll probably start next week because apples will be 'on.' When asparagus was on, we had an asparagus vendor."

"We have a nice variety of products available – baked goods to vegetables (a

lot of vegetables) to meats, including the Orange Door Acres Farm chicken, cheese, gluten-free and sourdough crust pizzas, and right next to me, grass-fed beef from Sweets Creek Acres – they have been a real nice addition to the market.

"It's all about staying local with everything. And all the vendors get along, everybody's friendly. Everybody basically works together."

Craft vendors have access to the market once a month as a 'pop-up.' Non-profit groups and charity organizations occasionally use the farmers market, as well.

"We review every single application," said Norris.

The Farmers Market supports the Station Arts Centre with a donation every year, he said, and in return the Station supports the farmers market.

"It's a really nice partnership. They promote us, we promote them."

Changes may be coming to the market when the BMI Group development happens on the north side of Bridge Street West. A permanent year-round farmers market is planned.

"(Development) has been approved by the Town, approved by the County. I know tenders have gone out for certain parts of the (BMI) project."

Norris said he has been assured they will be able to function as a market at the same location (without access to the grassy area across from the Station Arts Centre for vendor parking), even through construction.

"We might have to do some different things, but we will still be able to do it."

chris@granthaven.com

Wings and Wheels to be held this weekend



(KAREN HELSDON PHOTO)

The opportunity to fly in a Harvard is one of the highlights of the Wings and Wheels Fun Day.

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

Classic cars and planes will be the draw at the annual Wings and Wheels event hosted by the Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association.

Slated for Saturday, Sept. 13, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the event will be at the Tillsonburg Airport. If the weather isn't favourable, the event will be held the following day, with the word going out on Facebook and through the association website if that occurs.

Admission is by donation.

"We certainly ask for whatever you care to donate to keep the yellow birds flying," said Terry Scott, member of the public relations committee for CHAA.

Asked why donations were chosen for admission instead of a set fee, Scott answered, "When you're charging a set fee there is an onus on you that you need to meet a certain bar or standard. We wouldn't want to do that in case there is bad weather. We just want to make it a fun day so people can experience the classic cars and Harvards."

The association's fly days, which are an opportunity to fly in a Harvard for a fee, will be part of Wings and Wheels. There will also be opportunities to purchase association hats and shirts, as well as a garage and book sale.

The event is one of the association's largest fundraisers of the year, alongside their awards banquet and monthly fly days during the warmer months.

The classic cars portion of the show is presented in conjunction with the Tillsonburg Cruisers and Bygone Iron car clubs. Last year, more than 500 classic vehicles were on display.

"That was the best turnout we had since we started doing this," Scott said, explaining that the association holds a draw with door prizes for those who bring their vehicles.

There will also be a kids' zone on site for the day.

Organizers are asking those who attend to come from Cranberry Line to help alleviate traffic problems on Highway 19.

For those who want to fly in a Harvard but can't make it to Wings and Wheels, there is also a fly day on Oct. 4.

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BAYFEST



(CHRIS ABBOTT PHOTO)

John Kerkhove, left, and Glenn Rohrer of Tillsonburg enjoyed the Long Point Lions and Lioness BBQ chicken and corn on the cob Sunday at Bayfest in Port Rowan.



(CHRIS ABBOTT PHOTO)

Jon Klassen of Courtland tests his accuracy in the (plastic) frog toss, sponsored by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 379, Saturday morning at Bayfest in Port Rowan.



(CHRIS ABBOTT PHOTO)

Leslie Pettinger of Tillsonburg tries pickleball Saturday morning at Bayfest, sponsored by Stonebridge Community Services.

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Chuck's Restaurant has been a success

In the four months since Chuck's Roadhouse opened in Northgate Plaza it's been embraced by Tillsonburg residents and quickly become a favourite of many.

What's not to like? Chuck's offers quality food at great prices, plus the beer prices are something Manager Gee Singh said are hard to beat.

Owners Romy Sharma and Hitang Singla opened the new restaurant at 671 Broadway on April 12. Originally from India, Sharma studied business management in the United Kingdom. He moved to Canada in 2015 and has been in the restaurant industry for 12 years. After owning a Chuck's Roadhouse in another town, Sharma saw the opportunity with the new location opening in Tillsonburg.

"It's a great operation," he said. "It's a bar and grill. It's my passion since day one, I always wanted to operate a bar and grill."

Saying he's a small-town guy who isn't fond of cities, Sharma has moved to



town with his wife Priyanka. Singh, who has worked with Sharma the past six years, also moved to town.

In addition to the 130 indoor seats, there is a 60-seat outdoor heated patio. It will open April 1. In addition to the televisions that cover the entire wall behind the bar, additional screens are through the restaurant, providing viewing of a diversity of sports.

Singh said the patio is popular, explaining not only is it a covered patio, but there are also heaters if the weather is cool.

"Any weather, even if it's rainy or cold, we can turn on the heater," Singh said.

"They can be outside and enjoy themselves."

Burger prices are hard to beat, he said, with a burger and fried for only \$9, saying this compares to some fast-food retailers with better quality.

There are nightly specials, including Wednesday rib days.

"Our ribs are fall-off-the-bone and cooked in barbecue sauce. They are marinated for a long time," Singh said.

All appetizers (wings, nachos, quesadillas) are half price after 9 p.m. On game days for the NFL, NHL and Blue Jays, there are other specials.

"Beer prices are cheap on those days when games are played," Singh said.

One of the features of the restaurant is surf and turf starts at \$25.

"It's unbeatable," Sharma said.

He also talked about the lobster, and all food being cooked on site and the beer prices.

Since the restaurant opened, it's earned regulars in a group from Baldwin Place that frequents at least once per month. Singh said reservations for groups can be made, either inside or on the patio, and the staff strive to have all food arrive at the same time.

The big screen televisions have been popular for sports fans, with Singh explaining multiple sports can be shown at the same time. "Whatever the customer preference is we can play on different screens," he said.

Hours are Sunday to Thursday, 11 a.m. to midnight, and Friday and Saturday until 1 a.m.

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Decoy and outdoor collectable show to be held at Backus

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

The Backus Education Centre will play host to the Canadian Decoy Outdoor Collectibles Association annual show and sale on Sept. 20.

Bruce Malcolm, the local association member organizing the show at Backus, said the show will also be an opportunity to see a preview of the new Davidson Decoy Gallery set to open in the spring. In addition to decoys from some of the 30-plus local decoy carvers who were working in the area, there are pieces from across the province.

There will be about 30 display tables as part of the show, all from members of the association.

"The concept is similar to the Port Rowan Yard Sale, except for the material – there will be everything from \$50 decoys to \$10,000 decoys," Malcolm said.

The show will be more than duck decoys though. Fish decoys, antique duck calls, fishing reels, and fishing lures, plus old traps, art works and even vintage hunting clothing will all be available for sale. Vendors at the show will also be buying items from the public.

Explaining the concept of fish decoys, which are more unknown today, he explained these were used while ice fishing to attract a fish to the hole where it could be speared.

Malcolm said the area was a natural fit for the show with its rich waterfowling heritage.

"It's close to Long Point, Turkey Point, the traditional waterfowling area and close to where the decoy makers lived, so we decided it should be at Backus," he said.

He mentioned local Pheneas Reeves, who was born in 1823 and died in 1892.

"It's documented he was making decoys in the 1860s," he said.

The show also has a tie to the Long Point area. The first



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Attendees to the Canadian Decoy Outdoor Collectibles Association annual show and sale on Sept. 20 will be able to preview the Davidson Decoy Gallery in the Backus Education Centre. The show runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

show was a private event, organized by three individuals, including Art Philp, who grew up in Port Rowan. It was then acquired by Paul Brisco before the association was formed in 1996. Malcolm was one of the founding mem-

bers.

The show runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and has an admission fee of \$5. Backus Heritage Education Area is located at 1267 2nd Concession, Port Rowan.

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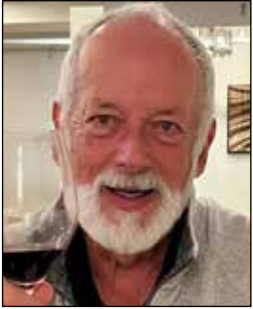
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(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

While we think of the guns in front of local branches of the Royal Canadian Legion as artillery, in the War of 1812 the artillery were cannons. This crew was busy loading the cannons during the reenactment of the War of 1812 reenactment at Backus Heritage Conservation Area on the weekend. Backus Mill is the last surviving wooden mill from the War of 1812. Invading American forces burned many of the mills.

Getting behind the scenes with the Blue Jays



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

PAUL KNOWLES

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

Once upon a time, long ago and sometimes far away, I was given a dream assignment: write a book about players on the Toronto Blue Jays. It was published right at the start of regular season, 1986, and it featured chapters about Jesse Barfield, Lloyd Moseby, Tony Fernandez, Willie Upshaw, Mark Eichhorn, and Kelly Gruber, among others.

I was sent to Dunedin for a week in spring training, where I got to know all these terrific athletes – and frankly, terrific people. Then back to Toronto for the weeks prior to season opening.

The book, “Home Run: The Personal Profiles of Champion Athletes,” went into two printings. The foreword to the book was contributed by Gary Carter. Like I said, a dream job.

And why, other than sentimental nostalgia, did I bring this up today? That’s because of a tour we did a couple of weeks ago – a tour of the new parts of the renovated Rogers Centre, home of today’s Blue Jays.

See, when I was hanging out with the Blue Jays, their home was Exhibition Stadium, open to the elements, terrible seating, and occasional pre-game snow removal challenges.

Not so, today. Rogers Centre (which those of us of a certain age will always call “Skydome”) is a state-of-the-art sports stadium. We joined a pre-game tour of the place, and by and large, it was a pretty interesting experience. Tours are run all season long, several times a day. It’s not wildly expensive – the “classic tour” costs \$40 adults, \$30 seniors, \$25 kids, although you can also spring for a “pre-game tour” at twice that price, which is longer and includes batting practice, or an “ultimate pre-game tour” with a price tag well into three figures.

We were hosted by Destination Toronto on the pre-game tour.

As Blue Jays fans know, Roger Centre has just undergone some major renovations. A venue that once was home to other sports apart from baseball, it is now a dedicated space, for baseball (and concerts) only. So the designers were able to change the configurations of the ballpark, and make – so they claim, I think accurately – all of the seats more suited to watching a ball game.

Now, to tell you the truth, I am of two minds about the pre-game tour. There’s a lot of good stuff, for sure. We got to see, up close, the Jays’ World Series Championship trophies. In the same room are housed the Gold Glove trophies of Vladimir Guerrero Jr., José Berriós, Vernon Wells, Devon White, Tony Fernandez and Jesse Barfield.

That’s the good news. The bad news, for the average fan, is that these key bits of memorabilia are kept in the Rogers Banner Club, accessible only to folks who have TD Premium Access. Or, to people like us, on a tour.

And that pattern was repeated throughout the tour. We saw the much-touted new wall of Blue Jay baseball cards, but it’s in the Heinz 328 Club (named for the foul pole on the first base side of the park; it’s located 328 feet from home plate, and the base of the pole is right in the wall of the club). The 328 Club is also an “exclusive” venue, open only to members who have paid extra for the privilege.

The tour takes visitors to a few other similar locations, including a very high-end corporate box. You get to see a lot of photos of famous players, and plenty of memorabilia, but at the same time, the tour gets to feel a little like a sales job: “You, too, could enjoy these amenities, at a price.”

For us, the highlight of the tour was to be on the field – although carefully corralled behind a rope – to watch Blue Jays batting practice. And while we were there, the batters up were Vlady, Bo Bichette, George Springer and Daulton Varsho. For true Jays fans, that experience was probably worth the price of admission.

We also had tickets to the game – good seats, but not in a special section. We discovered that once in the stadium for a pre-game tour (for which you also must



(PAUL KNOWLES PHOTO)

Gold Gloves won by Blue Jays: from top, left to right, Vladimir Guerrero Jr., José Berriós, Devon White, Vernon Wells, Tony Fernandez, Jesse Barfield.

have game tickets), you can’t leave between the tour and the game. But again, some good news – it was Loonie Dog night, so dining out wasn’t wildly expensive. And, the Jays won, a tightly contested and exciting game.

So, bottom line – is the tour worth the money? For die-hard Jays fans, I would say, Yes. The chance to get behind the scenes and see trophies, photos, and other memorabilia (including a bat used by José Bautista in the famous bat-flipping game) is somewhere near priceless to the dedicated lover of all things Jays.

And I must confess, I did get a bit nostalgic for those days when I could actually sit in the Exhibition Park Jays’ dugout before a game, and wander on the field with Tony, Lloyd and Jesse. But for a guy now long disconnected from the team, the tour and the game were highly enjoyable experiences in their own right.

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.

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I have keys but open no doors. I have space but no room. You can enter, but you can't go outside. What am I?
Keyboard

I'm light as a feather, yet no one can hold me for long. What am I?
Breath

I speak without a mouth and hear without ears. I have no body, but I come alive with wind. What am I?
Echo

I'm always hungry, I must always be fed. The finger I touch will soon turn red. What am I?
Fire

I run but never walk, I have a bed but never sleep. What am I?
River

The more you take, the more you leave behind. What am I?
Footsteps

I have a ring but no finger. I get answered but I never speak. What am I?
Telephone

I'm full of holes but still hold water. What am I?
Sponge

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

I can be cracked, made, told, and played. What am I?
Joke

SUDOKU

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

Solutions on Page 22

Level: Beginner

PET OF THE WEEK



CHEWY

Chewy is an 11 months old syrian hamster who is very cuddly. He adores pistachios and peanuts.

Nominate your pet to be Pet of the Week by emailing info@tillsonburgpost.com

WORD SEARCH

MUSIC & INSTRUMENTS

U	K	U	L	E	L	E	E	U	X	C	B	U	T	J	N	T	J	G	B	GUITAR
C	Y	H	X	T	R	O	M	B	O	N	E	X	X	E	P	I	A	A	Y	PIANO
L	A	F	F	B	H	A	F	R	K	H	A	R	P	S	E	I	X	G	N	VIOLIN
A	K	R	P	D	E	Y	L	W	P	X	V	G	C	G	A	Q	P	P	F	DRUMS
R	B	E	N	T	B	Z	H	R	K	U	Z	H	Q	U	Q	Q	S	W	M	TRUMPET
I	K	A	P	R	M	T	A	J	V	K	K	M	P	I	U	R	W	R	I	FLUTE
N	T	F	R	U	S	K	J	E	W	E	R	L	Z	T	L	T	U	H	C	SAXOPHONE
E	O	I	P	M	A	B	L	M	T	X	N	L	S	A	P	U	I	R	R	CELLO
T	R	X	E	P	X	H	S	F	I	K	O	K	L	R	E	T	K	L	O	CLARINET
V	O	I	V	E	O	U	R	I	R	H	T	Y	T	R	W	H	Z	P	P	HARP
T	J	R	W	T	P	V	S	S	J	U	E	Y	D	N	U	Y	X	F	H	BASS
T	H	H	E	U	H	A	X	D	F	P	D	B	A	N	J	O	N	X	O	TROMBONE
T	Z	S	S	S	O	H	Z	J	C	I	F	L	U	T	E	O	R	O	N	BANJO
H	N	S	H	P	N	M	D	J	Z	A	G	F	K	T	W	S	T	A	E	UKULELE
T	I	J	W	H	E	H	D	C	S	N	Q	R	Z	I	S	J	X	J	L	MICROPHONE
C	W	I	B	V	G	P	X	E	L	O	C	O	N	J	L	Z	Y	Z	L	
H	N	T	C	N	G	F	Z	L	S	K	Z	E	C	G	T	I	O	B	R	
E	K	V	I	O	L	I	N	L	R	E	T	C	D	I	Z	O	V	A	V	
I	K	I	P	R	P	I	O	O	K	S	V	K	W	W	H	H	M	S	U	
R	N	B	Z	Y	I	P	D	R	U	M	S	F	G	V	L	S	N	S	S	

COMING EVENTS

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 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.

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!

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.

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.

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

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>

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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1. Socrates
2. North Tower
3. Zero
4. Seattle
5. The Rolling Stones
6. 1967
7. The Delaware River
8. 20,000hz
9. Neptune
10. Elmo

SUDOKU

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

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CRANBERRY CONSTRUCTION
 Reconstruction of Cranberry Road, north of North Street East, started last week. The project will see the installation of sewers, storms sewers, curbs, gutters and sidewalks to the northern town limits. The first stage of the project is scheduled for completion in December, with the second phase to start next spring.

(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

CLASSIFIEDS

HOUSE FOR SALE

Lovely move in ready bungalow in the west end of picturesque St. Mary's. 72 Carrall Street.

This property features a large corner lot, 2 main floor bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a partially finished basement with 2 additional rooms, plus a family/rec room. Single detached garage.

Go to Kiji Ad ID 1724804443 or Facebook Marketplace, search "72 Carrall Street" for all of the details and photos.

Must see! Contact 519-570-6931 or kristafrancisshere@hotmail.com.

TREES

Hundreds of shade trees, fruit trees, apples, pears, peaches, plums, sweet and sour cherries, apricots, nectarines, blueberries, haskapp grapes, raspberries, elderberries etc. Lots of spruce, pine, cedars for windbreak and privacy hedges. Sizes 1-8 ft. in containers ready to go. Flowering shrubs and much more. Mon-Sat 7:00am to 6:00pm. Martin's Nursery, 42661 Orangehill Rd Wroxeter, ON N0G 2X0 (1 Conc. North of Wroxeter on Belmore Line)

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If you are interested, contact
Heather Dunbar at:
heather@granthaven.com

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o o o o
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OBITUARY

WINIFRED BEATRICE ANNIE CUTHBERT (NÉE JONES)



Winifred "Win" Cuthbert passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family, at VON-Sakura House in Woodstock on Monday, September 1, 2025, in her 81st year. Beloved wife of the late Peter Cuthbert (2007). Loving mother of Jennifer Cuthbert (Nigel Barber) of Cambridge, and Andrew Cuthbert (Adam Devenish) of Toronto.

Dear daughter of the late Frederick and Mary Ann (née Smith) Jones of Watford. Predeceased by her brothers Kenneth (2008), Ronald (2009), and David (2022). Fondly remembered by extended family and dear friends.

Winifred was a determined Registered Nursing Assistant at the Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital and a natural mother and caregiver. Win will be remembered for her generosity, kindness, and avid storytelling with those around her. In later years she especially cherished her time at the Tillsonburg Senior Centre, where she enjoyed playing Farkle and spending time with the friends she made. She also found community and friendship through joining the First Baptist Church in Tillsonburg.

Cremation has taken place. The family will receive friends at Ostrander's Funeral Home, 43 Bidwell St., Tillsonburg on Saturday, September 13, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. for a Memorial Service in the Ostrander Chapel. Interment in Tillsonburg Cemetery immediately following service.

Memorial donations may be made to the Tillsonburg Senior Centre or VON Oxford – Sakura House directly with the charity or payable to the charity by contacting Ostrander's Funeral Home.

Thank you for being a friend.

OBITUARY

MAUREEN ROSE DEMAITER (JUNE 16, 1945 - SEPT 7, 2025)



It is with deep sorrow that we announce the sudden passing of Maureen after a beautifully lived life in her 80th year at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Sunday, September 7th, 2025.

Maureen was born and raised in Hamilton, Ontario, to the late Frank and Irene Gahagan. A devoted wife of 45 years to the late Michel George Demaiter Jr. Cherished mother to Brad (Heidi), Kimberley (Ed), Michel (Linda), Richard (Hayley), and Christopher. Predeceased by her loving brother Frank (Betty), sister-in-law Rachel (Marcel), and nephews Kevin and Mark. Survived by beloved sisters Carol and MaryLou (Joe) and sister in laws Georgette (Bob) and Annette. Dedicated grandmother to Ashley (Eric), Brooke, Wyatt, Ryan, Michael, Joel, Allison, Lily, Luke, Makenna and Ryan. Maureen will be deeply missed by not only her children and grandchildren but by her many nieces, nephews and friends.

Maureen was a loved and admired part of the Tillsonburg community where she resided for the last 55 years, working hard on the tobacco farm with her husband Mike for many of those years and raising their family who were their pride and joy. Maureen was full of love and laughter and touched the lives of all who knew her. She will also be remembered for her positivity, kindness, and generosity. She always had an open door to all who knew her with a listening ear and a warm meal. Maureen, a beacon of kindness and love, will forever be in our hearts.

To commemorate her incredible journey and to celebrate the love she spread, a Funeral Mass will be held on Thursday, September 11th, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. in St. Mary's R.C. Church, Tillsonburg, by Rev. Fr. Seejo John. Visitation was held on Wednesday, September 10th, between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. in the Verhoeve Funeral Homes Chapel, 262 Broadway, Tillsonburg. Parish Prayers were held on Wednesday evening. Interment in Tillsonburg Cemetery following the Funeral Mass. We invite all who knew her to join us in remembering a truly remarkable woman. Reception follows in the Carriage Hall, 25 Brock St. W., Tillsonburg, immediately following the interment. Memorial donations to the Alzheimer Society or to St. Mary's Parish would be gratefully acknowledged by the family and can be made via Maureen's online tribute page at www.verhoevefuneralhomes.com or by contacting the Maurice J. Verhoeve Funeral Homes- Burial and Cremation Service Inc. (519)842-4238, which has been entrusted with all funeral arrangements.

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STK#0U2901.

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+TAX & LIC. BI-WEEKLY

\$21,995 +HST



**2022 NISSAN
SENTRA SR**

68,755 km.
STK#0U2920.

FINANCE FROM **\$166**
+TAX & LIC. BI-WEEKLY

\$22,995 +HST



**2022 HYUNDAI
KONA PREFERRED**

112,772 km.
STK#25172A.

FINANCE FROM **\$173**
+TAX & LIC. BI-WEEKLY

\$22,995 +HST



**2020 HYUNDAI
ELANTRA GT LUXURY**

26,353 km.
STK#25230A.

FINANCE FROM **\$173**
+TAX & LIC. BI-WEEKLY

\$23,995 +HST



**2022
ESCAPE SE FWD**

56,510 km.
STK#25013A.

FINANCE FROM **\$181**
+TAX & LIC. BI-WEEKLY

\$22,995 +HST



**2021 BRONCO
SPORT BIG BEND**

117,654 km.
STK#U2919A.

FINANCE FROM **\$173**
+TAX & LIC. BI-WEEKLY

\$32,995 +HST



**2022 JEEP CHEROKEE
TRAILHAWK**

40,292 km.
Stk#25290A.

FINANCE FROM **\$249**
+TAX & LIC. BI-WEEKLY

\$35,995 +HST



**2023 MAVERICK
XLT AWD**

53,567 km.
STK#0U2916.

FINANCE FROM **\$271**
+TAX & LIC. BI-WEEKLY

\$35,995 +HST

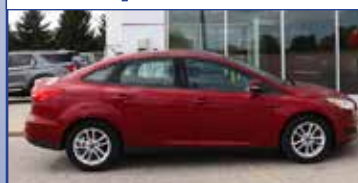


**2022 MUSTANG
MACH-E PREMIUM**

78,273 km.
STK#25164A.

FINANCE FROM **\$271**
+TAX & LIC. BI-WEEKLY

\$12,995 +HST



**2016 FOCUS SE
SEDAN**

13,083 km.
STK#0U2921.

FINANCE FROM **\$98**
+TAX & LIC. BI-WEEKLY

\$59,995 +HST



**2022 EXPEDITION
PLATINUM MAX**

129,324 km.
STK#25357A.

FINANCE FROM **\$452**
+TAX & LIC. BI-WEEKLY

\$48,995 +HST



**2023 F150 XLT
SUPERCREW V8**

66,201 km.
STK#0U2899.

FINANCE FROM **\$369**
+TAX & LIC. BI-WEEKLY

\$37,995 +HST



**2024 ESCAPE ST-
LINE AWD HYBRID**

21,450 km.
STK#25089A.

FINANCE FROM **\$287**
+TAX & LIC. BI-WEEKLY

\$45,595 +HST



**2024 BRONCO
SPORT BADLANDS**

STK#24046.

FINANCE FROM **\$348**
+TAX & LIC. BI-WEEKLY

\$93,428 +HST



**2024 EXPEDITION
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STK#24332.

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